

Abortion

- Religious traditions have **various** attitudes towards abortion – from outright condemnation, to toleration in particular circumstances (and much disagreement **within** religious communities too).
 - *Welfare of mother – physical and/or mental health*
 - *Welfare of foetus*
- Religious functions:
 - *Focus on the sanctity of life – of both/either the foetus and/or the mother.*
 - *Concerns with reincarnation and karma.*
- See <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/abortion/religion/religion.shtml>

- “Many of the decisions made about the bodies of people with a uterus are by cisgender men” (Broderick Greer; see also Tina Beattie).
 - *Who should be making these decisions?*
- To what extent should religions influence secular laws around sex and sexuality, including contraception and abortion?
- How important is it for religious and secular debates around abortion to look beyond gender binaries and consider intersectionality (i.e. race, sexuality, socio-economic status, religious beliefs, etc.)?

“The human dimension of reproductive health and justice is often what is ceded in culture wars over hot topic matters like abortion. People seeking out reproductive healthcare - not just abortions - aren’t an “issue” or a “question”. They are people with needs, desires, and a right to autonomy and self-determination in their reproductive decisions.”

Broderick Greer, “I Am a Priest, and This is Why I’m Pro-Choice.”

