

# ABORTION HURTS WOMEN

/the psychological harm

**Abortion harms women - and the scientific evidence revealing the extent of that harm can no longer be denied.**

A recent extensive analysis by Doctor PRISCILLA COLEMAN found an **81% INCREASED RISK OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS** for women following abortion.<sup>1</sup>

Shockingly, the review also found that nearly 10% of the incidence of all mental health problems arising in women is directly attributable to abortion. The analysis involved 163, 831 women who had experienced an abortion.

**DR. PRISCILLA COLEMAN**

## ➔ Other studies show that

- Following abortion, women are more likely to suffer from major depression, panic attacks, panic disorder, agoraphobia, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and substance abuse disorders.<sup>2</sup>
- A recent study found that the rate of suicide in women who had undergone abortion was six times that of women who gave birth in the prior year.<sup>3</sup>
- Women who had abortions had a 30% higher incidence of mental health problems according to a 30-year study following more than 500 women.<sup>4</sup>
- Women who underwent an abortion have a 98% increased risk for any mental health disorders compared to women who did not have an abortion according to Canadian research.<sup>5</sup>
- Women with a history of abortion have significantly higher rates of general anxiety disorder.<sup>6</sup>
- Post-abortive women showed highest symptoms of depression and showed signs of severe psychiatric morbidity with a lasting psychological impact.<sup>7</sup>
- Women who have had an abortion have higher rates of mental health problems including depression, anxiety, suicidal behaviours and substance abuse.<sup>8</sup>
- One study found that 65% of women who had abortions experienced multiple symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which they attributed to their abortions. It also found that two-thirds of the women felt coerced into having an abortion.<sup>9</sup>
- In addition, over 100 long-term international studies concluded that induced abortion increases the risk for mood disorders enough to provoke attempts at self-harm.<sup>10</sup>

**THE EVIDENCE IS VERY CLEAR:  
ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN AND  
HURTS WOMEN.**

# WOMEN'S VOICES

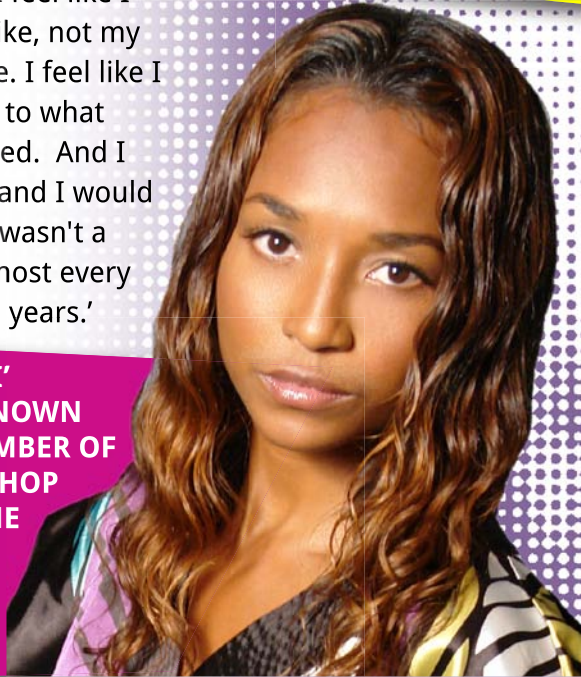
'After having my abortion I was in shock. I couldn't believe what I had done. I wanted to kill myself.'



**NICOLE APPLETON, MEMBER OF THE BAND 'ALL SAINTS'**

'It messed me up. I don't know - it broke my spirit. I feel like I became.....kind of like, not my strong self anymore. I feel like I gave in and I broke to what someone else wanted. And I would break down and I would just cry - because I wasn't a mommy. I cried almost every day for almost nine years.'

**ROZANDA 'CHILLI' THOMAS, BEST KNOWN FOR BEING A MEMBER OF SUCCESSFUL HIP-HOP TRIO 'TLC', ON THE ABORTION SHE HAD WHEN SHE WAS 20 YEARS OLD**



'As the host of eight documentaries on the subject of abortion, I have met many other women who carry these deep psychological scars. In fact, I have met so many that I now believe that there are only two kinds of women who have had abortions: those who have hit the emotional wall and those who will.'

**JANE CHASTAIN, COLUMNIST AND RADIO HOST**

'Having the abortion was a major factor in my drinking and drug-taking. It had something to do with the lack of respect I had for myself.'

**MOYA BRENNAN, SINGER, FORMERLY OF 'CLANNAD'**

## lifefacts/backup

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'You cannot deny that something is being created ... a psychological price is paid. ... Something happens on the deeper levels of a woman's consciousness... I know that as a psychiatrist'

**DR. JULIUS FOGEL, PSYCHIATRIST AND OBSTETRICIAN WHO PERSONALLY PERFORMED OVER 20,000 ABORTIONS**

'It's not good for women to go through the procedure [abortion] and have something living sucked out of their bodies. It belittles women. Even though some women say, "Oh, I don't mind to have one," every time a woman has an abortion, it just crushes her self-esteem smaller and smaller and smaller.'



**DOLORES O'RIORDAN, LEAD VOCALIST OF 'THE CRANBERRIES'**