

Video Companion Guide

Abortion in the Global Context

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, learners will be able to:

- Identify how women access abortion services in settings around the world.
- Identify the legal, financial, logistical, social, and cultural barriers women face when accessing abortion services.
- Understand the relationship between inaccessible abortion and maternal mortality.
- Describe the efforts that address unsafe abortion around the world.

Video Lectures:

Presented by Dr. Dan Grossman



- “Global Abortion Overview” available for free viewing at: www.innovating-education.org/2016/02/global-abortion-overview/
- “Global Obstacles to Abortion” available for free viewing at: www.innovating-education.org/2016/02/global-obstacles-to-abortion/

Suggested Readings:

- [Shah I, Ahman E. Unsafe Abortion: Global and Regional Incidence, Trends, Consequences, and Challenges. Journal Obstetrics & Gynecology Canada. Dec. 2009. 31\(12\); 1149-58.](#)
- [Sedgh G, Henshaw S, Singh S, Shman E, Shah I. Induced abortion: estimated rates and trends. Lancet. 2007. 370. 1338-45.](#)
- [Hessini L. Global progress in abortion advocacy and policy: an assessment of the decade since ICPD. Reprod Health Matters. 2005. 13\(25\):88-100.](#)
- [Shah IH, Ahman E, Ortayli N. Access to safe abortion: progress and challenges since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development \(ICPD\). Contraception. 2014.](#)
- [Shah I, Ahman E. Unsafe abortion: global and regional incidence, trends, consequences, and challenges. J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2009 Dec;31\(12\):1149-58.](#)

Teaching Points

- There are approximately 20 million unsafe abortions annually.
- The large number of unsafe abortions globally is related to the many obstacles women face while accessing services.
 - In settings where abortion care is restricted stigma can make it difficult for women to obtain accurate information.
 - Additionally, providers may have limited training, rely on outdated methods (such as sharp curettage), and there is a perception of surgical abortion as being unsafe.
 - Therefore, misoprostol is a safer method to self-induce abortion.
- Restrictive laws are important barriers, but even in countries with liberal laws, multiple structural and societal barriers may limit access.
 - Where abortion is legally restricted, safe abortion services are often expensive, making them inaccessible to poor women.
 - Poor women are more likely to suffer complications of unsafe abortion.
 - Adequately trained abortion providers are often concentrated in urban areas leaving women in rural areas with few options to access safe abortion care.
 - Lack of access to abortion supplies or medications can be a barrier to accessing services.
 - Mifepristone, the most effective abortion drug, is not available everywhere and manual vacuum aspiration equipment may be expensive or difficult to access.

Suggested Discussion Question

- Describe the barriers that women worldwide face when accessing abortion services.
 - What are ways to address these barriers?

Lesson Plan: *Abortion in the Global Context*

Using a flipped classroom model, this lesson plan will use the video lecture and additional resources to provide learners with an engaging learning environment. Here's how to use this course in a "flipped-classroom" at your own institution.

What is a "Flipped Classroom" Learning Model?

A "flipped classroom" model provides learners with instructional content prior to class and facilitates in-class activities that focus on higher-level cognitive activities.^{1,2} This model differs from a traditional direct instruction approach and uses class time for learners to engage in hands-on learning, collaboration with their peers, and evaluation of their own progress. Learners are then able to practice applying key concepts while receiving guidance and feedback when it can help them most.^{1,2,3}

Time Required

Total Time of Video Lectures: 31 minutes

[Recommended] Estimated Independent Prep Time Required by Learner: 1 hour

Total Estimated Time Required for In-Classroom Activity: 1 hour

Materials Required and Instructor Preparation

- Learners will need internet access with enough bandwidth to view streaming videos.
- The instructor should print copies of the quiz (Page 4) and the small group activity (Page 6) included in this packet.

Activity

Independent Preparation (conducted by learner before in-classroom activity)

- Learners should independently view the two video lectures.
- Learners may be assigned any of the following relevant readings (determined by instructor's desired learner work-load) as outlined in the "Suggested Readings" section on page 1.

In-Classroom Activity (Small Group and Individual Assignment)

- Distribute the quiz (page 4). Instruct learners to spend approximately 10-15 minutes and work individually to answer each question on the quiz.
- At the end of this activity, convene the class. Present the questions on the quiz and have learners share their answers.
- Write the correct answers on the board for the class to see. Collect each handout from learners.
 - The instructor can reference the answer sheet on page 5.
- Next, divide the classroom into small groups (of 2 or 3) and distribute the small group activity handout (Page 6). Instruct learners to spend 15 minutes and work together to answer the questions provided on the handout. Collect the handout and conclude the lesson.

Name _____

Abortion in the Global Context Individual Assignment: Quiz

Answer the following multiple-choice questions referencing the video lectures: "Global Abortion Overview" and "Global Obstacles to Abortion". Be prepared to share your answers with the class and turn in this handout at the end of this session.

Questions

1. Globally, approximately what percentage of pregnancies are unplanned?
 - 10%
 - 20%
 - 40%
 - 80%

2. What percentage of maternal deaths worldwide in 2013 was due to unsafe abortion?
 - 5%
 - 15%
 - 30%
 - 50%

3. In countries where abortion is not legalized under any circumstance (like Brazil and other countries in Latin America), what is a safer method to self-induce abortion?
 - The use of misoprostol
 - Inserting foreign objects into the cervix
 - Ingesting toxic substances
 - All of the above are safe options

4. Which of the following can be done to address unsafe abortion?
 - Training on the use of manual uterine aspiration for medical providers
 - Revisions of restrictive abortion laws
 - Accessible post-abortion care services
 - Use of harm reduction models (such as providing information to more safely self- induce abortions)
 - All of the Above

Abortion in the Global Context Quiz Answers

1. Globally, approximately what percentage of pregnancies are unplanned?
 - 10%
 - 20%
 - ✓ **40%**
 - 80%
2. What percentage of maternal deaths worldwide in 2013 was due to unsafe abortion?
 - 5%
 - ✓ **15%**
 - 30%
 - 50%
3. In countries where abortion is not legalized under any circumstance (like Brazil and other countries in Latin America), what is a safer method to self-induce abortion?
 - ✓ **The use of misoprostol**
 - Inserting foreign objects into the cervix
 - Ingesting toxic substances
 - All of the above are safe options
4. Which of the following can be done to address unsafe abortion?
 - Training on the use of manual uterine aspiration for medical providers
 - Revisions of restrictive abortion laws
 - Accessible post-abortion care services
 - Use of harm reduction models (such as providing information to more safely self- induce abortions)
 - ✓ **All of the Above**

Names

Abortion in the Global Context Small Group Activity

As a group please answer the following questions referencing the video lectures, "Global Abortion Overview" and "Global Obstacles to Abortion", and the assigned readings. You will turn in this completed handout at the end of this session.

Question

1. Describe at least three barriers that women worldwide face when accessing abortion services.

a. What are ways to address these barriers?