



Christian Voices for Life

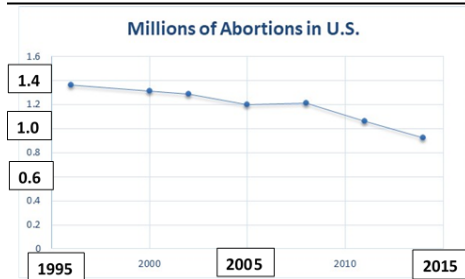
Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

Abortion Rates Down - but more for some than others.



Education: The number of abortions in the United States has been slowly falling since 1990, but has been falling more rapidly since 2008. There are now fewer than 1 million a year, the lowest number since 1974. (Still, of course, far too many.) The abortion rate – number of abortions per 1,000 women of child-bearing age – has fallen as well, from a peak of 29 to 30 in 1980-1983, to 19.4 in 2008, and “only” 14.6 in 2014. But these drops in abortions are not the same across all

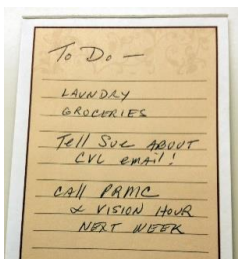
demographics. The steepest drop – 46% - among demographic groups was among teens age 15 -19. This was probably influenced by the increase in parental involvement laws, but may also be due to decreases in teen pregnancy, or increased awareness of pregnancy center help available. The drop in numbers is more pronounced in Hispanic women than in white non-Hispanic women, and even greater among black women. So although abortion rates are still higher in minorities than among white women, the difference is now smaller. Poverty has long been recognized as a driving factor in choosing abortion. While the abortion rate actually declined among poor women, the decline was not as great as for higher incomes, so that among women choosing abortion, a greater percentage are poor.

Data is from the Guttmacher Institute (1) and is summarized in an article in LifeNews (2).

1. <https://www.guttmacher.org/news-release/2017/abortion-common-experience-us-women-despite-dramatic-declines-rates>
2. <http://www.lifenews.com/2017/10/26/why-do-blacks-and-hispanics-have-more-abortions-than-other-women/>



Prayer Dear Father God, Thank you for allowing us to see a decrease in abortions and abortion rates in our nation. Help us to continue the work done at pregnancy centers, in abstinence programs, post-abortion healing ministries (which can prevent repeat abortions), legislative efforts and general education that have born this fruit. We recognize that there is still much more work to do to eliminate abortion as an accepted choice and return our nation to a community that respects every human life from the moment of conception. Bless all those who are working for respect for life, and give them encouragement, whether or not they are able to see direct results from their efforts.



Action: Pray that abortions will continue to decline in our nation, and that more and more Americans will come to respect life and appose legal abortion. Be encouraged that a majority of Americans agree that abortion is morally wrong (60%), and does a woman more harm than good (55% agree vs. 30% disagree). (3) Prepare yourself to help your pro-choice friends join the multitude who understand that abortion is both wrong and harmful. See [Voice for Life Volunteer Training](#) on the CVL web site.

3. <http://www.lifenews.com/2016/01/19/new-poll-shows-americans-are-pro-life-on-abortion-as-roe-v-wade-turns-43/>