Americans’ views concerning abortion:

- **79%** do not support the current abortion-on-demand policy, saying abortion should be legal only in some circumstances (68%), or illegal in all circumstances (11%). \[\text{Marist Poll, Dec. 2011}\]

- **78%** believe that women who have abortions commonly experience moderately severe to very severe negative emotional reactions. \[\text{Medical Science Monitor, 2003}\]

- **95%** of women want to be informed of all risks of a medical procedure; **69%** want to be informed of all alternatives. \[\text{Journal of Medical Ethics, July 2006}\]

- **64%** of women who experienced one or more abortions “felt pressured by others” to have the abortion. \[\text{Medical Science Monitor, Oct. 2004}\]

Why do women have abortions?

- **74%** say having a baby would interfere with work, school, or other responsibilities.

- **73%** say they cannot afford to have a child.

- **48%** say they do not want to be a single parent, or have relationship problems with husband or partner.

Less than **2%** say they became pregnant as a result of rape or incest.

Mississippi Abortion Statistics

Reported abortions in Mississippi, by year

1976–2014: 158,945 abortions

Quick facts about the abortions performed in Mississippi in 2012:

- **2,176** abortions were performed—an average of nearly 6 every single day.
  - Abortions using the dangerous and sometimes lethal RU486 abortion drug are rarely reported in Mississippi.

- **13%** of the abortions were performed on **women under age 20**.
- **35%** of the abortions were performed on **women ages 20 to 24**.

Abortion as birth control:

- **23%** of the women reported that they had **at least one previous abortion**.
- **283** of the women reported that they had **two or more previous abortions**.

Abortion complications:

- **2** complications were reported at the time of the abortion, including hemorrhage and other conditions.

Source: Vital Statistics Report, Mississippi State Department of Health