

# Life Culture

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## Abortion in Canada:

Abortion was legalized in Canada in 1969 for cases in which the mother's life was at risk. In 1988, the Supreme Court struck down the existing abortion law as unconstitutional, saying that it interfered with a person's charter right to "life, liberty and the security of the person." Since then, Canada has had no abortion law, the only democratic country in the world without one. Abortion in Canada is funded as a medical procedure under the Canada Health Act and is legal at all stages of pregnancy.

## Abortion by the Numbers:

In Canada, 100,000 babies are aborted each year, making abortion the leading cause of death. According to the World Health Organization, 72 million babies are aborted globally each year, making abortion the leading cause of death in the world.

**Abortion is the leading cause of death per year in Canada**

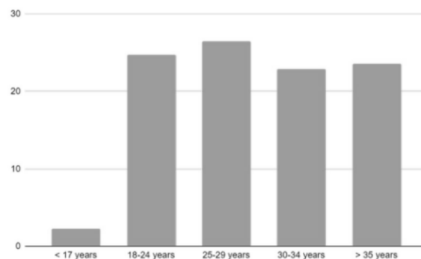
Abortion:	100,000
Cancer:	81,000
Heart Disease:	53,000

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\*Statistics Canada

## Abortion by Age:

< 17 y/o	2.3%
18-24 y/o	24.7%
25-29 y/o	26.5%
30-34 y/o	22.9%
> 35 y/o	23.6%



\*As reported by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI).

While many people assume that teenage girls account for the greatest number of abortions, they actually account for the fewest. According to the Canadian Institute for Health Information, girls under the age of 18 account for only 2.3% of abortions.

**20%** of pregnancies in Canada end in abortion.

## Reasons for Choosing Abortion:

\*The Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration 2018 (Canada does not collect these stats, but they would be similar.)

Percentage	Reason
<0.01%	Incest
0.14%	Rape
0.27%	Woman's life was endangered
0.99%	Fetal Abnormality
1.47%	Woman's physical health was threatened
1.66%	Woman's mental health was threatened
19.9%	Social or Economic
75.4%	No reason (elective)

Abortion in cases of rape or incest is used as a rationale for on-demand abortion laws. While these situations are devastating, they account for fewer than 1% of abortions. Difficult cases should not be the basis for general laws.

**According to a 2017 study published in the Journal of American Physicians & Surgeons:**

**74%** of post-abortive women say they felt pressure from others to abort.

**66%** of post-abortive women say they knew in their hearts they were making a mistake when they underwent the abortion.

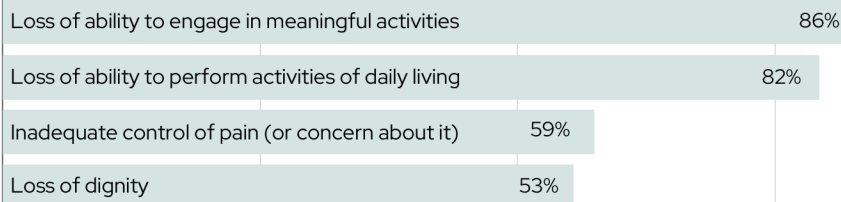


## What is Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)?

MAiD is the Canadian legislation that allows physicians, nurse practitioners, and pharmacists to carry out euthanasia and assisted suicide.

## Reasons for Choosing MAiD:

\*According to the Fourth Annual Report on MAiD in Canada 2022



MAiD removes the ethical and moral responsibility society has to take care of the aging and vulnerable.

## What is Assisted Suicide?

Assisted suicide is the provision or prescription of a drug that the eligible person **takes themselves**, in order to bring about their own death.

## What is Euthanasia?

Euthanasia is the direct administration of a substance that causes death, such as an injection of a drug. This substance is **administered by a physician or nurse practitioner**.

In 2022, MAiD accounted for 4% of deaths in Canada with 13,241 Canadians choosing to die by euthanasia or assisted suicide.

**45,000** Canadians died by Medical Assistance in Dying between 2016 and 2022.

## What are Canadians Choosing?

**Total number of MAiD cases in Ontario: 13011**

(The number of MAiD cases in Ontario from 2016 when MAiD was legalized in Canada till October 2022)

### Type:

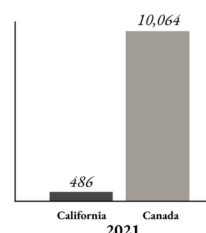
- **Clinician-administered (Euthanasia): 13008**
- **Patient-administered (Assisted Suicide): 3**

Statistics show that people do not want to take part in the action to end their own life. When a healthcare professional administers the action, they are able to go through with it.

## MAiD in Canada Compared to California:

To put into perspective how unrestrained MAiD is in Canada, the state of California legalized MAiD in 2016, the same year as Canada. California and Canada have approximately the same population, 39 million and 38 million respectively. Yet in 2021, 486 Californians died by MAiD compared to 10,064 Canadians.

### MAiD in California vs Canada



## MAiD by the Numbers:

MAiD deaths are increasing steadily every year in Canada since Medical Assistance in Dying was legalized in 2016.

### MAiD Deaths in Canada by Year

