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RESEARCH ARTICLE

KNOWLEDGE ON ABORTION DECRIMINALIZING IN NURSING STUDENTS N°1 OF CHILPANCINGO, GUERRERO 2015

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ABSTRACT

The practice of abortion claims more women lives every day, for being considered as a crime in our state, women practice it in unhealthy places or taking medicines that in some cases they cause death.

**Objective** Describe the knowledge on abortion decriminalizing in nursing students n°1 of Chilpancingo, Guerrero 2015.

**Methodology** The study population consisted of 179 randomly selected students and the type of sampling was stratified, a scale was constructed to assess the students’ knowledge on abortion decriminalizing, the indicators good, regular and bad, subsequently it was analyzed through Chi square the association of the variables.

**Results** 65.9 % of students have a bad knowledge, while only 29.6 % regular and 4.5% have a good knowledge, respect to the knowledge on abortion decriminalizing the 98.9% of the students have a bad knowledge, to investigate the relation between knowledge and sociodemographic variables, were found that the semester and knowing the methods to abort are related to the knowledge about abortion using a significance level of 5%.

**Conclusion** knowledge about abortion and decriminalization in students who participated in the research is bad, regarding the decriminalization of abortion, more than a third of the study population is unknown and also against the law decriminalizing abortion.

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INTRODUCTION

This paper describes the problems and conflicts that represents the abortion because in some countries the law of decriminalization is not fully approved and this entails that every day there are thousands and thousands of maternal deaths because they practiced in unhealthy places where they do not have experience, equipment and guidelines sanitation, it is why when it comes to the adoption of this practice there is a conflict on one hand if is made illegally many maternal lives are lost and secondly if approved, thousands of murders would be committed.

According to recent estimates, about 15% of the more than 500 000 deaths related to pregnancy that occur each year in developing countries could be due to complications of abortion without security guarantees (WHO, 1993) and some experts consider the figure is even higher. In Latin

America and the Caribbean, where 95% of abortions are unsafe practiced according to the WHO, the issue is currently the subject of intense debate.

In Mexico, abortion is a crime that is regulated locally with exclusions of liability, meaning that in certain cases, persons who perform an abortion, not a sanction is imposed. These exclusions vary depending on the federal entity.

Political network in 2014 states that according to government data in the initiative to decriminalize abortion in Guerrero mentioned that between 2000 and 2008, there were 141 women killed by 100,000 hospitalized for abortion in unsanitary conditions or clandestinely, which means the highest incidence across the country, to a national average of 48 deaths per 100,000. As mentioned, each day the abortion takes lives of women, because not to be approved this practice or set conditions to do it, users choose to practice in unhealthy places or taking medicines that many times leads to death.

This research pretends to know the knowledge of nursing students about the decriminalization of abortion.

**Objective**

Describe knowledge about decriminalization of abortion in nursing students of Chilpancingo Guerrero No.1 2015.

**METHODOLOGY**

The research design was quantitative, correlational and transversal, the study population consisted of 762 students who agreed to participate, enrolled in the Academic Nursing Unit No. 1 undergraduate level to which was applied a questionnaire (Annex 2) .

The sample consisted of 179 randomly selected students and the type of sampling was stratified with a confidence of 95% with a margin of error of 0.065.

The study variables were age, sex, marital status, religion, semester, coming area, knowledge about abortion and decriminalization of abortion. The technique or instrument of data collection was a self-applied questionnaire. For the processing and analysis of the data obtained was performed using the SPSS version 20. Descriptive statistics and percentages and frequencies of variables were obtained, a scale was constructed to assess the knowledge about the decriminalization of abortion in students of Nursing Academic Unit No.1, the Good, Regular and Bad indicators were set. Subsequently an association variable was analyzed by Chi square.

**RESULTS**

The 94.4% of students are aged between 18 and 25 years , 78% are women, 69.8%, profess the Catholic religion, 85.5% reported being single, 37% is in his second semester, 96% say they know that is the spontaneous abortion and its complications, as to the definition that would give the abortion 57.5% said that is the termination of pregnancy before 20 weeks of gestation, 86.6% say that the physical complications of abortion are bleeding, uterine perforation, sepsis and infertility , as to the psychological consequences of abortion on women 69.3% answered that there are feelings of guilt and suicidal impulses.

The 31.8% know the types of abortion, 78% are against abortion and 58% against legalization, from students surveyed 21% know the law to decriminalize abortion and 79% do not. Regarding the reasons why you need to perform an abortion 46.9% it says that pregnancy endangers the health or life of the mother, and 41.9% for congenital malformations. Of the students surveyed 51.4% know abortion methods, 59.8% of students believe that the abortion attentive to life. 63% responded not agree with the decriminalization of abortion in the state of Guerrero. Regarding knowledge on complications of abortion, 65.9% of students have a bad knowledge, while only 29.6% regularly and 4.5% good knowledge.

Regarding knowledge on the decriminalization of abortion, 98.9% of students have a bad knowledge. To investigating the relationship between knowledge with sociodemographic variables it was found that the semester and knowledge about abortion methods are related to knowledge about abortion using a significance level of 5%.

**Table 1** Knowledge about abortion

	Frequency	Percentage
Good	8	4,5
Regular	53	29,6
Bad	118	65,9
Total	179	100,0

Source: questionnaires administered to students U.A.Enf.1. 2015.

**Table 2** Knowledge about decriminalization

	Frequency	Percentage
Good	2	1,1
Bad	177	98,9
Total	179	100,0

Source: questionnaires administered to students U.A.Enf.1. 2015.

**DISCUSSION**

The 96% of the students surveyed know what is abortion and its complications, and only 4% do not. As in the investigation by Rosaldo Martinez in which 95.5% of adolescents know it is and what are the complications, while 4.5% did not. In our research, 78% of students are against abortion, and 22% favor, no research on this in the literature reviewed were found, the reasons why the students agree on abortion, almost half 46.9% because the pregnancy threatens the health or life of the mother, 38.5% for rape, similar to the study by Rosaldos Martinez, *et al.* Where 40.3% mentioned agree as long as it be a product of rape, and 40.3% mentioned the fear of rejection to society. The causes why would choose to have the baby, it was found "because it is a human being" with a 60.9%, "just want it I have" with 21.8%, "I have a steady partner and I support my family" with a 10.1%, "it was planned" with 7.8% and "obligation" with 3.4%.

While, Rosaldo Martinez, found in his study as main responses "because it is a human being" with 76.1%, a planned pregnancy with 41.8% and family support with 35.8%. Finding certain similarities in the results.

It can be seen that the profile of a woman who aborts is young teenager with 42%, adult with children 36.3% and unmarried with 20.7%. Mediavilla Perez in his study found that teen pregnancy represents 58% of the abortions performed in 2011. The feelings that occur in a woman who aborts are 76.5% guilt, 61.5% fear and 26.3% despair, makers of unsafe abortions are 54.7% women, 49.2% partner, 44.1% State and the institutions responsible for the justice and health of people.

**CONCLUSION**

The knowledge about abortion and decriminalization in students who participated in the research is Bad, however we can highlight the following: most students know that it is the spontaneous abortion and its complications, more than half defined the abortion correctly and described the psychological consequences that affect women and more than a third part identifies physical complications of abortion. Regarding the decriminalization of abortion, more than a third of the study population is against and does not know the law to decriminalize abortion. Recommendations for future researchers Conduct research on women and men aged 25 to 40 years to see if the maturity influences knowledge about abortion and its decriminalization. Investigate the opinion of legislators on knowledge of abortion and its decriminalization.

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