

Abortion in the Philippines: A Holistic Approach

The issue of abortion in the Philippines has been escalating over the past few years, with more and more individuals seeking to terminate their pregnancies. This is due to a number of factors such as poverty, lack of access to contraception and other resources, as well as limited knowledge about reproductive health. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 5-15% of pregnancies in the Philippines are terminated through abortion. This statistic is alarming and should not be ignored.

Many opponents to abortion argue that it is an immoral act and a violation of human rights, but these claims do not consider the circumstances surrounding the individual's decision to terminate their pregnancy. The majority of women who seek out abortions in the Philippines are vulnerable individuals, often coming from low-income backgrounds and lacking access to information or resources. For these women, abortion may be their only choice to avoid extreme poverty and destitution.

In addition, there is a strong argument for greater access to contraception in the country. If more people had access to contraceptives such as condoms and birth control pills, it is likely that the need for abortion would drastically reduce. Lack of access to contraception has been identified as a major factor in the increasing abortion rates in the Philippines, yet there is still very limited availability of these products.

Finally, it is important to consider that abortion should remain accessible and legal for those who choose to terminate their pregnancies. Abortion has been criminalized in the Philippines since 1930, but this law is rarely enforced. Criminalizing abortion only serves to further marginalize and punish vulnerable individuals who are already facing immense difficulties due to limited resources and poverty. It also denies them their right to make decisions about their own bodies.

Overall, it is clear that abortion in the Philippines must be addressed through a holistic approach. Poverty and access to contraception should be tackled along with providing accessible and safe abortion services for those who choose to terminate their pregnancies. Through this, we can ensure that everyone has the right to make personal decisions about their bodies and futures.