

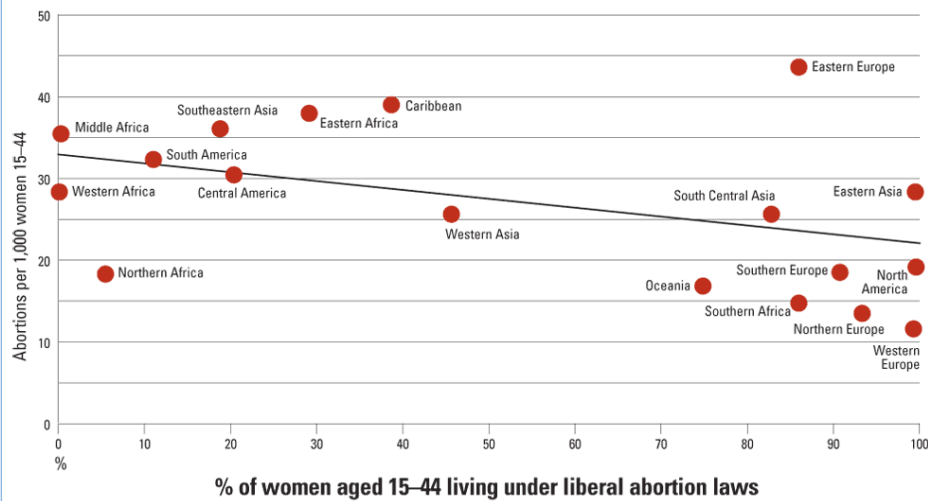


CATHOLIC DEMOCRATS

Historically, there has generally been an *inverse* relationship between the liberality of abortion laws and the abortion rate.

Most recent data, from 2010 to 2014, shows that criminalizing abortion does not reduce the incidence of it.

Abortion rates tend to be lower in subregions that have liberal abortion laws.



Source: Sedgh G et al., Induced abortion: incidence and trends worldwide from 1995 to 2008, *Lancet*, 2012 (forthcoming).

Restrictive laws do not stop women from having abortions.
They mainly make the procedure clandestine and often unsafe.



Abortion rates

Countries where abortion is prohibited altogether or permitted only to save a woman's life

37 per 1,000 women aged 15-44

Countries where abortion is available on request

34 per 1,000 women aged 15-44

0 10 20 30 40

guttmacher.org

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Guttmacher Institute, 2012, accessed January 19, 2012, <http://www.guttmacher.org/media/presskits/abortion-WW/graphics.html>

Guttmacher Institute, May 11, 2016, accessed July 17, 2016, <http://www.guttmacher.org/infographic/2016/restrictive-laws-do-not-stop-women-having-abortions>