An update on unwanted pregnancy from Slovenia – with special focus on adolescents

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Fertility and abortion rates
Slovenia 1970–2012, women aged 15–49 yrs
Legislation of abortion in Slovenia

• 1951: decriminalisation of abortion
• 1952: permitted for medico-social reasons
• 1960: permitted for social reasons
• 1977: actual law
  – Permitted on a demand until 10th week of pregnancy
  – After 10th week permitted on a request addressed to Committee for artificial abortion
  – No parental consent for minors
  – No mandatory counselling
A way towards legislation of abortion – development of VA

- 1836: Simpson JY
- 1927: Bykov SG
- 1958: Tsung TK, Wu YT, Wu HC
- 1960: Melks EI, Roze LV
- 1961: Zubejev AV
- 1963: Moscow
Slovenia and VA


Slovenia and VA

- 1966: Copenhagen
- 1967: IPPF Santiago de Chile
- 1968: Association for the Study of Abortion (ASA), USA
- 1971 – 1973:
  - Yugoslavian–American – joint research project
  - Ljubljana Abortion Study
## Ljubljana Abortion Study 1971-1973

### TABLE 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complications of First Trimester Abortions, Ljubljana, 1971-1972</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Complication</th>
<th>Rates per 100 Women Obtaining Abortions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perforation of uterus</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laceration of cervix</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complications of anesthesia</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy bleeding requiring agents</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>to tighten the uterine walls a/</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood loss exceeding 300 ml b/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- at abortion</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- total first 48 hours</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post abortion bleeding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- requiring treatment</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- requiring hospitalization</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retention of tissue</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelvic Infection or fever c/</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- during hospitalization</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- requiring readmission a/</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pregnancy outcomes

World (WHO)

- 133 million live births (63%)
- 46 million induced abortions (22%)
- 32 million miscarriages and stillbirths (15%)

Slovenia

- 71% life births
- 16% induced abortions
- 13% miscarriages, stillbirths

Source: (78)
Fertility and abortion rates
Slovenia 1981−2012, women aged 15−19 yrs

2012: 4.9 life births/1000
2012: 5.8 abortions/1000
Pregnancies in adolescents per 1,000 women aged 15–19 yrs Europe, 1996

UNICEF, 2001
Pregnancies in adolescents per 1,000 women aged 15–19 yrs, EU, 2009

Reproductive Health Report, 2011
THE INDIRECT DISTANT FACTORS

Micro Level
- Individual User
- SRH professional.
- Health system.
- Political/Legal Framework.

Macro Level
- Micro Level

Bitzer J, ESC Congress Hague 2010
Intimate experiences
secondary–school students aged 17 yrs, Slovenia

Contraceptive use at last sexual intercourse secondary–school students aged 17 yrs, Slovenia

Most appropriate sources of information on sexuality, secondary–school students aged 17 yrs, Slovenia

Pinter B et al. Sexual behaviour of secondary-school students in Slovenia - 2012
Sexuality education

ABOUT YOU (singular)  ABOUT YOU (plural)