EXPERIENCE OF WOMEN HAVING NON-THERAPEUTIC INDUCED ABORTION: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL FIELD STUDY.

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Abstract: The aim of this interpretive phenomenological study was to explore the experiences of women who underwent non-therapeutic induced abortion. The study was conducted in a sub urban area located in the district of Colombo, from where seven volunteer women were selected as an ad-hoc sample and were given the opportunity to describe their experiences. They were subjected to in-depth examination to find out why they chose non-therapeutic abortion as a solution to their particular problem and how such experiences affected their psychological and physical health condition. The study clearly establishes the multifaceted nature of the problem which has a significant relevance to reproductive health service delivery. These findings help to understand the necessity of legalized abortion services, the need for improvement in the existing contraceptive service accessibility and delivery.