

Medical Abortion:
An International Forum on Policies,
Programmes and Services

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***ADVOCACY FOR SAFE ABORTION,
INFORMATION DISSEMINATIONS,
BROADENING THE CONSTITUENCY AND
DEALING WITH ANTI-ABORTION ACTIVITIES***

Country cases studies – Brazil

Rivaldo Mendes de Albuquerque

rivaldomendes@aol.com

LEGISLATION IN BRAZIL

Against

Penal Code (1940) – Abortion is crime.

Exceptions:

I - there is no other way to save the woman's life.

II – the pregnancy results from rape

For

Federal Constitution (1988)

Article 50 – The inviolability to the right to live, freedom, security and property is guaranteed

Article 196 – Health is a right of all and an obligation of the State

LEGISLATION IN BRAZIL

- Favorable

Supreme Court (2004)

*There is a preliminary decision permitting the abortion when the fetus is anencephalus**

- *The action will be judged this month (October)*

What do the brazilian doctors think regarding the abortion ?

Knowledge, opinion and attitudes of Brazilian gynecologists and obstetricians regarding induction of abortion

Faundes, A et al.
RBGO, 2004:26(2), 89-96
www.febrasgo.org.br

IN WHICH CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ABORTION TO BE ALLOWED ?

Circumstances	%
• Recurrent pregnancy of rape	76.6
• In case of risk of life of the pregnancy	79.3
• Embryo with serious congenital malformation	77.0
• Mother or partner HIV +	12.7
• Woman without psychological or economic conditions	17.4
• Single woman and partner do not assume the pregnancy	2.1
• Failure of the contraceptive method in use	4.1
• Woman does not have financial conditions to have the son	6.4
• In any circumstance	9.9
• In no circumstance	4.5
• Others	0.5
Total	(4200)

Faundes, A et al - RBGO, 2004:26(2), 89-96

WHICH CHANGES IN THE BRAZILIAN LAWS WOULD
HAVE
TO OCCUR IN RELATION TO THE ABORTION ?

<u>The Brazilian laws</u>	%
• They would have to stop to consider the abortion as a crime in any circumstance	14.6
• They would have to broaden the circumstances under which abortion is punished	65.4
• They should not be modified	13.4
• They would have to forbid or to increase the restrictions	0.2
• <u>No clear opinion</u>	6.4
<u>Total</u>	(4111)

RBGO, 2004:26(2), 89-96

Feminist network of health (1991)

Women's group, NGOs, research groups, union's professionals and council of women rights

The network principal actions are:

- Incentive to the implementation of legal abortion service.
- *Advocacy* in the parliament.
- The Monitoring implementation of International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994).
- Coordination of the “28 September Campaign”
 - Action day for the acquittal of abortion in Latin America and the Caribbean.

www.redesaude.org.br

CEMICAMP (NGO, 1977)

Actions realized:

- I. Coordination of the National Seminary about Medical Abortion (São Paulo, 2002)
- II. Coordination of the National Forums of Attention Woman Victim of the Sexual and to Legal Abortion (1996 to 2004)
- III. Other activities

www.cemicamp.org.br

National Forums of Attention to Women Victims of Sexual and to Legal Abortion

- VIII Forum - Recife-PE, 2003
- VII Forum - Salvador-BA, 2002
- II Forum - Brasília-DF, 1997
- IV Forum - Goiania-GO, 1999
- V Forum - Rio de Janeiro-RJ, 2000
- I Forum - Campinas-SP, 1996
- VI Forum - São Paulo-SP, 2001
- IX Forum - São Paulo-SP, 2004
- III Forum - Porto Alegre-RS, 1998

BRAZIL

Health Ministry

- Guidelines to victims of sexual violence and to legal abortion (1998)
- Guidelines to attention to the delivery, abortion and post-delivery (2001)
- Guidelines to the humanized attention to abortion (2004 or 2005), including MEDICAL ABORTION (only misoprostol)

Medical Society of Brazil (FEBRASGO)

- National Commission of Attention to the Woman Victim of Sexual Violence and to Legal Abortion
- Study Group of Sexual and Reproductive Rights

www.febrasgo.org.br