## Why the Philippines Needs to Legalize Abortion

The potential for the legalization of abortion in the Philippines has been a long-debated topic. It is an issue that evokes strong, polarizing sentiments from both sides. Those who oppose it argue that it goes against certain religious beliefs or values and should be illegal. On the other hand, proponents argue that access to safe and legal abortions is a fundamental right that should be available to women in this country.

There are a number of compelling arguments in favor of legalizing abortion in the Philippines. For one, it would ensure that abortions are conducted in sanitary, safe, and legal environments by medical professionals trained to provide quality care.

It would also reduce the risk of women resorting to dangerous methods of abortion, such as self-induced or backstreet abortions. Furthermore, it would provide women access to comprehensive sexual education and counseling services that could help them make informed decisions about their reproductive choices.

Furthermore, the legalization of abortion could have a beneficial effect on maternal health in the Philippines. Unsafe abortions are one of the country's leading causes of maternal mortality, with an estimated 81% of all abortions being conducted by untrained individuals and under unsanitary conditions. Legalizing abortion would reduce the number of women accessing unsafe abortions, reducing the risk of complications that commonly arise from such procedures.

Ultimately, the issue of legalizing abortion in the Philippines is a complex and multifaceted one. It is important to consider both sides of the argument, as well as the potential implications for women's health if abortion were to be legalized in this country. Ultimately, it should be up to each woman to decide whether or not an abortion is right for her.

By providing access to safe and legal abortions, the Philippines could ensure that women can make these decisions for themselves. In doing so, it would enable them to exercise their fundamental right to self-determination concerning their reproductive choices. Therefore, this issue must be addressed in an informed and compassionate manner.