Lead the Way

To Destigmatizing Abortion in Social Work

## 1

The NASW supports abortion as a critical part of family planning & reproductive health.

## 2

Access to safe abortion is a human right. Most social work clients are women, and one-third of U.S. women have an abortion over their lifetimes.

## 3

First-term abortions are not associated with mental or physical health problems, and most abortion patients anticipate a feeling of relief afterwards.

## 4

47,000 women die annually worldwide from unsafe abortion. Self-inductions are increasing in the U.S.

# 5

Abortion restrictions contradict the NASW Code of Ethics and they do not reduce the need for or incidence of abortion.

Move into Action

## 1

Assure clients that abortion is legal and safe.

## 2

Learn about abortion laws in your state.

## 3

Set aside personal beliefs & use neutral, trauma-informed responses to promote client self-determination.

## 4

Use the word “abortion” confidently in practice settings.

## 5

Refrain from referring clients to biased, non-medical crisis pregnancy centers.

## 6

Offer clients trauma-sensitive, medically accurate resources and referrals.

## 7

Inform other social workers about the importance of abortion access.

## 8

Advocate for legislation that improves abortion access and work to repeal laws that don’t.

## Reference List

### Know the Facts

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### Move into Action

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