The Effect of Restrictions in Abortion Access on Overall Abortion Rate

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INTRODUCTION

An estimated 30% of women will have an abortion by age 45. In 2011, 730,322 abortions were reported to the Center for Disease Control, a rate of 21.9 per 1,000 live births. This is a rate of 13.9 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15-44, which is the lowest abortion rate in more than three decades.

While myriad factors including increased use of low-failure-rate contraceptives and lower pregnancy rates contribute to the lower incidence of abortion, our study looks at factors that limit access to abortion. Limitations that impact these barriers have on overall abortion rate. These factors include access to abortion, as well as studies categorized under “Abortion, Induced” and “Health Care Quality, Access, and Evaluation” in the

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, the studies show a decline in abortion rates and a 4.4% decline in abortion providers between 2008 and 2011. Abortion rates declined most sharply when clinics closed or laws required a second visit.

The average abortion at 10 weeks cost approximately $500, but at 20 weeks an abortion costs $1350. Most abortion recipients are low-income and pay out-of-pocket. In addition, many of the cost of the abortion, most women incur ancillary expenses related to travel, and 30% delayed or did not pay a bill in order to pay for the abortion.

The effect of abortion restrictions on the overall abortion rate was examined using a sample of 931 women in the United States. This was a rate of 13.9 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15-44, which is the lowest abortion rate in more than three decades.