

## **Choosing an Abortion Provider**

We understand that making the choice to end a pregnancy may be extremely difficult. Women chose to terminate pregnancy for many different reasons. The most common explanation women give for seeking abortion is because their pregnancy is either unplanned or unwanted. The reasons are varied and they encompass a wide range of circumstances. Some of those most often cited are socioeconomic concerns which may include disruption of education or employment; lack of support from the father; caring for existing children; and unemployment or inability to afford additional children. In addition, relationship problems with a husband or partner and a woman's perception that she is too young constitute other important categories of reasons. Others may be due to rape or incest. One of the most difficult reasons may be due to the mother's health or for a fetal abnormality.

Added to the decision for making such as personal, heartrending and life altering choice, is determining where to have an abortion procedure performed. Abortion is not a subject that women readily speak of openly. Choosing an abortion clinic that will provide excellent, quality care may be confusing. While most can offer safe, quality care, not all providers are the same and we encourage you to explore your options carefully. Considerations such as costs, anesthesia, methods of abortion procedures and when they are offered may differ from clinic to clinic. Some may only offer one or two types of methods and only provide them up to a limited number of weeks and perhaps only at during specific times and on certain days.

When choosing an abortion clinic or abortion provider, it is also essential to understand the differences between the two types of abortion procedures. One is performed surgically and the other is called a medical or chemical abortion. The method you choose may depend on the availability of services, how many appointments are required for the type of procedure as well as any follow-up visits you may need, and the number of weeks you are in your pregnancy.

### **Things to consider when choosing an abortion provider:**

Getting a referral or recommendation from someone you know and whose judgment you trust is always a good first step. If this is not possible or you do not want anyone to know you are seeking an abortion, you should obtain as much information as possible prior to scheduling an appointment.

Do not rely solely on telephone book ads or elaborate websites. Larger, more attractive, or more elaborate advertisements do not mean that a clinic is better or that it is even a real clinic. There are many anti-abortion organizations who falsely advertise under the headings or abortion providers or abortion services.

It is always best to call clinics in your area and ask questions. Consider how they sound on the telephone. Do they sound helpful and as though they genuinely care? Did they sound courteous and professional? Did they give you an opportunity to ask questions and did they answer them thoroughly and patiently?

Ask about the services. Were they knowledgeable about all of the services they provide? Were they willing to take the time to explain the different procedures they offer? Ask about the fees and what is included with the price of the different type of procedures. Are medications included? Ask about lab

tests and sonograms and whether or not they are included. Do they accept insurance or have any discounts or funding options available. Ask about birth control and if any samples are provided.

A quality abortion clinic should take the time to answer all your questions. They should be willing to provide for your peace of mind and emotional well being and not just focus on giving you instructions and making certain you are financially prepared for paying the fee. Never make your decision about where to have an abortion based only the fee. You may be quoted what may seem like the lowest cost, but there may be additional fees you are not told about on telephone and some providers may include much more than others in their fees.

The following is a checklist that you may want to print and have available when contacting abortion facilities:

Were you treated with kindness and compassion?

Was the telephone counselor knowledgeable and courteous?

Were you well informed about all of the different types of abortion procedures?

Were you told about everything included in the fees?

Pregnancy test or sonogram

Individual Counseling

Lab Tests

Post Operative Medications

Anesthesia

Birth Control Pill Sample

Follow Up Visit

24 Hour On-call Service

Were you offered a variety of appointment days and times?

Were all payment options explained, such as methods; insurance or possible funding?

Were you given an ample opportunity to ask questions?

Were your questions answered to your satisfaction?

## **Caution**

Follow your instincts. If you are not treated kindly and courteously on the telephone, you may not receive the care you deserve. Do not choose a facility based solely on their prices.

Always beware of Crisis Pregnancy Centers that may falsely advertise under abortion or abortion alternatives. They may even offer free pregnancy tests, sonograms and counseling. They are anti-abortion centers who may give you inaccurate information about your pregnancy and try to persuade you not to have an abortion. Additionally, they may make false promises about offering financial, educational or employment opportunities to try to convince you to keep your pregnancy.

## **Our Mission**

Our mission is simple. It's from the heart and it's all about you. We do what we do because we believe so strongly in a woman's right to choose. We do what we do because we want to provide an environment where women can have a pregnancy termination in an atmosphere where they will receive the very best possible care. Where they will be safe, comforted and treated with respect and dignity.

If you are reading this website, you are most likely seeking information about abortion. We understand that terminating a pregnancy may be one of the most difficult decisions you may ever have to make in your lifetime.

It is our promise to make you feel safe, secure and supported; to provide you with the highest quality care at the lowest possible cost. We have helped thousands of women for over 20 years. Our experienced, dedicated and highly trained staff can help you, too.

We know that you may be feeling frightened, alone, sad and extremely stressed as well as many other emotions all at one time. You are not alone. We are here to take this journey with you. From this moment on we will be with you for each and every step along the way.