abortion must wait 24 hours after making an appointment to continue with the procedure.

"Our creator endowed us with the right to life and yet millions of children lose their right to life every year because of abortion. In Texas, we work to save those lives. And that's exactly what the Texas legislature did this session" said Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

Texas laws regarding abortions have made an impact on other states. As of September 1 2021, abortions as early as 6 weeks were banned due to the recognition of a "fetal heartbeat". *Texas governor signs 'heartbeat' abortion ban into law - CNNPolitics*. This law is like the one in Iowa. It also allows anyone, including those that have nothing to do with the procedure, to sue a doctor or medical professional who performs abortions past this timeline. The Heartbeat Act, signed by Governor Greg Abbott was supported by over 50 percent of the state.

"I am one-million percent pro-choice, and I know that giving the choice to the person carrying a baby, and allowing them the freedom to services like planned parenthood is much more life giving than being pro-life and restricting said resources" said Krone.

Women, especially those who identify as feminists, believe firmly in pro-choice movements. This doesn't necessarily mean that all women are for abortions, but they support a women's choice and believe they should have the final say. Pro-choice individuals are concerned by the strict government control over this topic.

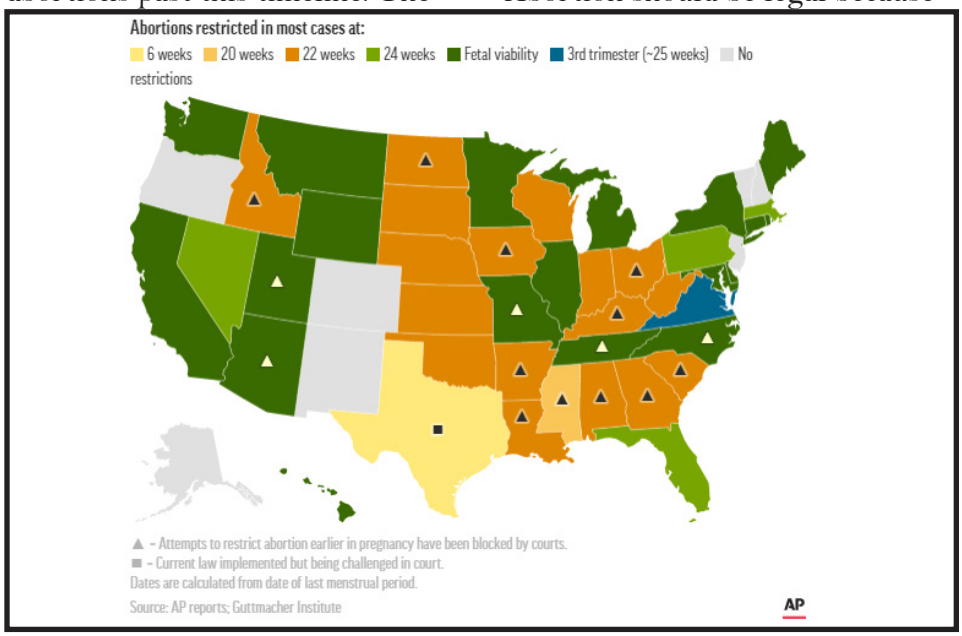
"Abortion should be legal because making it illegal violates women's rights. Men aren't told what to do with their bodies and I believe that women shouldn't be told either. Telling a woman that she can't have an abortion is violating her right to choose" said Feminist journalist Sarah Hauryski *Abortion from the Feminist Perspective (psu.edu)*.

Individuals who identify as pro-lifers firmly believe that unborn people are still people. The idea of killing an innocent fetus is wrongful, and women that choose to abort a baby may not be strong enough to raise a child. Pro-life movements can also be heavily influenced through religious belief's and the concept of abortion being closely related to murder.

So how can one familiarize themselves with the topic of abortion? What are some other options?

"Planned parenthood offers many services that pertain to sexual and reproductive health" said Krone.

In Iowa, women can choose to look into Planned Parenthood in order to create a personal path or receive help regarding sexual healthcare. Some pro-life governors, including Iowa's Kim Reynolds look for ways to defund these programs or alter them in order to keep laws regarding abortions in line with their beliefs. Typically, Planned Parenthood facilities advocate for pro-choice services.



More info! This map shows when abortions are restricted for each state in the U.S. Texas has the highest restriction, however it is encouraging certain states to do the same. Photo Creds: AP reports.

Whats the status?

By Maia Kissell and Staff

Taking a look at current Abortion laws in the United States.

What does it mean to be given a choice? Does it mean asking others for their opinions, or going with ones gut feelings? When it comes to the topic of pro-life vs. pro-choice, the concept of making decisions can be a controversial topic.

"I don't know a ton about laws in Iowa pertaining to planned parenthood and abortion, but I do know that the heartbeat law does not allow adequate time for a person to even know they are pregnant and is just obviously a pathetic attempt to deal with the issue of abortion" said Roosevelt Senior Emmy Krone.

In Iowa, abortion is legal as stated under the state constitution. Any woman has the right to choose to abort a pregnancy, however parental consent is required for minors 20 weeks or less. Exceptions include medical conditions that threaten the health of the woman, or the pregnancy results from rape/other sexual assault during which they were under the age of consent.

Speak up, speak out! Protestors gather on the stairs of the state capital in Iowa. This group is protesting abortion bans made by lawmakers. Photo Creds: Iowa Public Radio.

The Iowa supreme court tends to be met with propositions from conservative groups that support the pro-life arguments made by Governor Kim Reynolds, and Des Moines organizations that provide and fight for pro-choice services.

"As we begin 2020, I'm focused on the overall wellness of all Iowans, in every part of the State, in all stages of life. And when I say all stages of life, I mean to include the unborn. We must protect life by making clear, through an amendment, that our constitution does not grant a right to abortion. It's time, and unfortunately it's necessary" said Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds.

Restrictions in Iowa consist of the Post-Viability Law, which delegates that a pregnancy cannot be aborted when a fetus could be mature enough to achieve a "meaningful quality of life outside the womb" *Iowa Abortion Law: Abortion Rights and the Iowa Constitution (tomfowlerlaw.com)*. This means by the end of the second trimester, or 20-24 weeks of pregnancy. Another controversial bill, proposed in 2018, is that abortions weren't allowed after a heartbeat was detected. This typically happens at around six weeks, which can also be when women find out they are pregnant. Lastly, in 2018 a bill was passed that women seeking an