

Editorial

It's Abortion Stupid Anil Shrivastava 'Musafir'



While most of the world is dealing with conflicts and violence, poverty, healthcare, unemployment and climate change, the biggest problem facing the Americans is freedom to abort. Presidents, supreme court judges, congressmen and Senators are chosen and elected on the basis of their stand on abortion.

About half of registered voters in the United States say this year's elections will have a major impact on access to abortion, and about 1 in 8 voters says that abortion is the most important issue driving their vote, according to a new KFF survey.

Around 100 countries have some restrictions, typically permitting abortion only in limited situations, including for

socioeconomic reasons, risks to the physical or mental health of the woman, or the presence of fetal anomalies. However, legal language concerning exemptions for fetal impairment is often vague, resulting in uncertainty for medical professionals about whether performing certain abortions is legal.

In 2024 election Harris favors federal abortion protections; Trump opposes them. Trump supported nationwide restrictions on abortion as president but now downplays the need for a federal ban, as Republicans are divided over the issue. Harris does not support federal limits.

Harris and Biden have championed the Women's Health Protection Act, a bill to protect abortion rights in all 50 states under federal law and prohibit medically unnecessary hurdles to accessing the procedure.

Trump has boasted that he "broke Roe v. Wade" by picking three of the five Supreme Court justices who overturned it, delivering on a four-decade goal of the GOP. More recently, Trump has openly fretted that the backlash may cost him and his party the election. Trump has repeatedly said the issue should be left to states, a shift from his support for nationwide restrictions when he was president. His new stance has drawn pushback from GOP allies, like Sen. Lindsey Graham, of South Carolina, and anti-abortion-rights advocates, who say that he is wrong, and that Republicans should not be deterred from their long-standing

goal of enacting some nationwide abortion limits.

Some Republicans downplay the prospects of federal abortion restrictions' passing Congress, even if they win full control. Harris and her allies are telling voters to look at the GOP's long history of championing federal restrictions and not their recent rhetoric.

The vast majority of abortions (about 95%) in the USA are the result of unintended pregnancies. That includes pregnancies that are mistimed as well as those that are unwanted.

Other reasons for not wanting a child—or not wanting one now—include finances, partner-related issues, the need to focus on other children, and interference with future education or work opportunities.

In short, if there were fewer unintended pregnancies, there would be fewer abortions. So, American women, try not to get pregnant and American men, you too be careful.