

Topic: A Mixed Methods Study of Post Abortion Women and Service Providers in Ghana**Introduction:**

I am Mercy Otsin, a PhD student at Latrobe University. I am undertaking a Doctoral study at the Judith Lumley Centre for Mother, Infant and Family Health Research, in the school of Nursing and Midwifery. This study is about women who have experienced abortion related complications as well as persons involved in the provision of services to them. As a clinician your views are extremely important in helping shape the provision of safe abortion services for women. I really do appreciate you taking time off your busy schedule to grant me this interview. I will start by first asking some general questions about you

Background information/warming up

1. If I say that tell me something about how a typical day in your working life is what will you say?
2. Please how old are you?
3. Are you married?
4. Please what is your area of specialisation?
5. How long have you been practicing in that field?

Main issues

6. What training have you received in the provision of safe abortions?
7. Please can you tell how long you have been involved in the provision of services?
8. Now I will want to pick your thoughts about the different methods?

Probe:

- Method often provided?
 - Reasons for its frequent use?
 - The least favourite method?
 - Why it is least preferred?
 - Instruments used in provision of services?
 - How the instruments are procured?
9. Do you always provide the terminations in this facility or there are instances where you arrange with patients to provide the terminations elsewhere?
 10. There are various reasons women give for seeking terminations, please I will like to know some of the factors that might influence you in either providing or not providing services?
 11. What are some of the characteristics of the women who seek for services?

12. Do you think health facility based terminations is the first option for the clients seeking services or it is often the last resort?
13. If not what do you think could be the cause?
14. On the average how many clients do you see in a week?
15. What do you know about the laws governing abortions in Ghana?
16. How do you see the legislation?
17. In your view do you think it provides sufficient grounds for women to seek for safe abortion services?
18. Now let us look at the providers, in your view does the law allow them to do operate without fear of legal reprisals?
19. As a practitioner who provides safe services for women, do you think the law in anyway influences decisions women take about where to seek for services?
20. As you know unsafe abortion contributes significantly to the maternal mortality rate, do women in need of services know where to get it safely done but still seek for services from the quacks, I will like to pick your thoughts on it?
21. What is the cost of services?
22. Do you counsel the women before the procedure about what to expect?
Probe:
 - Whether provider explains the various methods to them and
 - allows them to choose their method of choice
23. What has been some of your experiences with the attitude of colleagues who know you provide services?
24. There are some instances where some of the health facilities will not be supportive of personnel providing services, what has been the attitude of the administration here?
25. What are some other challenges faced in your work?
26. Please share with me your thoughts about the current way services are provided?
27. What do you think can be done to make it better?

Closure

We have come to the end of the interview I want to thank you very much for your time. Is there anything else you would like to tell me? Anything you would have liked me to ask but I didn't or anything you need further clarification on

Thank you once again.