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**History of legalization of abortion in the United States
of America in political and religious context and its
media presentation**

Klára Čížková

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Bakalářská práce

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Prohlašuji, že jsem práci zpracovala samostatně a použila jen uvedených pramenů a literatury.

Plzeň, duben 2017

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1 INTRODUCTION

Abortion is a very prominent subject in the United States of America. However, It is a rather controversial subject, which has been continually argued over for the past years, and possibly for many years to come. Currently, thousands of children in the world, are in a "live or die" situation, because their mothers decide whether to keep, or to terminate their existence.

The topic of abortions broad, and that is why this bachelor thesis, only deals with the most important, and the interesting topics. The bachelor thesis is divided into two parts, theoretical and practical.

The theoretical part begins with the history of abortions from the 19th century, up until to the 21st century, because during these centuries, abortion practices and laws were changing a great deal.

The following part of this bachelor thesis deals with the religious view on this topic – primarily focusing on Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam. I have chosen to focus on the following, as the views on the topic of abortion, are very different in each of them.

The last chapter of theoretical part deals with organizations, institutions and movements – pro-life and pro-choice movements, which are two opposing groups , where each group offers different solutions to the problem of an unexpected or unwanted pregnancy. The bachelor thesis, puts the greatest emphasis on the situation in the United States of America, however, it is necessary to mention other countries to specify and define terms and situations in the world. Therefore, the thesis also deals with situations in China and India.

The practical part consists from two parts. The first part is the translation of two articles (from English into Czech and vice versa) on the topic of abortion. These translations contain a commentary.

The second part analyses and compares the results of a questionnaire, which contains Czech and English answers. The questionnaire contains of answers regarding the agreement with abortion, respondent's opinions and other related themes. The respondents were women and men, primarily from the Czech Republic and the United States.

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to summarize the history of abortion in the United States, to depict the examples of movements in the political areas, summarize differences between religions, translate the articles in media, and to analyze people's reactions on this topic in the 21st century.

2 HISTORY OF ABORTION

2.1 19th century

Every century leading up until the 1800's the only thought given to abortion was what was stated in the English common law. The law states, that abortion was not allowed after normal gestation (quickening). Quickening is the moment in pregnancy when the woman feels fetal movements in her womb. When the woman begins to feel fetal movements, abortion is considered a crime, as the fetus demonstrates that he or she is now a separate human being, through providing its ability to move. The destruction of a fetus which was performed to the moment of quickening was not considered a crime.¹

During this time period, doctors did not have access to technology like ultrasounds and other diagnostic tools, they were unable to provide information of the pregnancy. If a woman said that she missed her period, the doctor would identify her as a pregnant woman. The quickening regulation entered the British common law, but was debated upon by medieval theologians, who argued if an ovum has a soul or not.²

In 1803, the Parliament passed a law which stated that abortion is a crime, making it illegal, even if it is performed before the quickening. The common law in the United States of America was more tolerant in the beginning of the 19th century. In 1812 the Massachusetts Supreme Court distinguished the attitude to abortions between Great Britain and the USA. That year a man named Isaiah Bangs was accused of preparation and administration of an abortifacient potion, however, in the end he was freed, because *"the indictment against him did not aver that woman was quick with child at the time"*.³

Women who were said to be pregnant, believed that they carry a non-living being, until the quickening period. In result of this, many American women aborted their children at home in the early decades of 19th century. Women could get medical treatment, which contained assistance with the abortion. Details of these procedures, could cause obstructed menses, and if a woman wanted to have an abortion later on in her pregnancy, they would try practices such as violent exercise, raising heavy things, jumping from prominence, blows to the belly and falls.⁴ Except medical manuals, women could have medical guides and health manuals which contained abortifacient information but the *"information were also in the United States from midwives and midwifery texts. Midwives had a long enjoyed a dubious reputation as abortion*

¹ MOHR, James C. *Abortion in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978, p. 3-4

² *Ibid.*, p. 4

³ *Ibid.*, p. 5

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6-7

procuresses both in England and in America."⁵ Others who expanded abortifacient information in the United States, were herbal healers (called Indian doctors).⁶

*"The earliest laws that dealt specifically with legal status of abortion in the USA were inserted into American criminal codebooks between 1821 and 1841, Ten states and one federal territory during that period enacted legislation that for the first time made certain kinds of abortions explicit statute offenses rather than leaving the common law to deal with them. At their May session in 1821 members of the general assembly of Connecticut passed a revised "Crimes and Punishments" law."*⁷

During the 19th century in the United States, many factors played a role of anti-abortion laws. Physicians, who preferred abortion criminalization laws, became motivated to new medical knowledge. Principal moment of the pregnancy was quickening, because if society considered quickening as unimportant moment, it was wrong to end the pregnancy before the quickening as after quickening.⁸ The feminism movement was contrary to doctors, because many feminist women were opposed to abortions. They thought that they should have their own right to decide whether to proceed with the abortion or not. Nonetheless, doctors had the most important position in the anti-abortion debate. They carried the anti-feminist agenda, preferring and defending anti-abortion laws, and also laws against birth control. This situation informed a wide spectrum of public about women's body rights, and started a campaign for contraceptives – their use and availability.⁹

In the 1840's, criminalization of abortions arose sharply, lasting till the 1870's when abortion became a business.¹⁰

2.1.1 Madame Restell

The most important woman in this time was Madame Restell, who was an English immigrant living in New York City. Her real name was Ann Lohman, and she performed abortions in the late 1830's, but the public was unaware about it until the early 1840's. In 1841, she was arrested, and her occupation was publicly exposed. By the middle of the 1840's, she had agencies in Philadelphia and in Boston. Salesmen began selling abortifacient pills for her, and if the pills failed, the salesmen referred women to the main clinic in New York.¹¹

⁵ Ibid., p. 11

⁶ *History of abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion_in_the_United_States#History

⁷ MOHR, James C. *Abortion in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978, p.11

⁸ Ibid., p. 25-28

⁹ Ibid., p. 41-44

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 45

¹¹ Ibid., p. 46-49

In 1845, Madame Restell was arrested for the second time. The press in New York City covered the story and "*expressed concern about the lack of restriction on abortion in the United States.*"¹²

2.2 20st century

In 1900, abortion was considered a crime in every state. Some countries allowed abortion to protect a woman's life, however, this was only in case of rape or incest.¹³

In 1921, Margaret Sanger and other feminists founded the American Birth Control League., through which they wanted to promote the founding of clinics, and provide women control of their own fertility.¹⁴

In 1964 Geraldine "Gerri" Santoro died because of an illegal abortion. She was found on motel room floor in Connecticut, when she was 28 years old. She had a miscarriage when she was six and a half months into her pregnancy. She wanted to perform a self-induced abortion with surgical instruments, using a book she obtained at Mansfield school. Her body was found by a maid who she called the police and took a photo of Santoro. This photo¹⁵ became a symbol of the pro-choice movement. There were many female activist groups which preferred women's rights. They developed their own skills and wanted to provide abortions to women who could not obtain an abortion elsewhere. For example, throughout 1960's a group in Chicago, known under the name "Jane," operated a boat which was interested in provision of abortions.¹⁶¹⁷

In 1965 the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, banned a law which prohibited contraceptive practice. In 1972, the Court expanded the rights of individual women to give up obsolete restrictions in *Eisenstadt v. Baird*. This affair established that the unmarried women had the same right to contraceptives as the married women. In 1973 the Court decided that women and their doctors should decide whether or not to abort a baby during the first three months of pregnancy rather than legislatures.¹⁸

In 1967, Colorado was the first state where the abortions were legal in cases of rape, incest or when woman would have a permanent physical disability. The same law was passed in North California, California and Oregon.¹⁹

¹² Ibid., p. 49

¹³ LUKER, Kristin. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. California: University of California Press, 1984, p. 40

¹⁴ CRITCHLOW, Donald T.. *The politics of abortion and birth control in historical perspective*. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, p. 1-3

¹⁵ See appendix 1

¹⁶ See Women on Waves

¹⁷ *How a Harrowing Photo of One Woman's Death Became an Iconic Pro-Choice Symbol* [online]. 2016 [accessed 2017-14-04], https://broadly.vice.com/en_us/article/how-a-harrowing-photo-of-one-womans-death-became-an-iconic-pro-choice-symbol

¹⁸ CRITCHLOW, Donald T.. *The politics of abortion and birth control in historical perspective*. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, p. 45

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 45-47

In 1970, Hawaii was the first state which legalized abortions on the request of the woman. The state of New York, also progressed by allowing abortions up to the 24th week of pregnancy. The same law was passed in Washington and Alaska. In Washington, D.C., the law which allowed abortion to protect woman's life and health, was contested in the Supreme Court in 1971 in *United States v Vuitch*. The court upheld the law, because they thought that psychological and physical well-being is described as a health concern. Essentially, it allowed abortions in Washington, D.C. Up until the end of 1972, 13 states had progressed and adopted similar laws as in Colorado. Mississippi allowed abortions in cases of incest and rape, meanwhile Massachusetts and Alabama allowed abortion only when a woman could be in danger of her life or health. For women where abortions were illegal, the only way to proceed with an abortion, was to travel to another state where the abortion was legal.²⁰ Abortions were illegal in 30 states, and legal only under certain circumstances in the 20 states. This legal position was presented to the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*.^{21 22}

In the late 1960's, a lot of organizations were founded and movements occurred, aiding to mobilize changes of opinions against, but also for legalization of abortions.²³

2.2.1 Roe v. Wade

Roe v. Wade is the case of the Supreme Court, which was interested in legalization of abortion in the United States. The same case is *Doue vs. Bolton*, which was interested in the same cause in Georgia. Both of the cases were accessed in the same day with the same decision.²⁴

In 1970 Norma L. McCorvey (known as Jane Roe) wanted to have an abortion. She asked for it through her lawyers Linda Cofee and Sarah Weddington. She claimed that she had been raped, however Henry Wade from Texas was against her. The District Court decided in Jane Roe's favour, but the Court refused to issue an order which would cancel the laws of Texas, where abortion was illegal. Both parties pleaded for a long time until reaching the Supreme Court of the United States of America. The Court decided in Roe's favour. The daughter of Norma McCorvey lives now, and according to the duration of legal proceedings, the child was born before the Court pronounced a verdict which allowed abortions. Now Norma McCorvey (Jane Roe) is a pro-life advocate.²⁵

Before *Roe v. Wade*, abortions were illegal with no exceptions in 30 states. In 20

²⁰ See Abortion Tourism

²¹ See *Roe v. Wade*

²² CRITCHLOW, Donald T.. *The politics of abortion and birth control in historical perspective*. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, p. 53-54

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ *Roe v. Wade* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roe_v._Wade

²⁵ *The story of Norma McCorvey* [online]. [accessed 2017-15-04], <http://www.endroe.org/roebio.aspx>

states abortion was legal only in case of rape, incest and health threat of woman, and in 3 states abortion was allowed, with the addition of New York, where abortions were allowed generally.²⁶

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court avoided all these laws and determine rules for availability of abortion. Roe advocated that a woman should have her own right to decide to have or not have an abortion. Additionally, he founded the term trimester, which means 12 weeks of pregnancy. Trimester is a *"threshold of state interest in the life of the fetus corresponding to its increasing "viability" (likelihood of survival outside the uterus) over the course of a pregnancy, such that states were prohibited from banning abortion early in pregnancy but allowed to impose increasing restrictions or outright bans later in pregnancy."*²⁷

The Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade decided that law in Texas, which prohibited abortion excluding when woman is in danger of her life, was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court decided that abortion and abortion rights is in conformity with rights to privacy. The Court also decided that women should have a right to privacy upon the act of abortion. The Court found that women have a right to have an abortion till viability (point which is determined by the doctor). After viability, women can have an abortion only for health reasons.²⁸

The most important component in the case of Roe is that human life begins at conception, birth or somewhere between. The Supreme Court didn't want to identify this as a problem, because there are so many trained physicians in medical, philosophical and theological branches, and they are not able to determine this problem.²⁹

2.2.2 Later decisions

In 1992, the case of Planned Parenthood v. Casey took place, when the Court gave up Roe's term trimester. Roe thought that it is strict scrutiny *"whereas Casey adopted the standard of undue burden for evaluating state abortion restrictions."*³⁰ He highlighted the right to abortion. *"Constitutional protection of the woman's decision to terminate her pregnancy derives from the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. It declares that no State shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."*³¹

²⁶ CRITCHLOW, Donald T.. *The politics of abortion and birth control in historical perspective*. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, p. 55-57

²⁷ *History of abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion_in_the_United_States#History

²⁸ *Roe v. Wade 410 U.S. 113 (1973)* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/410/113/case.html>

²⁹ *History of abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion_in_the_United_States#History

³⁰ *Abortion in the United States* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-04], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion_in_the_United_States#History

³¹ Ibid.

2.3 21st century

On April 18, 2007, the Court pronounced a verdict in the case of *Gonzales v. Carhart*. It contained a law about Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003. The partial birth abortion is an intervention, that a woman could endure, from the moment of conception, to the birth of baby. President of United States - George W. Bush had signed into this law. This law banned abortion after three months of conception and the Court said, that doctor who perpetrated this abortion could be condemned up to 2.5 years imprisonment, but the women who passed this abortion could not be condemned. This fight against abortion, became the main point of George Bush's election programme. Many of his supporters were Catholics, as they generally are against abortions.³²

The current situation in the United States, is that abortion is legal, but it can be limited by some states in different degrees. Laws have been passed, where abortions are banned in late term of pregnancy (after three months of conception), and girls who are not major must have parental notification.³³

The key point is article of the U.S. Constitution – Fourteenth Amendment which states:

*"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."*³⁴

2.3.1 Barack Obama

Barack Obama – last president of the United States wanted to re-establish the partial-birth abortion, because he thought that this is a solution, which protects the freedom of women, and that a woman has the right to decide about her body, and her health. He also said, that the government should not infringe personal issues of a woman and her family. The most absurd thing is, that Obama in his election campaign propagated the respect to moral and religious belief of every citizen, and then he spoke about reduction of induced abortions, and when he was elected he wanted to re-establish

³² *Gonzales v. Carhart 2007* [online]. 2012 [accessed 2017-05-04], <https://embryo.asu.edu/pages/gonzales-v-carhart-2007>

³³ *5 Reasons Why No One Should Be Legally Required to Tell Their Parents About Their Abortion* [online]. 2014 [accessed 2017-15-04], <http://everydayfeminism.com/2014/08/required-to-tell-parents-about-abortion/>

³⁴ *The Constitution of the United States* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-05-03], <http://constitutionus.com/>

the partial-birth abortion.³⁵

2.3.2 Donald Trump

Current president of the USA – Donald Trump, canceled the financing of international organizations which perform abortions, or they provide information about abortions. This dilemma has been a major source of conflicts between Democratic Party and Republican Party for several years. The Republican Party established this regulation, and the Democratic Party cancelled it in 1984, and the same action was brought up by Barack Obama in 2009.

Trump in his election campaign propagated a pro-life stance, instead like in the past, when he was very pro-choice. Additionally, he also spoke about fighting against abortions.³⁶

³⁵ *Obama: bez slitování s bezbrannými?* [online]. 2009 [accessed 2017-05-03],

<http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/nazory/1423807-obama-bez-slitovani-s-bezbrannymi>

³⁶ *Kontroverzní rozhodnutí. Trump zastavil financování potratů v zahraničí a najímání byrokratů* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-05-03], <http://www.info.cz/svet/kontroverzni-rozhodnuti-trump-zastavil-financovani-potratu-v-zahranici-a-najimani-byrokratu-3572.html>

3 RELIGIONS AND ABORTIONS

On Earth there are a lot of religions, and other faith in something or someone. The view on abortion, is very different in every religion.

3.1 Christians and abortion

3.1.1 Christianity in general

Christians have been opposed to induced abortions. The Catholic Church and conservative Protestant group, such as Operation Rescue (*"pro-life activist organization founded for the purpose of saving in utero babies who are about to be killed by an abortionist"*³⁷) have been against abortion, and have started legal and political campaigns to outlaw the practices. The main reason of their protests to abortion, is their belief of at the moment of conception, God provides an undying soul to each impregnated human egg, thus giving the egg the right to have full moral protection. Given this belief, preborn (every existing but not yet born) individual, even the impregnated human egg, has the same right to life as any adult human, therefore, any abortion is murder.³⁸

Additionally, it is interesting to mention, that Christians see themselves as a more preferred religion, compared to other religions or human races. They believe that they are not part of animal world, and that they were chosen by God. Therefore, in their opinion, they have permission to an egoistic attitude to nature. For example, when some species are overpopulated, they want to reduce the number of them. However, they apply this opinion only on animals, but not on humans. The Earth is overpopulated at this point, and will continue to keep expanding in the coming years.³⁹

3.1.2 Abortion and salvation

Eternal life for humans in heaven or hell, is part of the Christian tradition. There are three widely accepted creeds: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed (*"Christian statement of belief focused on Trinitarian doctrine and Christology"*⁴⁰). According to this tradition, God furnishes happiness in heaven for the

³⁷ BAIRD, Robert M., ROSENBAUM, Stuart E.. *The ethics of abortion: pro-life vs. pro-choice*. Prometheus Books, 2001, p. 195

³⁸ Ibid., p. 224

³⁹ This information was provided by Ing. et BcA Milan Kohout, the supervisor of this bachelor thesis. Plzeň 31.3.2017

⁴⁰ *Athanasian Creed* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03],

saved, and suffering in hell for the damned. For most conservative Christians, the most important aim of earthly life, is to gain eternal salvation, and to avoid eternal damnation.⁴¹

Aborted humans are innocent, and that is why they have not done anything to insult God. Aborted humans are not responsible for their abortion, and also they are not responsible for their incompetence to satisfy God's needs for salvation.⁴²

Southern Baptists believe that *"up to the point of accountability. . . Christ's atonement covers the race, and all who die before reaching this stage of development are saved."*⁴³ In addition, the synoptic Gospels show Jesus' interest in babies. There is no reason to think, that God would care less about aborted humans.⁴⁴

With regard to considerations, it appears that abortion bestows on preborn individuals an advantage, contrary to other human beings, by guaranteeing them eternal life and happiness. To die in blamelessness, according to this conservative Christian view, is to die in the state of salvation.⁴⁵

We can imagine two situations or alternatives: (1) to be aborted, and directly receive eternal happiness, or (2) be born, come of legal age, and run a risk that you may – or may not – satisfy God's demands for salvation. Do you think, that conservative Christians choose the first alternative?⁴⁶

The first situation is, of course, preferable if we allow for conservative Christians believe that salvation is not for the majority of people. *"The Christian doctrine of salvation seems to guarantee aborted preborn humans eternal happiness, apparently undermining the religious rationale for opposition to abortion."*⁴⁷

*"Christian abortion opponents may say, that abortion is nevertheless wrong, because it may bring legal, psychological, or religious harm to the parents. However, such harm to the parents, according to the view adopted here, they should be willing to endure in order to guarantee the eternal salvation of their offspring. From the parents' point of view, their own harm should be a small price to pay for the infinite gain achieved for their aborted child."*⁴⁸

Most importantly, Christians argue that abortion is wrong, because it infringes God's plan for concept. However, God does not influence people's choices, and any plan he may have including creatures with free will, would have to be temporary, because it

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Athanasian_Creed

⁴¹ BAIRD, Robert M., ROSENBAUM, Stuart E.. *The ethics of abortion: pro-life vs. pro-choice*. Prometheus Books, 2001, p. 224

⁴² Ibid., p. 225

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid., p. 226

⁴⁸ Ibid.

should be a subject of free choices and of free creatures.⁴⁹

In summary, there are 3 different beliefs of Christianity: (1) helping the other people to their salvation is not immoral, but is good, (2) abortion promises preborn human salvation, (3) abortion is immoral.⁵⁰

3.2 Muslims and abortion

Muslim views on abortion are in accordance with Hadith (*one of various reports describing the words, actions, or habits of the Islamic prophet Muhammad*⁵¹). In Islam, people believe that the fetus becomes a living soul after four months from conception, and abortion after this period is perceived as impermissible. Many Islamists accept some exceptions to this rule, however it is not in many cases.

Abortion is permissible in these following cases:

- before four months from the date of conception
- in danger of woman's life
- rape
- fetal deformity

According to Sherman Jackson (American scholar, which is also known as Abdul Hakim Jackson), *"while abortion, even during the first trimester, is forbidden according to a minority of jurists, it is not held to be an offense for which there are criminal or even civil sanctions."*⁵²

In practice, Muslim-majority countries have a variety of attitudes to abortions. In countries like Turkey and Tunisia, abortions are legal upon request. On the contrary, in countries like Iraq and Egypt, abortion is legal only in a case, when the mother of baby is in danger of her life if she were to continue in the pregnancy. There is no Muslim-majority country where abortions are completely banned.⁵³

Polls show, that the majority of Muslims believe that having an abortion is morally unacceptable. Additionally, 75 % of Muslims in 24 of the 37 countries, say that abortion is not moral.⁵⁴

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ BAIRD, Robert M., ROSENBAUM, Stuart E.. *The ethics of abortion: pro-life vs. pro-choice*. Prometheus Books, 2001, p. 225, 226

⁵¹ *Hadith* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03], <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadith>

⁵² *Islam and abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_and_abortion

⁵³ *Islam and abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_and_abortion

⁵⁴ Ibid.

3.3 Buddhists and abortion

There is no Buddhist view about abortion, but generally it is regarded negatively.⁵⁵

Some traditions state, that life begins at conception, and abortion has to be banned. Among Buddhists, there is no official or preferred view about abortion.⁵⁶

"The Dalai Lama said that abortion is "negative" but there are some exception. He said, "I think abortion should be approved or disapproved according to each circumstance."⁵⁷

In the monastic rules, abortion is regarded as a very serious matter. Monks and nuns, who assist a woman in procuring an abortion, have to be expelled.⁵⁸

3.4 Hindus and abortion

Classical Hindu texts strongly condemn abortion. According to Vedas, abortion is morally deplorable, and they consider it as a heinous crime. The Kaushitaki Upanishad (an ancient Sanskrit text) has the abortion on the list of crimes, which includes the murdering of someone's father or mother, and also theft.⁵⁹

Each Hindu has a different view on abortion. Due to this, the view on abortion is not stated as a view of single Hindu, but as a view of the certain Hindu community.⁶⁰

Some Hindus support abortions in the case of endangering a woman's life, or when the fetus has a life-threatening developmental anomaly.⁶¹

⁵⁵ *Buddhism and abortion* [online]. 2016 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism_and_abortion

⁵⁶ *Buddhism and abortion* [online]. 2009 [accessed 2017-15-03], <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/buddhistethics/abortion.shtml>

⁵⁷ *Buddhism and abortion* [online]. 2016 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism_and_abortion

⁵⁸ *Religion and abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_and_abortion

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ *Hinduism and abortion* [online]. 2009 [accessed 2017-15-03] http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/hinduism/hinduethics/abortion_1.shtml

⁶¹ Ibid.

3.5 Jews and abortion

Orthodox Jews say that abortion is necessary only in case to save woman's life, meanwhile the Reform, Reconstructionist and Conservative movements support the rights of a safe, and accessible abortion.⁶²

In general, orthodox Jews are against abortion after the 40th day from the conception (there are some exceptions about health). Conservative Jews prefer a greater latitude for abortion.

The Talmuds declare that a foetus, is not legally a person until it is born. The Torah contains a law that *"when men fight and one of them pushes a pregnant woman and a miscarriage results but no other misfortune, the one responsible shall be fined...but if other misfortune ensues, the penalty shall be life (nefesh) for life (nefesh)."*⁶³ Meaning that it is a crime for a woman to have a miscarriage, but not a capital crime, because according the Talmud, the foetus is not considered as a person.⁶⁴

⁶² *The Abortion Controversy: Jewish Religious Rights and Responsibilities* [online]. [accessed 2017-15-03],

http://www.uscj.org/JewishLivingandLearning/SocialAction/SocialJustice/CurrentIssues/Political_SocialIssues/TheAbortionControversy.aspx

⁶³ PEPPIN, John F., CHERRY, Mark J., ILTIS Ana. *The Annals of Bioethics*. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2009, p. 148

⁶⁴ *Religion and abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-15-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_and_abortion

4 POLITICS AND ABORTION

I would like to mention the institutions, movement, or policy as there are many different opinions on the topic of abortions, and it is interwoven directly with politics. On Earth, there are many different social systems and regulations about politics and economy. A lot of countries allow abortions, but some countries consider it as illegal.

4.1 Abortion tourism

Abortion tourism, is situation applicated by women in country, where abortion is illegal or restricted. They travel to another country where abortion is legal, and there they will proceed with their abortion. It is especially typical for Polish women, because in Poland abortion is only legal if it is carried out in danger of woman's life, in case of rape, or in danger of child's life. Polish women typically travel to Czech Republic, Germany or Netherlands.⁶⁵ Another country, where abortion is illegal is Ireland. Therefore, Irish women travel to the United Kingdom. Similarly, Belgian women would travel to France as in the past Belgium did not have legalized abortions.⁶⁶

4.2 Women on Waves

Women on Waves, is Dutch non-profit organization created in 1999 by the Dutch physician, Rebecca Gomperts. The organization is interested primarily in women's rights, and it prefers a free decision for women to have an abortion.⁶⁷

The organization focuses on abortions, and provokes discussions about laws restricting a woman's right to abortion. The organization also aims to provide a safe, non-surgical abortion to women who live in countries, where abortions are illegal. The services are provided on a specially equipped boat, which includes a mobile clinic. If the Women on Waves ship arrives at a country, women are invited to book an appointment. When the ship sails from the territorial waters into international waters, laws valid are of the country where the ship is registered, therefore, the Dutch laws permit the abortion.⁶⁸

⁶⁵ *V Polsku roste potratová turistika. Ženy jezdí i do Česka, říká polská bohemistka Czaplinská* [online]. 2016 [accessed 2017-20-03], http://www.rozhlas.cz/zpravy/evropa/_zprava/v-polsku-roste-potratova-turistika-zeny-jezdi-i-do-ceska-rika-polska-bohemistka-czaplinska--1656290

⁶⁶ *United States pro-choice movement* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-20-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_pro-choice_movement

⁶⁷ *Who are we?* [online]. [accessed 2017-20-03], <http://www.womenonwaves.org/en/page/650/who-are-we>

⁶⁸ Ibid.

4.3 Pro-life movement (Right-to-life movement)

Pro-life movement is a group, mostly of the conservative opinion, who are interested in protecting people and their lives.⁶⁹ The biggest pro-life movements are International Rights, Life Federation, and Human Life International.⁷⁰

They protect life from the conception to natural death. Main topics include abortion, euthanasia, research, and use of embryonic stem cells. They are also interested in protection of families (definition of family law, domestic education, maintenance, subsistence level, domestic violence), disagreement of homosexual marriages, resistance to contraception, promotion of family planning, refusal of death penalty, and wars.⁷¹

The members of this movement are mostly people from Republican Party, typically older than sixty years old. The majority of the members are men with elementary education.⁷²

4.3.1 Activity of pro-life movement:

This movement contains protests, coercive actions, political lobbying, and educational actions, but also programs for adoption, and social programs to provide help to mothers in distress. Nonetheless, there are also the extremists, who use violence to achieve their goals.⁷³

They have many actions:

4.3.1.1 Persuasive actions

- Free ultrasound: they provide a free ultrasound and free photo of baby, to women who decide to have an abortion.
- Street consulting: the activists try to speak with visitors of interruption clinic, and they try to persuade them to change their decision.⁷⁴

4.3.1.2 Protest and coercive actions

- March for life: it's a protest action in form of manifestation, or prayer procession. Every year, the March for life takes place in the USA in Washington, on 22 of January. It occurs on this date, because in 1973, the process of Roe vs Wade, went to annulment of the abortion laws.

⁶⁹ LUKER, Kristin. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. California: University of California Press, 1984, p. 158

⁷⁰ *Hnutí pro-life* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-20-03], https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hnutí_pro-life

⁷¹ *Protect life from the conception until natural death* [online]. 2006 [accessed 2017-20-03], <http://humanevents.com/2006/11/20/protect-life-from-conception-until-natural-death/>

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ *Pro-life movement* [online]. [accessed 2017-20-03], <http://studentsforlife.org/prolifefacts/prolife-movement/>

⁷⁴ Ibid.

– Provocation: it's a new method which contains collecting evidence, about law violation from the interruption clinic. This method was founded by Lila Rose, and her organization, called Live Action. She sends young-looking girls to interruption clinics, where they are to pretend that they are under age and pregnant. They have a hidden camera which helps to collect proofs of the clinics. They attempt to prove that the clinics hide the sexual abuse of under age girls, and that the clinics provide illegal abortions, of which they do not inform the parents of the under age applicant. The obtained record is then uploaded on the Internet.

– Publishing of photographs and videos from induced abortion

– Life chain: is a row of people, which is formed along the pavement, or road, quietly holding up pro-life slogans. It is the most popular method of demonstration.⁷⁵

4.3.1.3 Prayer actions

– Prayer groups in front of hospitals or interruption clinics: people pray in front of hospitals or interruption clinics, and they give pro-life materials to the female patients, eventually speaking with them.⁷⁶

4.3.1.4 Practical help

– Centers for women in distress: A normal agenda for women who are pregnant, and for women who want to be pregnant, or women who suffered from an impact of abortion.⁷⁷

4.3.2 Anti-abortion violence

There are many methods of violence – for example, a physical attack, attempted murder, successful murder of doctors and medical staff, fire-raising, bomb attack on public places and interruption clinics. These pro-life extremists, are called monothematic terrorists.⁷⁸

The majority of pro-life movements refuse to use violence as a resource to their aims, because the abortion is also perceived as an act of violence and murder.⁷⁹

⁷⁵ *Pro-life movement* [online]. [accessed 2017-20-03], <http://studentsforlife.org/prolifefacts/prolife-movement/>

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ BAIRD, Robert M., ROSENBAUM, Stuart E.. *The ethics of abortion: pro-life vs. pro-choice*. Prometheus Books, 2001, p. 226-228

⁷⁹ Ibid.

4.4 Pro-choice movement

Is the opposite of the pro-life movement. It is socio political movement, which is interested in the free rights of women, especially, in case of pregnancy.⁸⁰ The members of pro-choice movement, are mostly men and in the USA. Known pro-choice movements are Planned Parenthood, American Civil Liberties Union, NARAL Pro-Choice America, and National Organization for Women.⁸¹

The aims of these movements is the right to have an abortion under all circumstances, as opposed to being permitted to have an abortion only in specific cases (rape or incest). Furthermore, to not be limited to have an abortion only up until a certain time (for example to the third month of pregnancy). Most members of the pro-choice movement say, that the embryo is not considered as an individual, who is able to live independently outside of the mother's body. When the brain does not exist, or it works very simply, it is a part of mother's body, and it is not an individual human being.⁸²

The argument of this movement is that abortion will happen whether it is legal or illegal. The problem is, when the abortion is illegal, pregnant women who wish to proceed will go for the abortion to another country⁸³, or to a place where the surrounding is not sterile, or provided by qualified staff. In these situations, women will go to an angel maker, or to a back alley (place where abortion is provided illegal).⁸⁴

The characteristic symbol of an illegal abortion is metal hanger, which is often published in pro-choice materials, because it was a tool used to perform an abortion. Other tools that are not well sterilized or not sterilized in any way, can be easily found, however, many women die because of infections caused by such measures.⁸⁵

⁸⁰ LUKER, Kristin. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. California: University of California Press, 1984, p. 175-176

⁸¹ *United States pro-choice movement* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-20-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_pro-choice_movement

⁸² LUKER, Kristin. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. California: University of California Press, 1984, p. 176-177

⁸³ See Abortion tourism

⁸⁴ CRITCHLOW, Donald T.. *The politics of abortion and birth control in historical perspective*. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, p. 56

⁸⁵ *Anatomy of a coat hanger abortion* [online]. 2013 [accessed 2017-20-03], <https://drjengunter.wordpress.com/2013/07/13/anatomy-of-a-coat-hanger-abortion/>

4.5 Sex-selective abortion

Is a practice of terminating a pregnancy, based on the gender of the fetus. It is necessary to state that this problem is related to the birth and death rate of a country.⁸⁶

This method primarily practices in countries, where men have a different position in the culture compared to women. It is typical for East and South Asia, especially in the People's Republic of China, Pakistan and India. Nonetheless, this practice is also used in the Caucasus and Western Balkans.⁸⁷ In Chinese and Hindu cultures, the boy (or man) is considered as symbol of strength, diligence, inheritance, hope for better life, pride etc.⁸⁸ On the other hand, a girl (or woman) is considered as a weak being who is expected to be married, caring for her children and household. Therefore, her family it is at a disadvantage, because they will lose the woman's help in the household, but also they will have to give a dowry to her future husband. That is the reason why the birth of girl is considered negatively as opposed to the birth of a male child. It is mostly practiced in case of first born child, however even in the case of a second birth, the girl is not accepted with love or pleasure. She is despised by her family and seen as a failure on their part.⁸⁹

In India, many girls have name Nakusa or Nakoshi – which means Unwanted. This name is the future source of bullying and humiliation, leaving the girls feeling useless, lowering their self esteem and confidence.⁹⁰

4.5.1 India

This method of abortion is characteristic for this country. There is an imbalance in the numbers of men and women. Women are outnumbered by men, as families prefer sons instead of daughters. This is not a problem of sex-selective abortions, but rather the ignorance of families, who do not care about daughters, in terms of nutrition and health.⁹¹

"In Hindu mentality is rooted belief that boy is more important than girl. That is why sex-selective abortions are more increased and they cause considerable difference between men and women. In 1991 in India there were less 4,2 million girls who were younger than six years old, than boys. Today the different has increased to 7.1 million."

⁸⁶ *Sex-selective abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-25-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex-selective_abortion

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ BANISTER, Judith, HARBAUGH, Christina Wu. *China's family planning program: Inputs and outcomes*. Washington, D.C.: Center for International Research, Bureau of the Census, 1994, p. 3

⁸⁹ *Sex-selective abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-25-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex-selective_abortion

⁹⁰ *India's 'Unwanted' girls change their names* [online]. 2011 [accessed 2017-30-03], <http://www.thenational.ae/news/world/south-asia/indias-unwanted-girls-change-their-names>

⁹¹ *Sex-selective abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-25-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex-selective_abortion

said archbishop Angelo Rufino Garcias.⁹²

In India, there is a law which prevents the revealment of the baby's gender, but there are also many cases of sex-selective abortions, and the situation is controlled by the police in hundreds of hospitals and private clinics.⁹³

4.5.2 China

China is at the top of different social organizations in the world. China is well known for the term: One-Child Policy. It means that a family is restricted to only having one child. This regulation was effective from the year 1979 to 2015.⁹⁴ Until the 1960's, families could have as many children as they desired. The One-child Policy, was instantiated to aid in the reduction of China's birth rate, and to slow down the rate of the population growth. If the parents failed to obey this regulation their jobs could be at risk, and the women would have to have an abortion. Many exceptions were granted, and families were allowed to have two children, but it was only in the case of practical difficulties – when the father was a disabled serviceman, or when both parents were single children, and when parent's first-born child was a girl. Families with children with disabilities – for example physical disability, intellectual disability, or mental illness, had different policies, and they could have more children.⁹⁵

Currently, families can have two children, therefore there is an effective Two-Child Policy. It is due to the response of the delayed growth of Chinese economy. This law became effective on January 1, 2016. The Chinese government hopes that the birth rate will be increased, and their financial burden will be reduced, because it is preferred by aging population.⁹⁶

⁹² *Selektivní potraty v Indii* [online]. 2012 [accessed 2017-30-03], <http://radiovaticana.cz/clanek.php4?id=16739>

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ *Čína končí s politikou jednoho dítěte, rodičům povolí dva potomky. Bojí se stárnutí a stagnace* [online]. 2015 [accessed 2017-30-03], <https://zpravy.aktualne.cz/zahranici/cina-starne-vlada-rozhodla-o-konci-politiky-jednoho-ditete/r~eb0531627e2a11e5a705002590604f2e/>

⁹⁵ *Sex-selective abortion* [online]. 2017 [accessed 2017-25-03], https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex-selective_abortion

⁹⁶ *Čína končí s politikou jednoho dítěte, rodičům povolí dva potomky. Bojí se stárnutí a stagnace* [online]. 2015 [accessed 2017-30-03], <https://zpravy.aktualne.cz/zahranici/cina-starne-vlada-rozhodla-o-konci-politiky-jednoho-ditete/r~eb0531627e2a11e5a705002590604f2e/-ditete/r~eb0531627e2a11e5a705002590604f2e/>

5 MEDIA AND ABORTION

For the first part of my practical part, I have chosen a translation of the two articles about abortions. The first article is from Czech language into English language and it is about Obama's opinion, and the second one is from English language into Czech and it is about current situation in the USA and about Trump's opinion.

5.1 Translation 1

Source text⁹⁷

Target text:

Obama: Without mercy with defenseless people?

Not all citizens of the United States are excited about the changing in the presidential seat. Especially those who could or should become citizens (new born citizens) of the USA. We are talking about unborn children, about those, who had bigger hopes to see the light under the reign of president George Walker Bush, than under his successor Barack Hussein Obama.

Just five minutes after Obama assumed office of the president, all references about protection of life from conception were removed from the White House website. Instead of it, there were declarations of "free choice," meaning it is up to the mother to decide on whether to bring the child into the world, or to abort the child. (as a "punishment" that he/she comes the wrong time). Two days after Obama's inauguration, he unfortunately supported the renowned verdict of the Supreme Court in the case Roe v. Wade from 1973, which legalized abortion practically until the ninth month of pregnancy. As a reminder: in the six years after this decision, the number of abortions increased from 750 000 to 1,6 million in the United States. While President Bush in his tenure nominated two judges of the Supreme Court, who at least contributed to support the ban of partial-birth abortion (the most barbarous method of violent abortion), his successor Obama said that he will not name a judge of that kind. On January 22, a new president ignored the demonstration of several hundred thousand of his citizens. These citizens met on the occasion of 36th anniversary of the fateful NS verdict in Washington, on the traditional March for Life (Pochod pro život), to express their disagreement with aborting of conceived children.

Some media said that the public opinion in poll support, which most of American people prefer as the right of women to "free choice". However, statistical research, which was executed by Harris Poll company on the representative group of 2,341

⁹⁷ See appendix 2

American people, who found out something completely different. 82 % of Americans are for the legal limitation of availability of induced abortions. 76 % of respondents, have spoken out to protect the freedom of conscience of doctors and nurses, who do not want to participate on abortions. 68 % of respondents demand a total prohibition of partial-birth abortion, which means abortment of the baby during induced labour. 63 % of respondents do not agree that abortions should be financed by public money. 38 % of respondents admit the termination of pregnancy, but only if the consequences are rape, incest, or the mother is in danger of her life. However, only 9 % of respondents admit the abortion without conditions. Obama promised in his election campaign to respect the moral and religious belief of every citizen, and he often talked about "the necessity of decrease of induced abortion." That is the reason why American bishops called on Obama for the second time to act carefully: "If the government wants to reduce the number of interruptions, it can not support their spread."

However, the new president has already been able to abolish Bush's ban on financing of abortions abroad from money of taxpayers, so called Mexico City Policy. Just this Obama's step means to remove hundreds of millions dollars from the American developing aid for children whose lives are in need, women and families in poor countries and their conversion to support the killing of conceived children. Obama also announced, that he will reestablish the financing for United Nations Population Fund, which Bush has terminated, because the fund supports Chinese violent control of population. In addition, Obama wants to support the contraceptive and abortion industry by millions of dollars from means, which were set to remove the consequences of the financial crisis. More than a hundred of Republican congressmen have demanded for Obama not to sign a free choice law, which would remove all abortion limitations, and which would allow them also in case of annulment of judgment *Roe v. Wade*. Obama does not seem to want to comply with Republicans, the other way around, he would rather strive for elimination of the last order of Bush's administration from December 18, 2008, which gives public healthcare providers the right to apply the objection to conscience, and refuse to participate in performances which they disagree with, for example the execution of induced abortion.

Bush wasn't certainly the best American president, but in the social sphere and especially for American family he did a lot of good. There has been a significant decline of negative effects in society under the rule of Bush: the number of abortions has decreased below 1,3 million, the number of violent and property criminal act has fallen sharply, the taking of drugs by teenagers has fallen by 25 %, the number of pregnancy of underage girls has fallen by 35 %, the number of divorces has fallen to the lowest

level since 1970. Bush has supported the state contribution to prescribed medications for elderly and he has also supported the efficiency improvement programme of elementary and secondary schools "No Child Left Behind." The results of educational tests have improved, including blacks and Hispanics; the number of pupils who haven't completed compulsory education dropped below 10 %, which is the best result in last 30 years. It would be a shame if Bush's successor would innovate this valuable heritage.

Obama promised an epochal change in international and intrastate politics. The Liberal left wing of the world frantically claps on his decision to close Guantánamo Bay prison, although no one knows what to do with the local highly dangerous prisoners. In intrastate politics, Obama unfortunately presented his first steps against the life of unborn children only as another runner of genocide relay, which started in 1920 by Bolshevik regime in Russia. Today, when 700,000 of Russians are decreasing every year, Vladimir Putin blames the Communistic regime for the extinction of his country because "he destroyed family values." Will not lead Obama's way of "humanization" of American society to similar ends?

5.1.1 Commentary:

5.1.1.1 Macro Approach

Source: Television Internet portal CT24

Reference to source text: <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/nazory/1423807-obama-bez-slitovani-s-bezbrannymi>

Author: CT24

Target group of readers: People, who are interested in situation about abortion in the USA, especially in Obama's opinion. The text is rather for adults.

Style: Journalistic which is used in press

Function: Informative, educational

Context: Text was written and published when Obama acceded to his function and because he had different opinion on the topic of abortion and it was very discussed theme.

Linguistic perspective:

- standard language
- a lot of numbers
- names of persons, institutions
- in text, there are used rather a lot of long sentences
- also used passive voice

5.1.1.2 Strategic decision

I think, I have translated the article accurately, sometimes I have reshaped the sentences because of the word order, as in the Czech language the word order is different compared to the English language. The text is translated in a very detailed way with precision.

5.1.1.3 Micro Approach

During the translation I have started with reading of the whole text to know what is the text about. Then I have translated sentence after sentence, sometimes I encountered problems with vocabulary and with the word order.

a) *Two days after **Obama's** inauguration **he** unfortunately supported the renowned verdict of the Supreme Court in the case *Roe v. Wade* from 1973, which legalized abortion practically until the ninth month of pregnancy.*

It was necessary to add the name Obama on the beginning of the sentence. Because if I wrote: two days after his inauguration Obama supported sadly the renowned verdict of the Supreme Court in the case *Roe v. Wade* from 1973, which legalized abortion practically until the ninth month of pregnancy – it would be misleading because we would not know who was inaugurated even though it is complemented in the follow-up. I think it is misleading also in the Czech language.

b) *On January 22, a new president ignored the demonstration of several hundred thousand of his citizens. These citizens met on the occasion of 36th anniversary of the fateful NS verdict in Washington on the traditional **March for Life (Pochod pro život)** to express their disagreement with aborting of conceived children.*

In this case, I had to make two sentences because in the Czech language, the whole sentence is too long, and it would be difficult to translate it directly word for word. In the second sentence it was necessary to translate accurately, however it was also important to maintain the original name of the march. I think that English readers don't know the Czech expression "Pochod pro život," but they know the name "March for Life," because in the USA they have this type of march. But when the English reader would like to find more information about this march (especially in the Czech Republic), it will help him to find more information about it.

c) *68 % **of respondents** demand a total prohibition of partial-birth abortion, which means abortment of the baby during induced labour..... However only 9 % **of respondents** admit the abortion without conditions.*

In these two sentences it was necessary to add a word "respondent" because in the Czech version this word is missing, but the sentences are clear, however in the English it was necessary to add it because of the comprehensibility.

d) *Obama promised an epochal change in international and intrastate politics. The Liberal left wing of the world frantically claps his decision to close **Guantanamo Bay prison**, although no one knows what to do with the local highly dangerous prisoners.*

In the Czech version there is only "Guantanamo prison" but I think that it was better to find the whole name of the prison.

5.2 Translation 2

Source text⁹⁸

Target text:

Trump a potrat

Odpůrci potratů doufají ve změnu za vlády Donalda Trumpa

Na každoročním protestu proti rozsudku Roe vs. Wade byl nový optimismus.

„Je to už dávno," řekla Carol Anne Jones, když stála před Nejvyšším soudem oblečená v pohřební černé a zamávala malou cedulkou: „Potrat je volba – k vraždě“. Každý rok od roku 1974 se v hlavním městě shromažďují odpůrci proti potratům aby protestovali proti rozhodnutí soudu, které se uskutečnilo předchozí rok v případě Roe vs. Wade, aby uznali právo na potrat na celostátní úrovni. „Tento rok bych chtěla zažít, aby tahle chyba byla odvolána,“ řekla 63-letá žena v domácnosti ze severní Virginie. „A myslím, že to tak bude“.

Mnoho z těch, kteří se 27. ledna zúčastnili „Pochodu pro život“ (March for life) vyjádřili optimismus, že vláda Donalda Trumpa přinese rozsáhlé změny v zákonu o potratu. Jak blízko se stane nová administrativa z Washingtonského pomníku k Nejvyššímu soudu, aby naplnila naděje jeptišek, mládežnických skupin a farářů středního věku, kteří zpívali chvalozpěvy, modlili se za chodu a teple se oblékali před zimou?

Trump, který se v roce 1999 prohlásil za „velmi pro-choice“ zastánce (zastávající potrat) se stal jeho nový pro-life postoj (zastávající život) důležitou částí jeho kampaně. Opakovaně slíbil, že jmenuje prokuristy Nejvyššímu soudu, což by mohlo znamenat převrácení kauzy Roe, a slíbil také to, že podepíše proti potratové opatření přijaté Kongresem, které je nyní plně v rukou Republikánů. Mohlo by zahrnovat i odmítnutí nevládní organizace Planned Parenthood (Plánované rodičovství), největšího poskytovatele potratů v Americe.

Od svého uvedení do funkce, tedy 20. ledna ukázal Trump, že jeho kampaň slibuje více, než si lidé mysleli. Kromě podpisu příkazu na vybudování zdi na hranicích s Mexikem a vytlačení Ameriky z Transpacifického partnerství (Trans-Pacific Partnership) začal pracovat na svém slibu v boji proti potratům. 23 ledna obnovil zákaz – zavedený republikánskou vládou a následně zrušen a znovu zaveden Demokraty a Republikány - na poskytování federálních peněz organizacím působících v zahraničí, které poskytují informace o interupcích. Rozšířil „global gag rule“ (pravidlo, které vyžaduje aby jakákoli organizace, která přijímá pomoc od USA neměla nic společného s potraty) v procesu na pomoc poskytovanou všemi vládními útvary a úřady, a to nejen na dva zdroje, které byly dříve stanoveny: USAID (Agentura Spojených států amerických

⁹⁸ See appendix 3

pro mezinárodní rozvoj) a Ministerstvo zahraničí.

27. ledna, předtím, než se sám objevil na pochodu, Trump i nadále poskytoval dobré zprávy zastáncům pro-life. Na sociální síti Twitter uvedl - „ #MarchforLife (Pochod pro život) je velmi důležitý. Všichni, kteří jste se pochodu zúčastnili - máte mou podporu“ – a vyslal Mikea Pencea, aby se obrátil na účastníky pochodu a stal se tak prvním viceprezidentem, který tak učinil v 43-leté historii shromáždění. Pan Pence, který jako guvernér státu Indiana přijal několik nejtěžších zákonů proti potratům v Americe, řekl davu, že nová vláda zamýšlela ukončit financování potratů z prostředků daňových poplatníků a také poskytovatelům. Řekl, že Trump příští týden oznámí kandidáty na Nejvyšší soud – aby zaplnil místo, které opustil Antonin Scalia, konzervativní soudce, který zemřel v únoru minulého roku - „který bude podporovat Boží svobodu zakotvenou v naší ústavě“. Za výskání a dobré nálady viceprezident dodal, že „Život v Americe znovu zvítězí!“.

Pence není jediným horlivým zastáncem pro-life, kterého Trump vybral pro svůj kabinet. Tom Price, jeho volba vést Ministerstvo zdravotnictví, podpořil celostátní zákaz potratů po 20. týdnu těhotenství. Jeho kandidát na nejvyššího státního zátupce, Jeff Session, nazval kauzu Roe „jedním z nejhorších, kolosálně chybných rozhodnutí Nejvyššího soudu všech dob“. Kellyanne Conway, hlavní poradkyně pana Trumpa, také na pochodu promluvila.

Hlavním cílem těchto účastníků pochodu ve Washingtonu je samozřejmě to, že rozsudek Roe bude anulován. „Stane se to a volba se vrátí k lidem“ řekl Steve Hemler, bývalý výkonný ředitel pro ropu – obrátil se jako „katolický zastánce“ z Culpeperu ve Virginii, který nesl obrovský obraz plodu, který si cucal palec se slovy „Nezajímavý člověk nebo mimino?“ („Blip or Baby?“). Měl na mysli skutečnost, že pokud bude rozsudek Roe anulován, bude na státech, aby uvalily omezení na potraty.

Anulování rozsudku Roe by bylo ale obtížné. V současné době existuje pět soudců, kteří jsou pro zachování rozsudku Roe a dva, možná tři, pokud by John Roberts - hlavní soudce, hlasoval s nimi, kteří by mohli s ohledem na tuto možnost rozsudek anulovat. Takže po jmenování konzervativního nástupce na místo Scalia, bude muset Trump jmenovat dalšího pro-life soudce. Je pravděpodobné, že bude mít příležitost to udělat v příštích čtyřech letech, jelikož tři současní soudci jsou ve věku nad 78 let. Ale pak by bylo nutné rozsudek Roe obnovit. A Nejvyšší soud má tendenci se vyhnout tomu, že bude proti svým rozhodnutím, které v minulosti rozsoudil, pokud pro není pádný důvod.

Je pochybné, zda Trump nebo mnozí republikánští vůdci, kteří v posledních letech svobodně mluvili proti potratům bez nebezpečí, aniž by Nejvyšší soud s nimi souhlasil, by chtěli, aby k tomu došlo. Navzdory rostoucímu fanatickému rozdělení na toto téma,

téměř 70 % Američanů podporuje rozsudek Roe, což je v porovnání s rokem 1992 o 10 % více, tvrdí Pew Research Center.

Existuje několik kroků, které může Trump učinit, aby zatím odpůrce potratů potěšil. Mohl by pomoci difundovat Plánované rodičovství (Planned Parenthood), jak Republikáni již roky hrozí, ačkoli průzkumy naznačují, že většina Američanů je proti. Mohl by také změnit Hyde Amendment (akční fond Plánovaného rodičovství), který zakazuje federální financování mnoha potratů na stálý zákon, než na jednorocní ustanovení, které se každoročně prodlužuje.

Někdo odhaduje, jak dlouho mohou tyto kroky asi trvat. Ale to, co se jistě mezitím stane je, že postupné zrušení potratových práv na úrovni státu se zvýší. Od roku 2010 republikánští guvernéri a zákonodárci schválili více než 300 protipotratových předpisů, a to od příkazu, že žena musí být informována před potratem o schopnosti plodu cítit bolest, až po určité metody potratu. Republikánští pro-life zastánci přičítali pokles potratů – na nejnižší úrovni v roce 2014 od roku 1974 – k novým omezením. Lepší přístup k antikoncepci hrál také velkou roli.

V posledních měsících státy Ohio a Kentucky zakázali potrat po 20. týdnu těhotenství, a tak se připojují k přibližně dalším 15 státům. Státy Indiana, Louisiana a Texas bojují za to, že přijmou zákony, které vyžadují, aby plodová tkáň byla zpopelněna nebo pohřbena, jak tvrdí aktivisté pro-choice, že potraty budou obzvláště obtížné a drahé. „Nevíme, jak dlouho to bude trvat,“ řekla Kathleen Zehenny, když procházela kolem Nejvyššího Soudu s nápisem „Ohio Life“ (Ohijský život), který odkazoval na zrušení rozsudku Roe. „Ale dostaneme další omezení“.

5.2.1 Commentary:

5.2.1.1 Macro Approach

Source: News Internet portal The Economist

Reference to source text:

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2017/01/trump-and-abortion>

Author: Not mentioned

Target group of readers: People, who are interested in current situation about abortion in the USA. The article is for supporter of pro-life but also for pro-choice movement. The text is rather for adults.

Style: Journalistic which is used in press.

Function: Informative, educational.

Context: President Trump and the theme about financing abortions is very discussed theme now.

Linguistic perspective:

- standard language
- a lot of numbers and dates
- names of persons, institutions, organizations, countries
- very long sentences
- also used passive voice

5.2.1.2 Strategic decision

I think, I have translated the article accurately but the whole translation was very difficult. I have had big problems with long sentences and with some vocabulary. I have reshaped the sentences because of the word order because in the Czech language the word order is different than in the English language. But the text is translated very detailed.

5.2.1.3 Micro Approach

During the translation I have started with reading of the whole text to know what the is text about. Then I have translated sentence after sentence. But there were many problems with the translations and I would like to mention them there.

a) Mnoho z těch, kteří se 27. ledna zúčastnili „**Pochodu pro život**“ (**March for life**) vyjádřili optimismus, že vláda Donalda Trumpa přinese rozsáhlé změny v zákonu o potratu.

ai) Kromě podpisu příkazu na vybudování zdi na hranicích s Mexikem a vytlačení Ameriky z **Transpacifického partnerství (Trans-Pacific Partnership)** začal pracovat na svém slibu v boji proti potratům.

aii) ...obrátil se jako „katolický zastánce“ z Culpeperu ve Virginii, který nesl obrovský obraz plodu, který si cucal palec se slovy „**Nezajímavý člověk nebo mimino?**“ („**Blip or Baby?**“).

In these three cases I have translated the expressions but also maintain the original name in the brackets. I think, it is good for Czech reader to find out more information about it.

b) Trump, který se v roce 1999 prohlásil za „**velmi pro-choice**“ zastánce (**zastávající potrat**) se stal jeho nový pro-life postoj (**zastávající život**) důležitou částí jeho kampaně.

bi) Rozšířil „**global gag rule**“ (**pravidlo, které vyžaduje aby jakákoli organizace, která přijímá pomoc od USA neměla nic společného s potraty**) v procesu na pomoc poskytovanou všemi vládními útvary a úřady, a to nejen na dva zdroje, které byly dříve stanoveny.

It is necessary to explain these terms, because Czech reader would not know what these expressions means. And it is difficult to translate into Czech language.

c) Mohlo by zahrnovat i odmítnutí nevládní organizace **Planned Parenthood (Plánované rodičovství)**, největšího poskytovatele potratů v Americe.

ci) v procesu na pomoc poskytovanou všemi vládními útvary a úřady, a to nejen na dva zdroje, které byly dříve stanoveny: **USAID (Agentura Spojených států amerických pro mezinárodní rozvoj) a Ministerstvo zahraničí**.

It is necessary to translate these names, because Czech reader would not know what these expressions means. But in contrast with case described in point a) to aii), now the Czech translation is in the brackets.

d) **Na sociální síti Twitter uvedl - „, #MarchforLife (Pochod pro život) je velmi důležitý. Všichni, kteří jste se pochodu zúčastnili - máte mou podporu“...**

I used more of the Czech words for the verb tweet, because in Czech language we do not use this word. We can use it in spoken Czech, but not in written Czech, which is

used in article. In spoken Czech we can use the verb „tvítnout“.

e) Navzdory rostoucímu fanatickému rozdělení na toto téma, téměř 70 % Američanů podporuje rozsudek Roe, což je v porovnání s rokem 1992 o 10 % více, tvrdí Pew Research Center.

In this case it is better to express like this, because in Czech language it would be difficult to translate it clearly and it would be incomprehensible to Czech readers.

6 RESEARCH BASED ON QUESTIONNAIRES

For the second part of my practical part, I have chosen a research based on questionnaire.

6.1 The aim of the research

The most important part of my practical part is the research based on questionnaires. The topic of abortion is a very prominent theme in the USA, but less discussed in the Czech Republic. I wanted to see the differences between these two countries. That is the reason why the questionnaires are in the Czech language, but also in the English language.

The main aim of this research is to find out how many people in both countries are pro-life, or pro-choice. Other goals of this research are for example:

- to find out if respondents agree with abortions or not
- to find out in which cases will respondents agree with abortions
- to find out if respondents know everyone who had an abortion
- to find out if respondents think that abortion is free right of woman.

6.2 Methods and composition

For the research I chose a portal called Survio, which offers the option to place online surveys. The advantage of this portal, is the possibility to create multilingual questionnaires, as it was considered that questionnaire placed on the Czech website could discourage German respondents from completing it. The questionnaire was translated in Czech language for Czech respondents, but also in English language for respondents from foreign countries to avoid a language barrier. The similar questions were put to Czech and English speaking respondents with a difference in questions, regarding place of living, and legality of abortions ,because there is no way to tell what countries will the respondents come from, and in the Czech Republic abortions are legal. To make the research clear, certain questions were followed up with graph formations.

In the questionnaire, questions were asked in which respondents had one single choice or multiple choices. For several of the questions, there was a possibility to add their own answer, and one question, to which they wrote their own opinion. One question was only for men, and one question was only for women. Both questionnaires, either Czech one or English one, can be found in Appendix 4 and 5.

The questionnaires were published on the internet for one month, and the number of

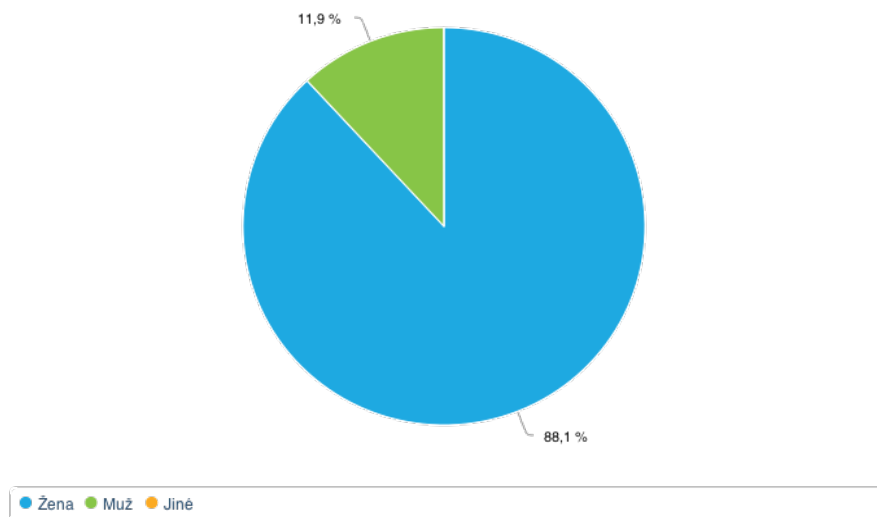
respondents in Czech language was 85 and in English language 23. In the beginning, respondents were asked to fill in their personal data such as gender, age, education and religious belief. Unfortunately, it was not possible to get exactly the same percentage of respondents of criterions mentioned above.

6.3 Analysis of answers

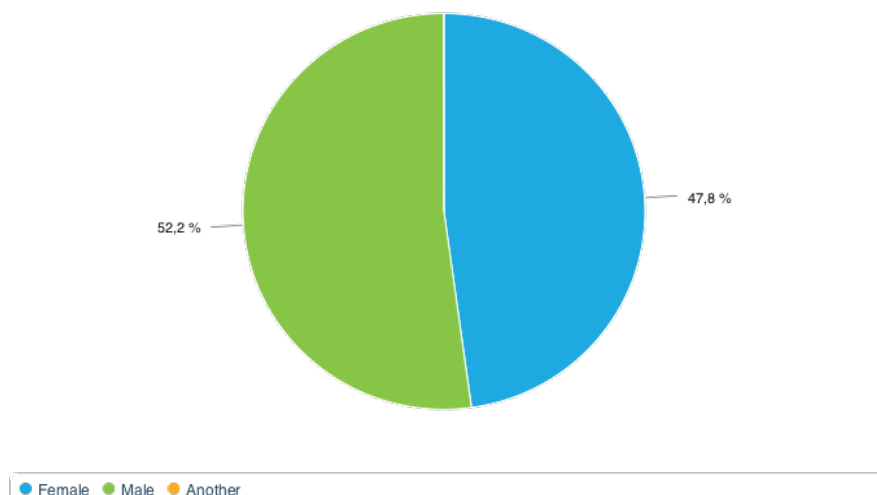
In the next steps, there will be given analysis of answers from questionnaire in the Czech language (**CR**), following analysis of answers in the English language (**EN**). The personal information will be shown at first and other graphs can be found in Appendices.

Gender of respondents

Appendix 6: Graph 1 – CR: Gender

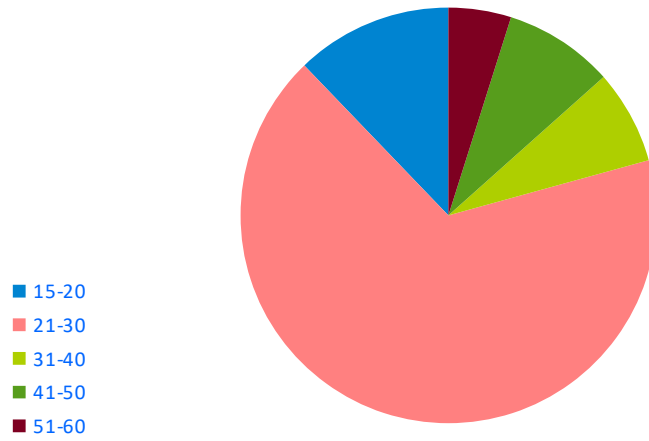


Appendix 7: Graph 2 – EN: Gender

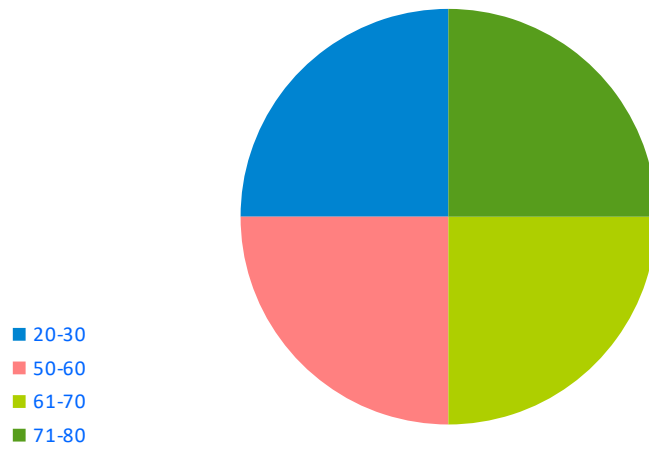


Age category

Appendix 8: Graph 3 – CR: Age category

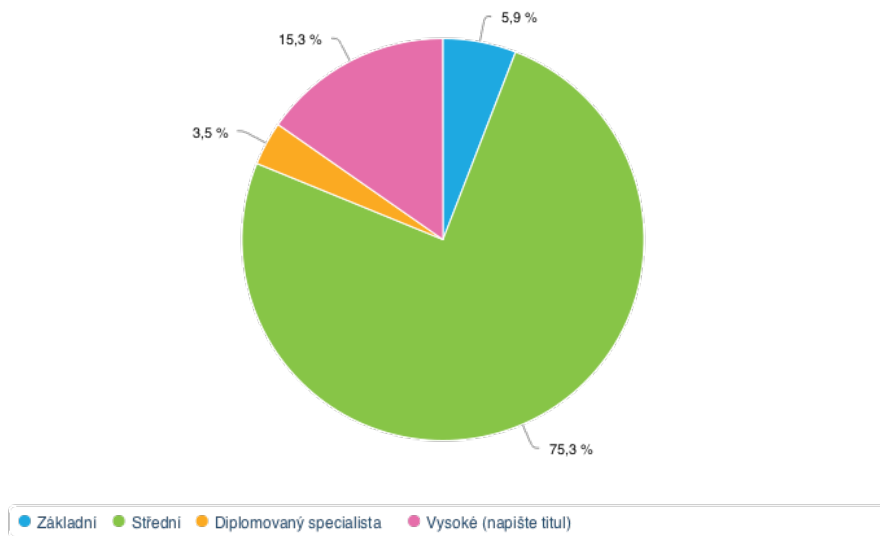


Appendix 9: Graph 4 – EN: Age category

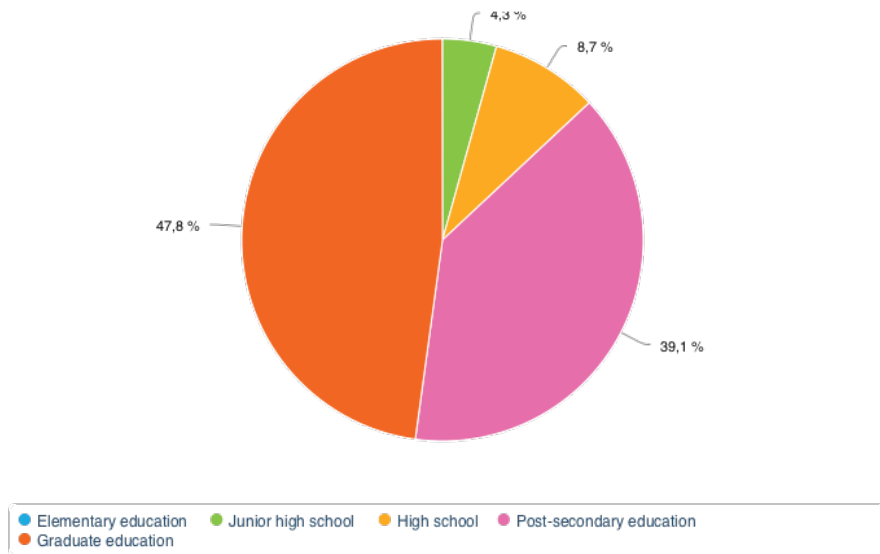


Completed education

Appendix 10: Graph 5 – CR: Completed education

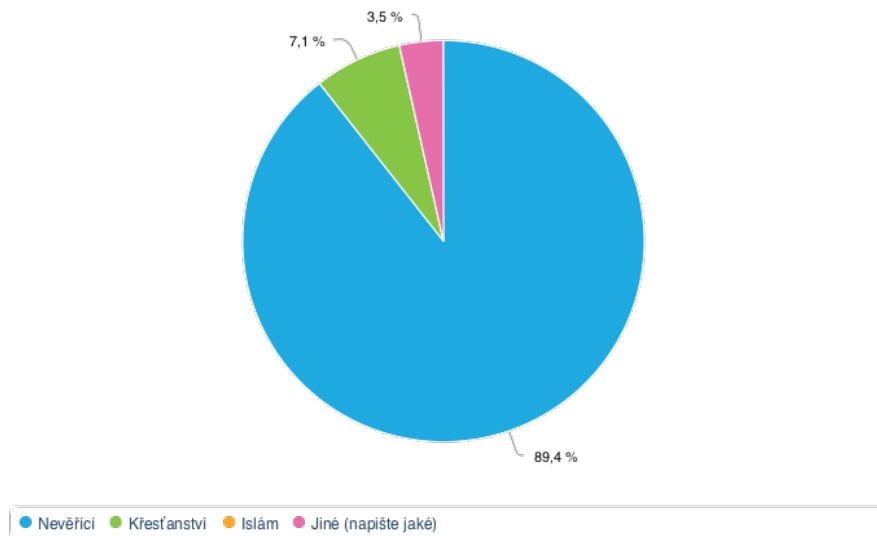


Appendix 11: Graph 6 – EN: Completed education

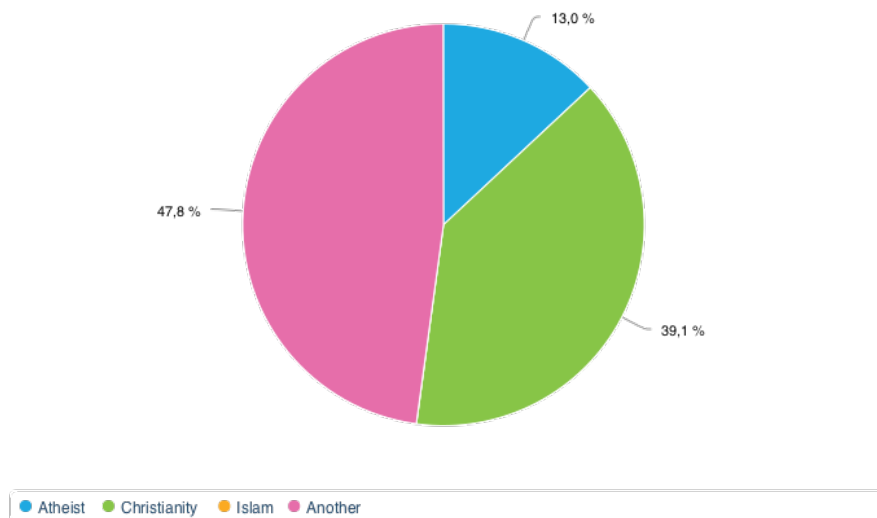


Religious belief

Appendix 12: Graph 7 – CR: Religious belief



Appendix 13: Graph 8 – EN: Religious belief



CZ: The respondents who ticked the possibility other, wrote:

-I believe in myself.

-East religious philosophy.

-It does not depend on the religion but the way we decided to go, is important.

EN: The respondents who ticked the possibility other, wrote:

-Grew up Christian – agnostic now.

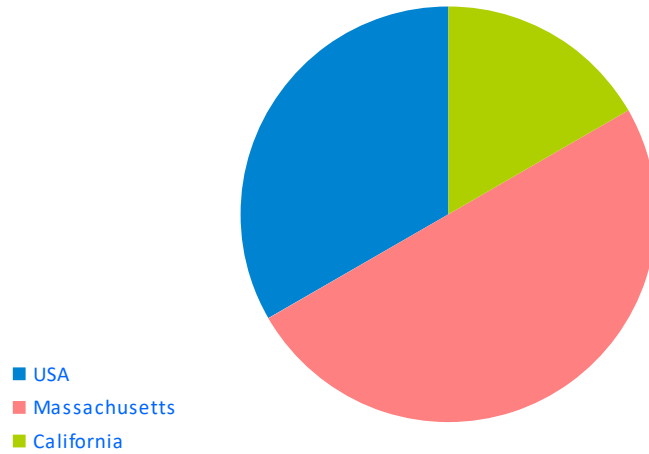
-Jewish/Buddhist/agnostic.

- Theist.
- Spiritual.
- Whatever I feel like.

Country

This question was put only in English to find out from which country the respondents are.

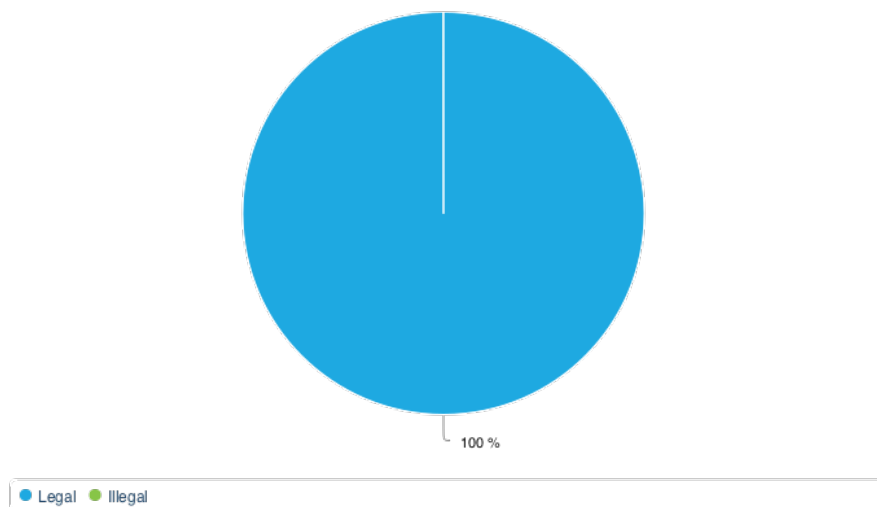
Appendix 14: Graph 9 – EN: Country



Legality/illegality of abortion

This question was also put in English because in Czech Republic abortions are legal.

Appendix 15: Graph 10 – EN: Legality/illegality of abortion



6.3.1 Question 1. Do you agree with abortion?

This question was asked in order to find out if respondents agree with abortion, or not because this question is very important in my opinion, and answers show if respondents are rather pro-choice, rather than pro-life.

CR: The overwhelming majority, in total 74,1 % answered they agree with abortion, the rest of respondents answered that they do not agree with abortion (12,9 %) or they do not know if they agree with abortion (12,9 %).

EN: The majority of English speaking respondents (69,6 %) answered that they are for abortion. It is a little less than in the Czech Republic and it is very interesting, because only 13 % of English speaking respondents answered they are atheist. 26,1 % answered that they are not for abortion, and 4,3 % (1 person) answered that he/she does not know if he/she agree with abortion or not.

I think that in the results of Czech questionnaire, religious belief played a main role, as in the Czech Republic the majority of respondents said that they are atheists, therefore there is a reason why it is safe to say that the majority of Czech people are pro-choice. In my opinion, it is interesting that the majority of English speaking respondents answered that they are for abortion, however of only a few of them are atheist. The most of respondents believe in something or someone, and these people are mostly pro-life.

6.3.2 Question 2. In which case, would you agree with abortion? (multiple answers possible)

This question was asked in order to find out in which case the respondent would agree with abortion (if at all). In this question the multiple choice was possible, so the respondent could mark more of the cases and also he/she could write his/her own answer.

CR: Majority of respondents said that they would agree with abortion, in case of a health hazard of the mothers and babies, in case of child's disability, and in the case of rape. These four cases are mostly selected. Secondly, of the most marked cases is that if woman is not prepared for a baby, which leaves the respondents in agreement with abortion in any case. Interesting thing is, that nobody selected that they do not agree with abortion even though 13,1 % (11 respondents) answered in question 1, that they do

not agree with abortions.

EN: Majority of respondents answered, that they would agree with an abortion, when mother is in danger of her health, or the danger of baby's health, on the third position is child's disability ,and also pregnancy caused by rape, and on the other positions is possibility that woman is not prepared for baby- unwanted pregnancy. 34,8 % of respondents answered that they would agree with an abortion in any case. But only 13 % of respondents (3 persons) answered that they don't agree with abortion.

6.3.3 Question 3. Do you know someone in your neighborhood who has had an abortion?

I put this question because on graphs, to can see how people encounter with abortion practices in their life. And this question shows how the topic of abortion is actual.

CR: 68,2 % of respondents answered that they know someone who has had an abortion. Only 31,8 % of respondents said that they know no one, who has had an abortion.

EN: The result of English questionnaire is more shocking than the questionnaire in the Czech language. 82,6 % of respondents said that they know someone in their neighborhood who had an abortion. Only 17,4 % of respondents answered that they do not know anyone who has had an abortion.

I think, it is very terrible result that the majority (almost three-quarters) of Czech respondents, said that they know someone who had an abortion. I do not know why these women had an abortion, they could be raped or they were in danger of their own life,however the result is very shocking for me. We can see that abortion is very required in the Czech Republic. Many of respondents who answered, that they do not know anyone who had an abortion, may not know that some of their friend or family member has had an abortion. The results from English questionnaire is more shocking than I expected, because more than three quarters answered that they know someone who had an abortion. Also, we do not know why they underwent an abortion but I supposed that the result from Czech questionnaire would be worse than the questionnaire in English but the results shows something different.

6.3.4 Question 4. Do you think that abortion can affect the health and psyche of women?

This question was asked, because I wanted to point out the fact, that health and psyche generally of people is the most important thing in our life. In this case we are talking only about women. In my opinion, health and psyche can be disturbed by abortion. It is possible that a woman who has had an abortion, will not be able to have another child.

CR: Substantial part of respondents think that abortion can affect health and psyche of women. 5,9 % of respondents said that they do not know and only 3 persons answered that abortion can not affect health and psyche of women.

EN: All of the respondents said that abortion can affect psyche and health of women.

6.3.5 Question 5. Do you think that abortion is the right of a free woman?

I wanted to determine, whether the respondents think that women should decide on her own about abortion, or she should consult it with someone else.

CR: 64,3 % of respondents ticked yes, she should decide on her own, but 20,2 % answered that a woman should consult it with her partner, and the rest (15,5 %) answered that she should decide with her doctor and family.

EN: Majority of respondents said that abortion is the right of a free woman, and the first half of the rest (17,4 %) said that she should decide with her partner, and the other half (17,4 %) of the rest ticked that she should decide with her doctor and her family.

6.3.6 Question 6. Are you satisfied that abortions are legal in the Czech Republic?

This question was answered only in the Czech questionnaire, because if I put this question only in English questionnaire, I would not know from which country the respondent is.

CR: 52,4 % of respondents said that they are satisfied with possibility to have an abortion, on the second place (with is 38,1 %) is answer: If it were not allowed, it would

be performed illegally. Seven of respondents (8,3 %) stated, that they do not know, and only one person answered that this possibility to have an abortion should be banned as in another countries.

6.3.7 Question 7. Question only for women. Please, imagine this situation: You have just found out that you are pregnant. What will probably follow?

CR: More of the half of respondents (52,1 %) ticked that they would keep the baby, for sure, 17,8 % of respondents said that they are not prepared to have a baby, and they would go for abortion. 15,1 % answered that they are not prepared to have a baby from a financial reason, however they would keep the baby, and ask their parents for financial aid. 8,2 % ticked "other" and they wrote:

-I don't know, I would be probably deciding for a long time.

-I do not want to have a baby in my age.

-I do not want to have a baby at all.

6,8 % answered that they would keep the baby by hook or by crook, despite the disagreement of parents or parnter. No one answered that after the birth of child they would give the baby for adoption.

EN: 36,4 % of respondents said that they are not ready to have a baby, and they would have an abortion. Also, 36,4 % selected that they would keep the baby for sure. The other (27,3 %) wrote their opinion:

-I am old, so I would test to make sure it was healthy. If yes, then keep, if no, then abort.

-I would not be in this situation, because I have no intention of having sex until I'm married.

-Personally, I would keep the baby. In the future my answer might be different.

6.3.8 Question 8. Question only for men. Please, imagine this situation: Your woman partner has just told you that she is pregnant. What will be your reaction?

CR: 50 % of respondents said that they would keep the baby, 20 % answered that they would keep the baby despite the disagreement of parents, and also 20 % chose other possibility:

-I do not want the third child. But my wife would persuade me if it happened.

-We do not keep the baby because we do not want another one.

Only 10 % (1 man) said, that he and her girlfriend are not prepared for baby's

upbringing, and he would tell her partner she should have an abortion.

EN: The majority of respondents chose other possibility:

-It is the woman's choice. It is important to discuss with her partner. Still her choice.

-Talk to her about it and let her decide what to do.

-Pregnancy is preventable (except rape) we got pregnant 'together,' so we should decide together.

-We will decide together what the best course is.

-I will ask her what she wants to do.

-To answer this honestly, I would need to know the exact situation - the real-life situation.

-I have no partner currently, but it would warrant serious discussion to decide.

-Support the women's decision first and then as a couple discuss the future of each other.

-Depends on our age, and situation and the woman's opinion.

16,7 % said that they are not prepared for baby's upbringing, but they do not want to have their partners an abortion. Only 1 man (8,3 %) answered that he and his partner would keep the baby, for sure.

6.3.9 Question 9. Would you let your parent, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?

This question is very important, because a lot of people trust others, and they are indecisive. It is beneficial to receive advice from a mother, however everyone is different, and may not share the same views. On the topic of abortion, I think, the most important is woman's decision.

CR: 60,7 % of respondents answered that they would not be persuaded by other people, 30 respondents (35,7 %) said that they do not know, and only 3 people (3,6 %) answered that they would let other people to persuade them to abortion.

EN: 65,2 % of respondents selected that they would not be persuaded by other people, 26,1 % do not know and 8,7 % would let other people to persuade them to have an abortion.

6.3.10 Question 10. How do you feel about abortion?

There was a possibility to write respondent's own opinion and I would like to mention only a few of the response.

CR:

-I agree with interruption in certain cases, and I think it should not be forbidden, however people should not misuse it. Today, a lot of contraceptive methods are available, and it is possible to keep an eye on the conception, and not go for an abortion.

-I do not agree with abortion, but I can understand the situation on why the woman would wish to have an abortion. But I would never go for abortion.

-When woman decided to have an abortion, for any reason, it is her decision. I agree with it. The children's homes are full of lonely children. If woman decided, that she would not be to good mother, it is better, for the baby to be aborted.

-It means a huge encroachment to the psyche of woman.

-In my opinion, women should have the right to have an abortion, for example when mother is addicted to drugs ,has cancer, or has been raped etc. I think the abortion is better, than to find the baby in a garbage can.

-If the abortion were not legal, it would be executed illegally, and it can influence health and psyche of woman. I agree with abortion in case of rape.

EN:

-Women's matter. Women's choice.

-I aborted a pregnancy when I was 19. I don't regret it, and later went on to have a healthy, happy child, when I was ready to be a mother. I do think of that "child that might have been" sometimes and send happy wishes to the little soul in the cosmos

-It is MURDER!!!! Anyone who has one should be punished and sterilized.

-It's murdering an human life, no matter how you look at it. If the baby or mother's life were in danger of giving birth then a termination is required. Not because someone was lazy and got pregnant. Even in the case of rape. Plenty want to adopt.

-Abortion is murder!!!

-I think it is repulsive unethical, and the easy way out. But I do understand why some women have an abortion even while I disagree with it.

-I think it is right to say that nobody wants to have an abortion. Nobody likes or enjoys abortion. But the right access legal abortion is essential, because sometimes this is the only possibility for a woman to move forward with her life.

I think the answers of the respondents are very interesting. It seems that most people in the Czech Republic are pro-choice and the English speaking respondents are pro-choice too but there are some exceptions and these exceptions are, I would say, the activist of pro-life movement.

7 CONCLUSION

The goal of this bachelor thesis was to describe main points in the legalization of abortion in the United States from the 19th century to 21st century, and to describe the current situation. Another goal, was to find out and distinguish differences between a variety of religions. The last goal of the theoretical part, was to describe the organizations, institutions, movements and terms in the political point of view. The main part of the theoretical section (including history and religious beliefs), is based primarily on the print sources, and the third section (including political point of view) is based on internet sources, partially because this topic is currently very relevant.

The practical part of the bachelor thesis consists of two main parts. The first, is a translation of two articles, which were published on a news internet portal, including a commentary. These two articles include the opinion of the last president Barack Obama, and the current president Donald Trump. The second part, is a questionnaire that inquires opinions of women and men from the Czech Republic and from the USA, on the current situation of abortions. The questionnaires were shared on Facebook abortion groups, and were sent via e-mail by my supervisor of my bachelor thesis. Unfortunately, the number of Czech respondents was higher than the number of English speaking respondents.

The questionnaire reveals that almost all respondents are satisfied with abortions being legal, however, some respondents think that an abortion is murder, because an embryo is human-being with rights for life. The United States, is the most influential on this topic as it is discussed a great deal, because of the immigrants, religious beliefs etc.

This bachelor thesis can be useful for people, who want to be more educated on the basic history of legalization of abortions in the United States, and the basic terms, organizations and movements on this topic. Because some women view an abortion, as a method of contraceptives and have an abortion often, it would be beneficial to reduce abortion laws. Abortion could be executed only in case of rape, and in danger of women's and children's health however, women in need of an abortion, could potentially make the rape up. Another argument is, that every woman should have her own right to decide, if she will keep the baby, or if she will aborted the baby. The current situation is only determined by laws based on society, and we are society.

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9 ABSTRACT

The topic of this bachelor thesis is History of legalization of abortions in the United States of America, in the political and religious context and its presentation in media.

The first half of the thesis provides a theoretical background related to the history of legalization of abortions, and to the religious beliefs, abortion movements and organizations. The following half, is devoted to the translation of two articles on the topic of abortion, and practical research which compares the opinions of Czech and English speaking respondents.

The respondents were asked about different issues related to abortion in order to find out their opinions, experiences, agreements or disagreement with abortions.

10 RESUMÉ

Téma této bakalářské práce je Historie legalizace potratů v USA v politickém a náboženském kontextu a její mediální prezentace.

První polovina práce je tvořena teorií, kde se zabývá historií legalizace potratů, náboženskou vírou, která je spojena s potraty, potratovým hnutím a organizacemi, které jsou úzce spjaty s potraty.

Druhá polovina práce je věnována překladu dvěma článkům z internetových médií a praktickému výzkumu, který porovnává názory Čechů a anglicky mluvících respondentů. Respondentům byly tázány různé otázky, které se týkají potratů, aby se zjistily jejich názory, zkušenosti a nebo souhlas či nesouhlas s potraty.

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Appendix 31: Graph 26 – CR: Would you let you parent, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?

Appendix 32: Graph 27 – EN: Would you let you parent, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?

Appendix 1: Photo of Santoro



Woman dead on motel room floor. Her death was due to an air embolism suffered during an illegal abortion.
Files of Dr. Milton Halpern, former medical examiner, New York City.

Source: <https://alchetron.com/Gerri-Santoro-767170-W>

Appendix 2

Obama: bez slitování s bezbrannými?

Ne všichni občané Spojených států mohou být nadšeni střídáním v prezidentském křesle. Zvláště ne ti, kteří se občany (občánky) USA stát teprve mohli, či spíše měli. Řeč je o nenarozených, o těch, kteří měli větší naději spatřit světlo světa za prezidenta George Walkera Bushe, než za jeho nástupce Baracka Husseina Obamy.

Jen pět minut poté, co Obama převzal úřad prezidenta, byly z webové stránky Bílého domu odstraněny všechny zmínky o ochraně života od početí. Namísto nich se tam objevily deklaráce pro „svobodu volby“, neboli rozhodnutí matky, zda dítě přivést na svět, nebo nechat zabít (jako „trest, že přichází nevhod“). Dva dny po svém nástupu Obama podpořil smutně proslulý verdikt Nejvyššího soudu v kauze Roe vs. Wade z r. 1973, legalizující potraty prakticky až do devátého měsíce těhotenství. Pro připomínku: jen za prvních šest let po tomto rozhodnutí stoupl počet potratů v USA z přibližně 750 tisíc na zhruba 1,6 milionu. Zatímco prezident Bush ve svém funkčním období nominoval dva soudce Nejvyššího soudu, kteří alespoň přispěli k podpoře zákazu provádění potratů částečným porodem (nejbarbarštější způsob násilného potratu), jeho nástupce Obama se dal slyšet, že on žádné soudce podobného smýšlení jmenovat nebude. 22. ledna nový prezident ignoroval demonstraci několika set tisíc svých spoluobčanů, kteří se při příležitosti 36. výročí osudného verdiktu NS sešli ve Washingtonu na tradičním Pochodu pro život, aby vyjádřili svůj nesouhlas se zabíjením počatých dětí.

Některá média tvrdí, že výzkumy veřejného mínění dokládají, že většina Američanů upřednostňuje právo žen na „svobodnou volbu“. Statistický průzkum, který prováděla firma Harris Poll na reprezentativní skupině 2341 Američanů, však zjistil něco docela jiného. 82 % Američanů je pro právní omezení dostupnosti umělých potratů. 76 % dotázaných se vyslovilo pro ochranu svobody svědomí lékařů a zdravotních sester, kteří se nechtějí na potratech podílet. 68 % požaduje naprostý zákaz tzv. partial-birth abortion, tedy zabití dítěte během vyvolaného porodu. 63 % dotázaných nesouhlasí s tím, aby se umělé potraty financovaly z veřejných peněz. 38 % dotázaných sice připouští ukončení těhotenství, ale jen pokud je následkem znásilnění, incestu nebo ohrožuje život matky. Avšak pouze 9 % připouští umělý potrat bez podmínek. Obama ve své volební kampani sliboval respekt k morálnímu a náboženskému přesvědčení každého občana a často mluvil o „nutnosti snížit počet umělých potratů“. Američtí biskupové proto už podruhé vyzvali Obamu, aby postupoval důsledně: „Pokud chce vláda omezit počet interrupcí, nemůže podporovat jejich šíření“.

Nový prezident nicméně už stačil zrušit také Bushův zákaz financování potratů v zahraničí z peněz daňových poplatníků, tzv. Mexico City Policy. Jen tento Obamův krok znamená odebrání až stovky milionů dolarů americké rozvojové pomoci strádajícím dětem, ženám a rodinám v chudých zemích, a jejich převedení na podporu usmrcování počatých dětí. Obama rovněž oznámil, že obnoví financování Populačního fondu OSN, které Bush zastavil, protože fond podporuje čínskou násilnou kontrolu populace. Navíc chce Obama podpořit antikoncepční a potratový průmysl milióny dolarů z prostředků určených na odstranění následků finanční krize. Více než stovka republikánských kongresmanů požádala Obamu, aby nepodepsal zákon o svobodné volbě, který by odstranil veškerá omezení potratů a povolil by je i v případě zrušení rozsudku Roe vs. Wade. Obama republikánům zjevně nemíní vyhovět, naopak bude spíše usilovat i o likvidaci posledního nařízení Bushovy administrativy z 18. prosince 2008, které veřejným poskytovatelům zdravotnické péče dává právo uplatnit výhradu svědomí a odmítnout podílet se na výkonech, s nimiž nesouhlasí, např. provedení umělého potratu.

Bush jistě nebyl nejlepší americký prezident, v sociální oblasti a zvláště pro americkou rodinu však vykonal mnoho dobrého. Za jeho působení došlo k výraznému poklesu negativních jevů ve společnosti: počet potratů klesl pod 1,3 milionu, prudce se snížil počet násilných a majetkových trestných činů, užívání drog u teenagerů pokleslo o 25 %, četnost těhotenství u mladistvých se snížila o 35 %, počet rozvodů klesl na nejnižší úroveň od r. 1970. Bush podpořil státní příspěvek na předepsané léky pro

seniory a program zefektivnění základních a středních škol „No Child Left Behind“. Zlepšily se výsledky vzdělanostních testů, a to i u černochů a hispánců; počet žáků, kteří nedokončili povinnou školu, klesl pod 10 %, což je nejlepší výsledek za 30 let. Byla by škoda, kdyby Bushův nástupce svým novátorstvím toto cenné dědictví pohřbil.

Obama sliboval epochální změnu v mezinárodní i domácí politice. Světová liberální levice freneticky tleská jeho rozhodnutí uzavřít věznici na Guantánamu, ačkoliv nikdo pořádně neví, co udělat s tamními vysoce nebezpečnými vězni. V domácí politice se Obama svými prvními kroky proti životu nenarozených bohužel prezentoval jen jako další běžec genocidní štafety, odstartované r. 1920 bolševickým režimem v Rusku. Dnes, kdy Rusů každoročně ubývá 700 tisíc, Vladimír Putin vinu za vymírání své země svaluje na komunismus, protože „zničil rodinné hodnoty“. Nepovede Obamův způsob „humanizace“ americké společnosti k podobným koncům?

Appendix 3

Trump and abortion

Anti-abortion protesters hope for change under Donald Trump

There was new optimism at the annual protest against Roe v Wade

“IT’S been a long time coming,” said Carol Anne Jones, as she stood in front of the Supreme Court dressed in funereal black and waved a small placard: “Abortion’s a choice—to murder”. Every year since 1974, anti-abortionists have gathered in the capital to protest the court’s decision, made the previous year in *Roe v Wade*, to recognise a right to abortion nationwide. “This year I would like to see that mistake struck down,” said the 63-year old housewife from northern Virginia. “And I think it will happen”.

Many of those who joined the “March for Life” on January 27th expressed similar optimism that Donald Trump’s presidency would bring sweeping changes to abortion law. How close will the new administration come to fulfilling the hopes of the nuns, youth groups and middle aged parishioners who sang hymns and prayed as they walked, wrapped up against the cold, from the Washington Monument to the Supreme Court?

Mr Trump, who declared himself in 1999 to be “very pro-choice”, made his new pro-life stance an important part of his campaign. He has repeatedly promised to appoint pro-life justices to the Supreme Court, saying this could mean the overturning of *Roe*, and that he will sign anti-abortion measures approved by Congress, now entirely in Republican hands. These could include defunding Planned Parenthood, the biggest provider of abortions in America.

Since his inauguration on January 20th, Mr Trump has shown that his campaign promises should be taken more literally than many had previously thought. In addition to signing orders to build a wall on the border with Mexico and to pull America out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, he has made a start on his promise to fight abortion, too. On January 23rd, he reinstated a ban—introduced by a Republican government and subsequently lifted and reinstated by Democrat and Republican ones—on providing federal money to organisations working overseas that provide information about abortion. He extended the “global gag rule” in the process, to aid provided by all governmental departments and agencies, not just the two sources stipulated previously: USAID and the State Department.

Short of turning up at the march himself, Mr Trump continued to provide good news for pro-lifers on January 27th. He tweeted—“The #MarchforLife is so important. To all

of you marching—you have my full support”—and dispatched Mike Pence to address the marchers, making him the first vice-president to have done so in the assembly’s 43-year history. Mr Pence, who as governor of Indiana passed some of the toughest anti-abortion laws in America, told the crowd that the new administration was intent on ending tax-payer funding of abortions and those who provide them. He said that Mr Trump would the following week announce a Supreme Court nominee—to fill the space left by Antonin Scalia, a conservative justice who died last February—“who will uphold the God-given liberty enshrined in our constitution”. To whoops and cheers the vice-president added that “Life is winning again in America!”

Mr Pence is not the only ardent pro-lifer Mr Trump has picked for his cabinet. Tom Price, his choice to lead the department of health, has supported a nationwide ban on abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy. His attorney-general nominee, Jeff Sessions, has called Roe “one of the worst, colossally erroneous Supreme Court decisions of all time”. Kellyanne Conway, Mr Trump’s senior counsellor, also spoke at the march.

The main objective of those marching in Washington, of course, is for Roe to be overturned. “It will happen, and the choice will go back to the people,” said Steve Hemler, a former oil executive-turned “Catholic apologist” from Culpeper, Virginia, who carried a vast image of a thumb-sucking fetus with the words, “Blob or Baby?” He was referring to the fact that if Roe were overturned it would then be up to states to impose any abortion restrictions.

But overturning Roe would be difficult. There are currently five judges in favour of keeping Roe and two—perhaps three if John Roberts, the chief justice, voted with them—who might overturn it, given the chance. So after appointing a conservative successor to Scalia, Mr Trump would then have to appoint another pro-life judge. It is likely that he will have the opportunity to do this in the next four years given that three of the court’s sitting justices are over the age of 78. But then a case would be needed to overturn Roe. And the Supreme Court tends to avoid going against its past decisions unless there is a powerful reason for doing so.

It is anyway doubtful whether Mr Trump or the many Republican leaders who in recent years have been free to speak out against abortion without any danger of the Supreme Court agreeing with them, would really want this to happen. Despite a growing partisan divide over the issue, nearly 70% of Americans back Roe, up from 60% in 1992, according to Pew Research Center.

There are several steps Mr Trump can take to keep anti-abortionists happy, meanwhile. He could help to defund Planned Parenthood, as Republicans have been threatening to do for years, although polls suggest a majority of Americans are opposed

to that too. He could also make the Hyde Amendment, which bans federal funding for many abortions, into a permanent law rather than the one-year provision that is extended annually.

It is anyone's guess how long those steps might take. But what is certain to happen in the meantime is that a gradual erosion of state-level abortion rights will pick up pace. Since 2010, Republican governors and legislators have enacted more than 300 anti-abortion regulations, from mandating that a woman must be told before she has an abortion about the ability of a fetus to feel pain to outlawing certain methods of abortion. Republican pro-lifers have attributed a fall in abortions—at their lowest level in 2014 since 1974—to new restrictions. Better access to contraception has also played a part.

In the last couple of months Ohio and Kentucky have banned abortions after 20 weeks; joining around 15 other states that do so. Indiana, Louisiana and Texas are fighting to pass laws requiring that fetal tissue be cremated or buried, which pro-choice activists say will make abortions particularly difficult and expensive. “We don't know how long it will take”, said Kathleen Zehenny, as she marched past the Supreme Court with an “Ohio Life” banner, referring to the end of Roe. “But we will get more restrictions now.”

Appendix 4

Czech questionnaire

Povědomí veřejnosti na téma interrupce

Dobrý den,

ráda bych Vás požádala o vyplnění dotazníku týkajícího se povědomí veřejnosti na téma interrupce (potraty). Dotazník obsahuje 14 otázek, JE ANONYMNÍ a pro jeho vyplnění není stanoven žádný časový limit. Výsledky dotazníku budou použity jako podklad pro praktickou část mé bakalářské práce.

1. Jste žena nebo muž?

- Žena
- Muž
- Jiné

2. Kolik Vám je let?

3. Jaké je Vaše ukončené vzdělání?

- Základní
- Střední
- Diplomovaný specialista
- Vysoké (napište titul)

4. Jakého jste vyznání?

- Nevěřící
- Křesťanství
- Islám
- Jiné (napište jaké)

5. Souhlasíte s interrupcí?

- Ano
- Ne
- Nevím

6. V jakém případě byste souhlasili s interrupcí? (možno označit více odpovědí)

- Ohrožení života či zdraví rodičky
- Ohrožení života či zdraví dítěte
- Špatně vyvíjející se plod (možné postižení dítěte)
- Otěhotnění při znásilnění
- Žena není na dítě připravena
- Nechtěné těhotenství

- V každém případě
- Nesouhlasím s interrupcí
- Jiná

7. Znáte ve svém okolí někoho, kdo podstoupil interrupci?

- Ano
- Ne

8. Myslíte si, že interrupce může mít vliv na zdravotní stav a psychiku ženy?

- Ano
- Ne
- Nevím

9. Je podle Vás rozhodnutí o interrupci svobodným právem ženy?

- Ano
- Ne, o interrupci by měla rozhodnout žena společně s partnerem
- Ne, žena by se měla poradit se svým lékařem a rodinou

10. Jste spokojeni s možností legální interrupce v České republice?

- Ano
- Ne, tato možnost by se měla zakázat jako v jiných zemích
- Nevím
- Kdyby nebyla povolena, probíhala by nelegálně

11. Otázka pouze pro ženy. Prosím, zkuste si představit následující situaci: právě jste se dozvěděla, že jste těhotná. Co pravděpodobně bude následovat?

- Nejsem připravena na těhotenství, šla bych na potrat
- Nejsem připravena na těhotenství, co se týče finanční stránky, ale dítě bych si nechala a požádala o finanční pomoc rodiče
- Dítě bych ihned po porodu dala k adopci
- Dítě bych si za každou cenu nechala i bez souhlasu rodičů či partnera
- Dítě bych si určitě nechala
- Jiná situace (napište jaká)

12. Otázka pouze pro muže. Prosím, zkuste si představit následující situaci: právě Vám vaše partnerka oznámila, že je těhotná. Jaká bude Vaše reakce?

- Nejsme připraveni na výchovu dítěte, řekl bych partnerce, ať jde na potrat
- Nejsme připraveni na výchovu dítěte, ale nechci, aby šla partnerka na interrupci
- Dítě dáme ihned po porodu k adopci
- Dítě si necháme, i přesto, že nebudou rodiče souhlasit
- Dítě si rozhodně necháme

•Jiná (napište jaká)

13. Nechala byste se přesvědčit od svého okolí (rodina, partner, přátelé) k interrupci?

•Ano

•Ne

•Nevím

14. Zkuste napsat Váš názor na interrupce.

Source: <https://www.surveio.com/survey/d/H1T1U7R6L7E4L6K8Y>

Appendix 5

English questionnaire

Public awareness on the topic of abortion

Hello,

I would like to ask you for filling in the questionnaire which is about public awareness of abortion (interruption). The questionnaire contains 15 questions, it is anonymous and there is no time limitation. Results from this questionnaire will be used as a base for practical part of my bachelor's thesis.

1. Are you female or male?

•Female

•Male

•Another

2. How old are you?

3. What is your completed education?

•Elementary education

•Junior high school

•High school

•Post-secondary education

•Graduate education

4. What is your religion?

•Atheist

•Christianity

•Islam

•Another

5. Where are you from?

6. Do you agree with abortion?

•Yes

•No

•I don't know

7. In which case, you would agree with abortion? (multiple answers possible)

•Health hazard of mothers

•Health hazard of babies

•Poorly developing embryo (child's disability possible)

•Becoming pregnant during the rape

•Woman is not prepared for a baby

- Unwanted pregnancy
- In any case
- I don't agree with abortion
- Other:

8. Do you know someone in your neighborhood who has had an abortion?

- Yes
- No

9. Do you think that abortion can affect the health and psyche of women?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

10. Do you think that abortion is the right of a free woman?

- Yes
- No, she should decide together with her partner
- No, she should consult it with her doctor and her family

11. Is the abortion legal or illegal in your country?

- Legal
- Illegal

12. Question only for women. Please, imagine this situation: You have just found out that you are pregnant. What will probably follow?

- I'm not ready for pregnancy, I'd have abortion.
- I'm not ready for pregnancy, from a financial reason, but I will keep the baby and ask my parents for financial aid.
- I would give the baby for adoption after the birth.
- I would keep the baby by hook or by crook despite the disagreement of parents or partner.
- I would keep the baby, for sure.
- Other situation:

13. Question only for men. Please, imagine this situation: Your woman partner has just told you that she is pregnant. What will be your reaction?

- We are not prepared for baby's upbringing. I would tell my partner that she should have an abortion.
- We are not prepared for baby's upbringing, but I don't want to have my partner an abortion.
- We will keep the baby despite the disagreement of partents.

- We will keep the baby, for sure.

- Other:

14. Would you let your parents, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?

- Yes

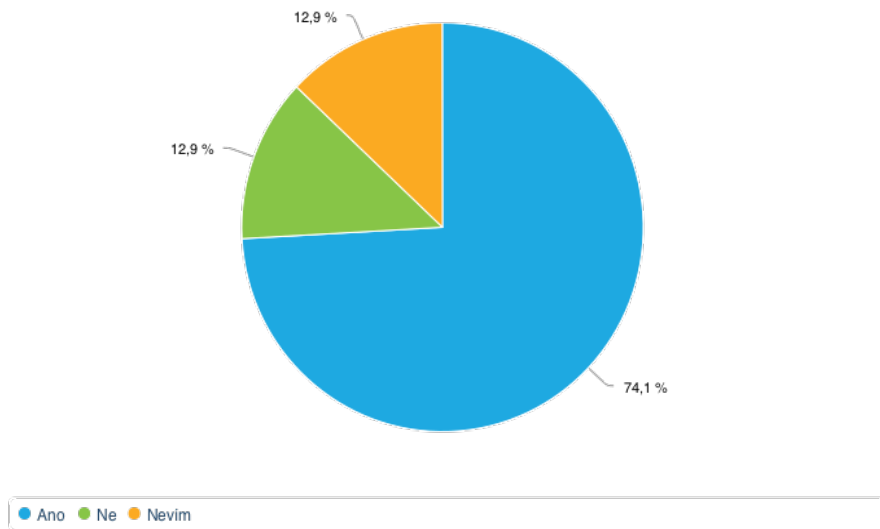
- No

- I don't know

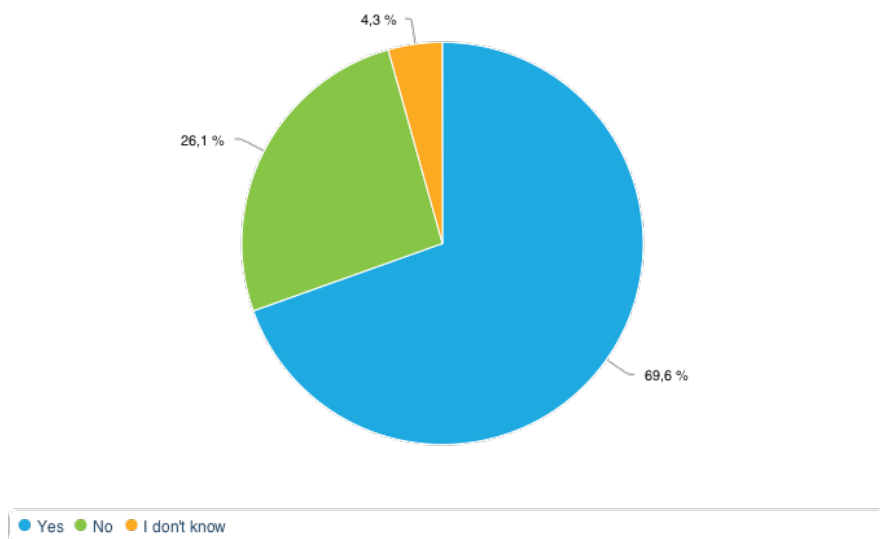
15. How do you feel about abortion?

Source: <https://www.surveio.com/survey/d/I3U1J0B1K0R6U2X2B>

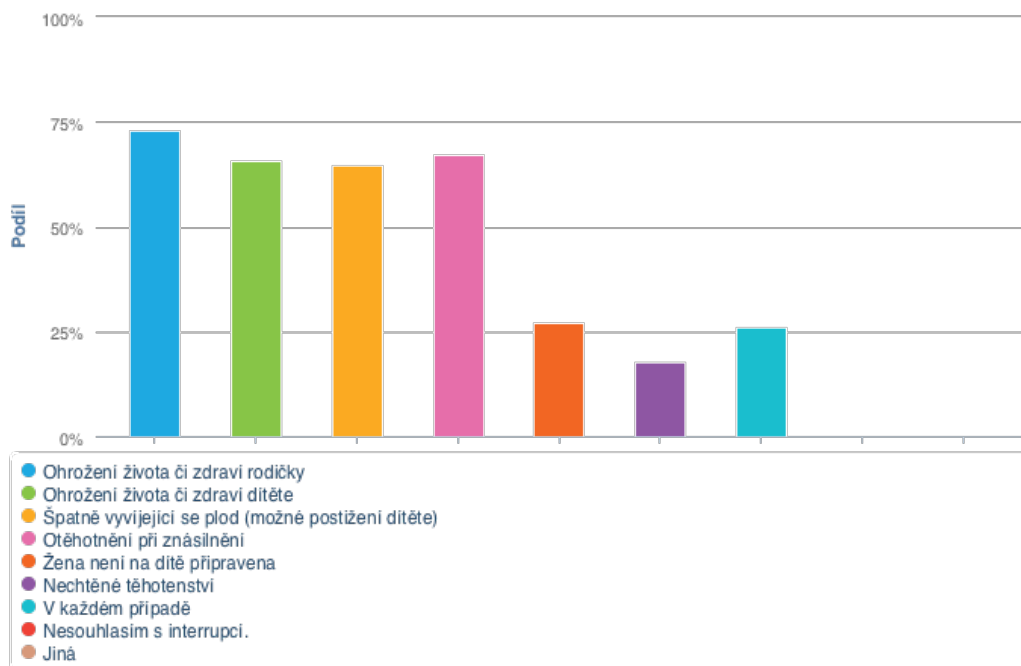
Appendix 16 - Graph 11 – CR: Do you agree with abortion?



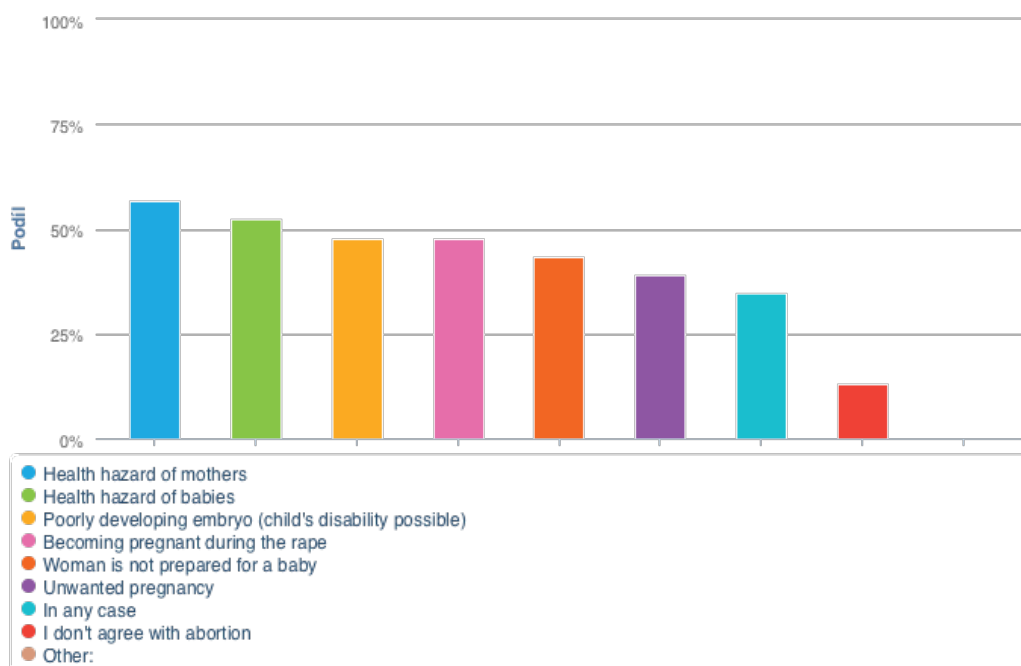
Appendix 17 - Graph 12 – EN: Do you agree with abortion?



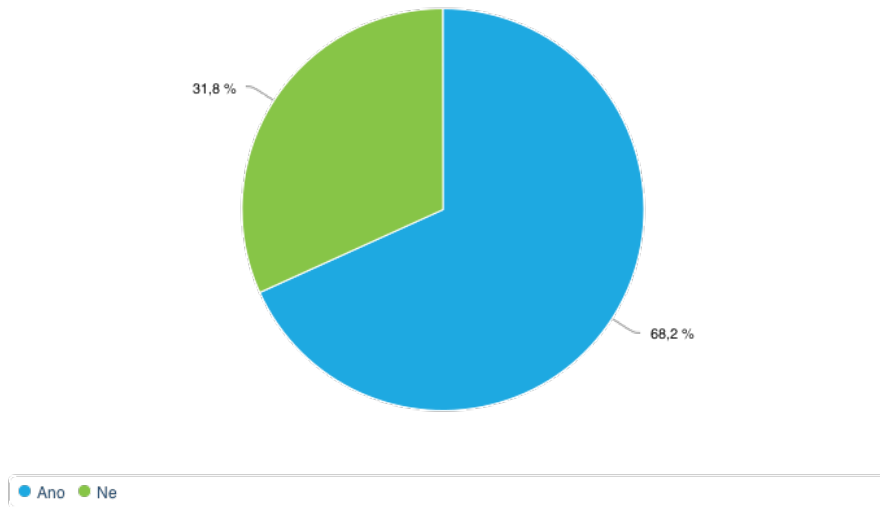
Appendix 18 - Graph 13 – CR: In which case, would you agree with abortion?



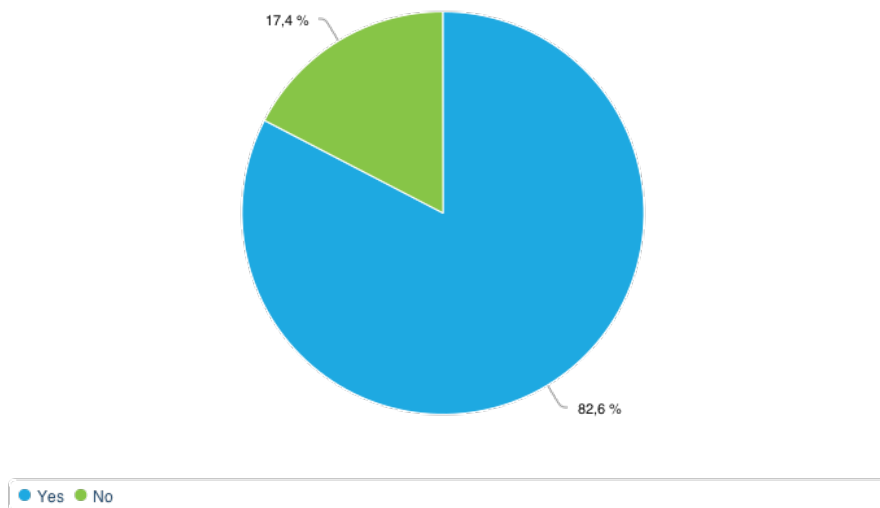
Appendix 19 - Graph 14 – EN: In which case, would you agree with abortion?



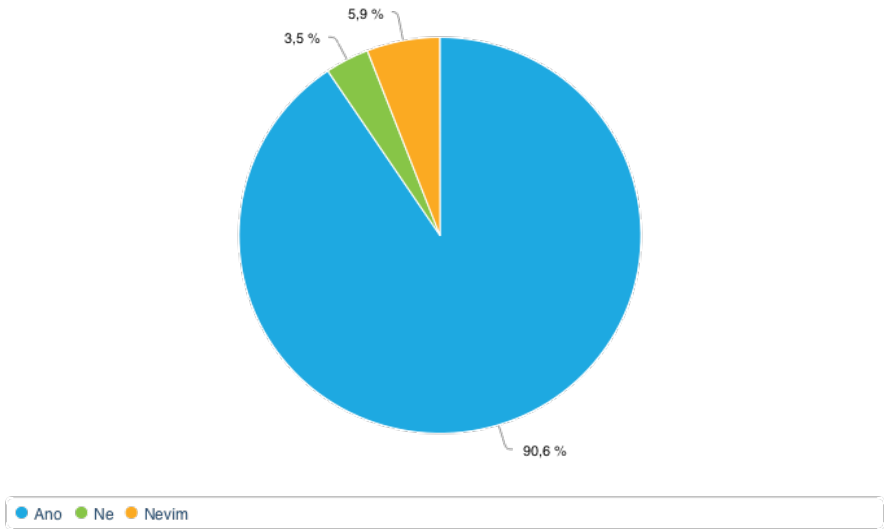
Appendix 20 - Graph 15 – CR: Do you know someone in your neighborhood who has had an abortion?



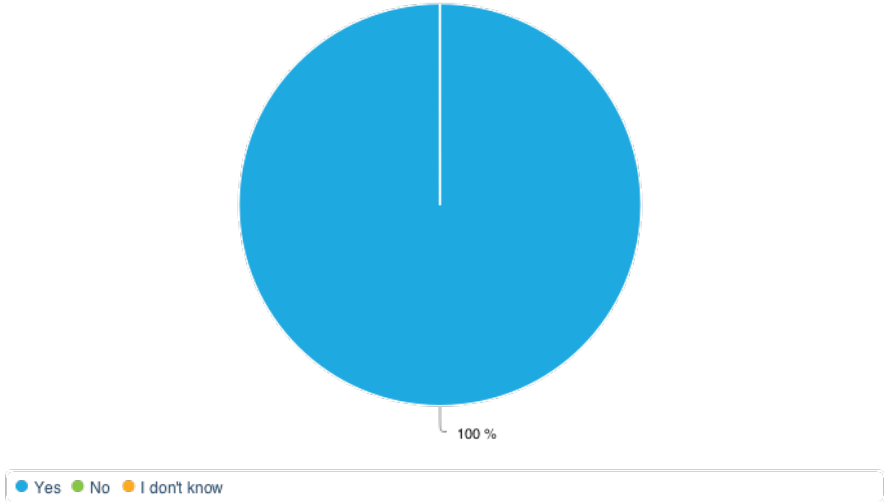
Appendix 21 - Graph 16 – EN: Do you know someone in your neighborhood who has had an abortion?



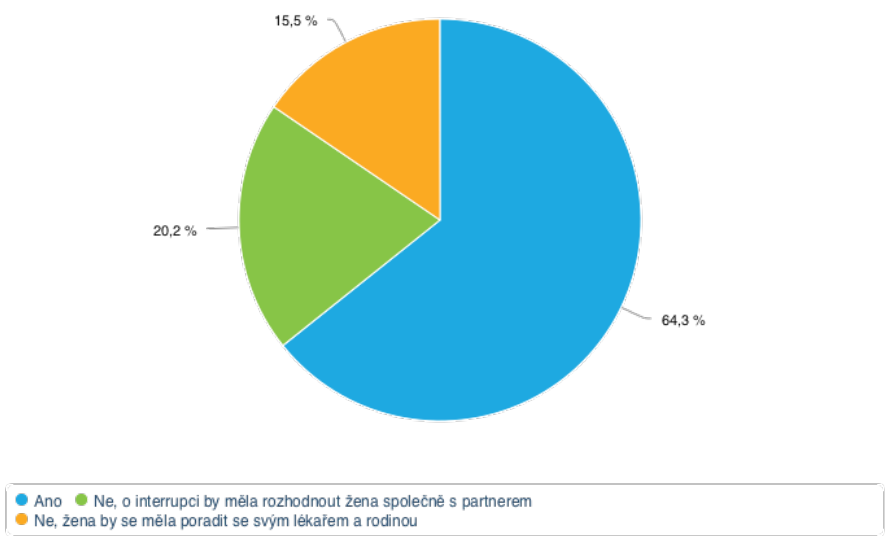
Appendix 22 - Graph 17 – CR: Do you think that abortion can affect the health and psyche of women?



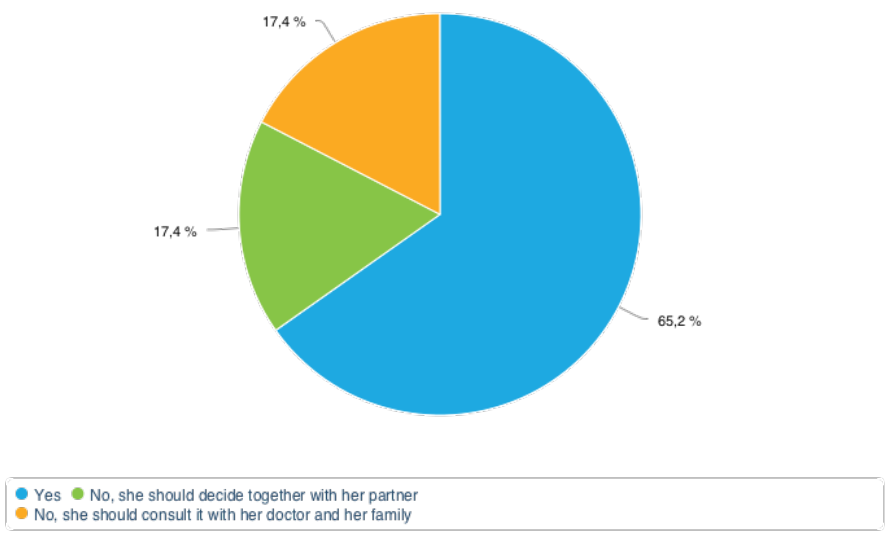
Appendix 23 - Graph 18 – EN: Do you think that abortion can affect the health and psyche of women?



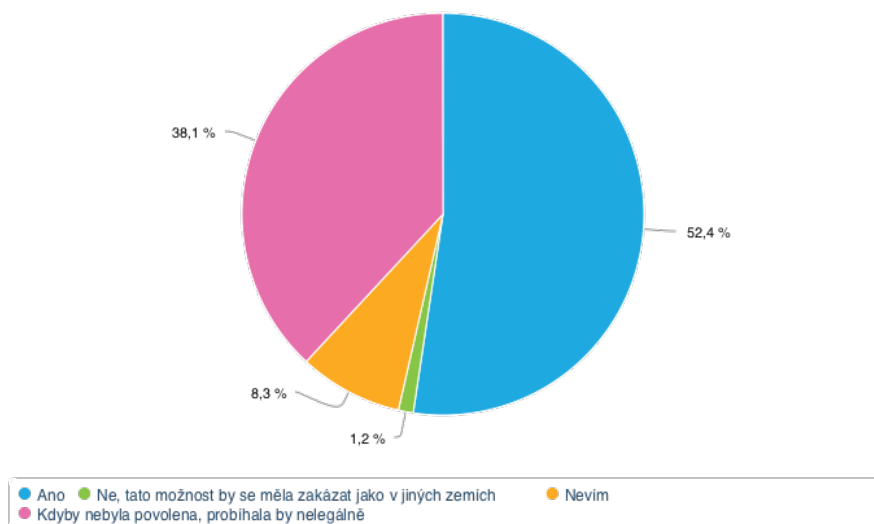
Appendix 24 - Graph 19 – CR: Do you think that abortion is the right of a free woman?



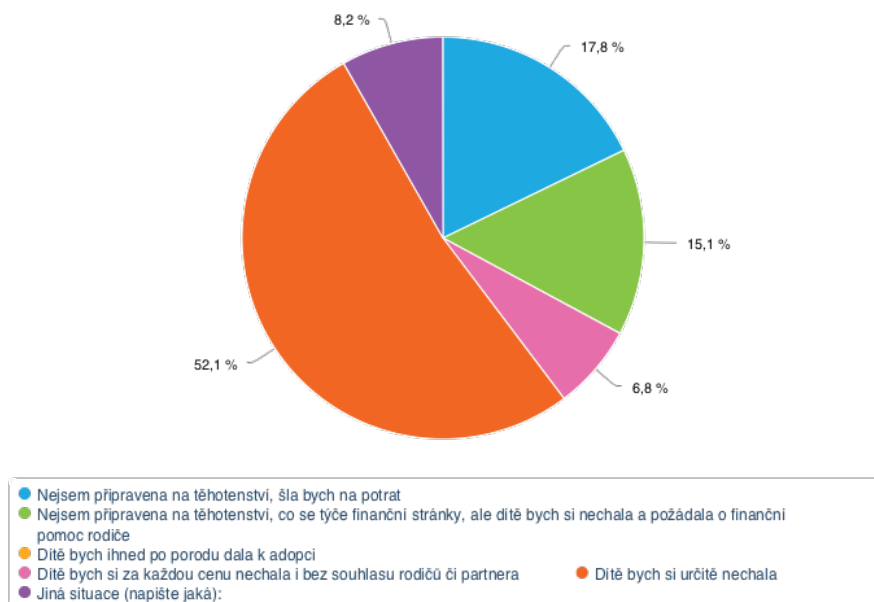
Appendix 25 - Graph 20 – EN: Do you think that abortion is the right of a free woman?



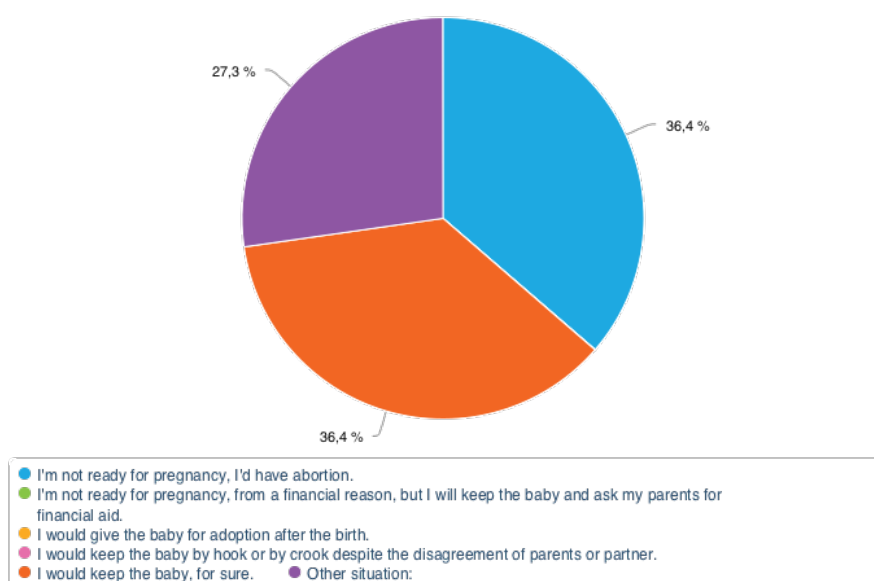
Appendix 26 - Graph 21 – CR: Are you satisfied that abortions are legal in the Czech Republic?



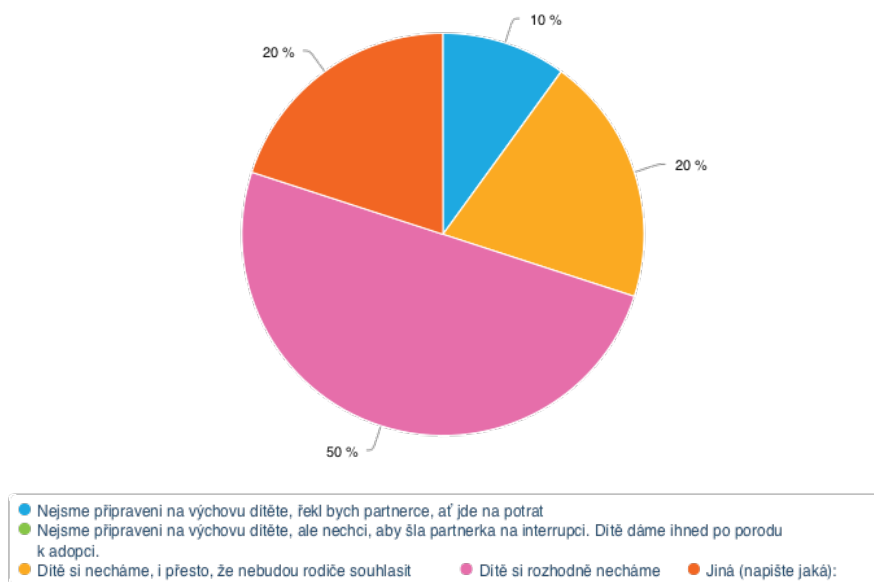
Appendix 27 - Graph 22 – CR: Question only for women. Please, imagine this situation: You have just found out that you are pregnant. What will probably follow?



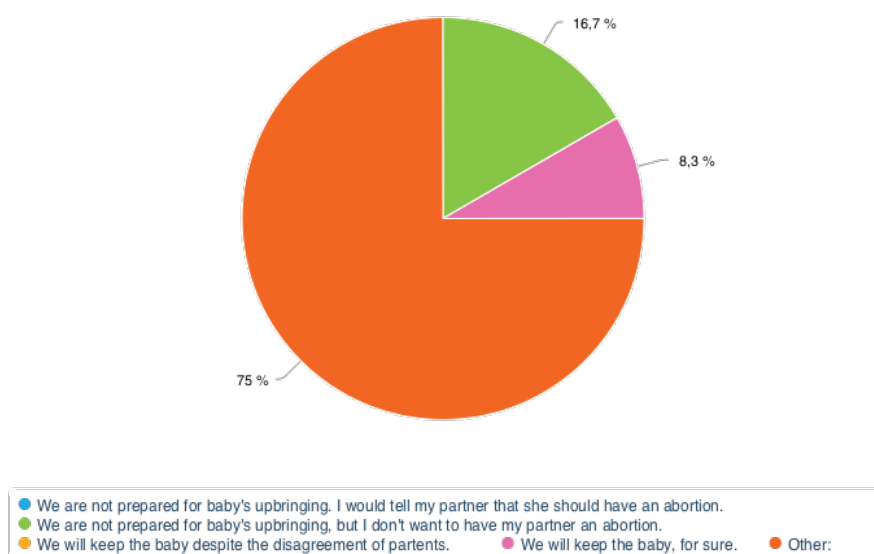
Appendix 28 - Graph 23 – EN: Question only for women. Please, imagine this situation: You have just found out that you are pregnant. What will probably follow?



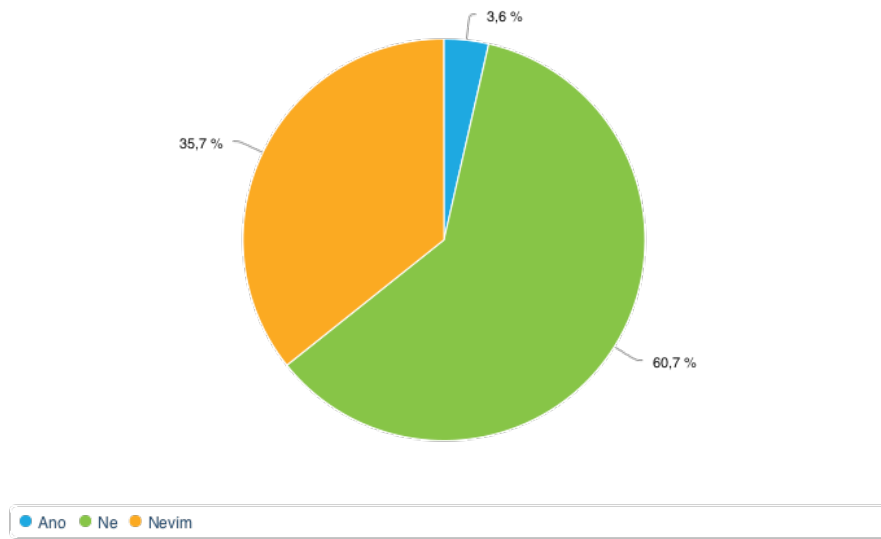
Appendix 29 - Graph 24 – CR: Question only for men. Please, imagine this situation: Your woman partner has just told you that she is pregnant. What will be your reaction?



Appendix 30 - Graph 25 – EN: Question only for men. Please, imagine this situation: Your woman partner has just told you that she is pregnant. What will be your reaction?



Appendix 31 - Graph 26 – CR: Would you let your parent, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?



Appendix 32 - Graph 27 – EN: Would you let your parent, partner, friends to persuade you to have an abortion?

