

Abortion & Relationships

Many support a woman's right to choose, but sadly few know the consequences of those choices. The Catholic Medical Association supports your right to know. Studies have suggested that women who have had an abortion have difficulty with intimate relationships after the abortion¹. Women who have had an abortion tend to have shorter relationships with men compared with women who have not had an abortion², and they are more likely to report negative relationships³. But there is hope through Project Rachel (<http://hopeafterabortion.com/>). To find out more, visit CathMed.org.

¹ Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion by Theresa Burke, Ph.D., with David C. Reardon, Ph.D. Acorn Books (Springfield IL) 2002 (<http://afterabortion.org/2004/forbidden-grief/>; <http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/resources/forbidden-grief.htm>)

² Elizabeth M. Belsey, H.S. Greer, Shirley Lal, Stella C. Lewis, R.W. Beard. Predictive factors in emotional response to abortion: King's termination study—IV. *Social Science and Medicine*. Volume 11, Issue 2, January 1977, Pages 71–82 (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/0037785677900026>);

Michael B. Bracken and Stanislav V. Kasl. First and repeat abortions: a study of decision-making and delay. *Journal of Biosocial Science* (1975), 7 : pp 473-489 (<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract;jsessionid=6AA32FAA2138D7DC68590C508BC8B332.journals?fromPage=online&aid=1382804>);

Cogle, Reardon and Coleman. Depression Associated with Abortion and Childbirth. *Arch. Women's Mental Health*. 2001, 3(4) Suppl 2:105 (<http://www.springerlink.com/content/1434-1816/3/s2/>)

³ Cogle, J., D. Reardon, P. Coleman (2003) Depression associated with abortion and childbirth: a long-term analysis of the NLSY cohort. *Med Sci Monitor* 9(4): CR105-12 (<http://www.medscimonit.com/index.php/?archives/article/4701>).