



# A New Reading of Abortion in the Metropolis of Tehran: Based on the Lived Experiences of Women Born in the 1980s

Razieh Sadat. Ghazanfari<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ph.D. Student of Demography, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

\* Corresponding author email address: rsgh1974@yahoo.com

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Editor	Reviewers
Cain C. T. Clark Faculty of Health, Education, and Life Sciences, Birmingham City University, Birmingham, B15 3TN, U.K. scain.clark@coventry.ac.uk	Reviewer 1: Zahra Naghsh Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran. Email: z.naghsh@ut.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Mohammad Reza Khodabakhsh Department of Psychology, Neyshabour Branch, Islamic Azad University, Neyshabour, Iran. Email: hodabakhsh@ut.ac.ir

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 22 February 2025

Reviewer:

The statement, “despite the prohibition of abortion in Islamic jurisprudence and Iranian law... there has been no decline in abortion rates,” is critical. Consider adding specific references or statistical comparisons to support this claim more rigorously.

The demographic table presents participants' employment and education levels but lacks information on other potentially relevant factors such as socioeconomic status, religious background, or prior pregnancy history. Consider adding these dimensions.

The study acknowledges psychological consequences of abortion but does not differentiate between voluntary childlessness cases and extramarital pregnancy cases. A comparison of these groups' emotional experiences would enhance the discussion.

The discussion on economic barriers to childbearing is insightful but would benefit from references to macroeconomic data on inflation, employment instability, and housing costs in Tehran.

The article references Van de Kaa's theory of demographic transition but does not critically assess whether Tehran's case fully aligns with this model. Are there cultural or policy-specific factors that differentiate Iran's fertility trends from Western countries?

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 1.2 Reviewer 2

Date: 23 February 2025

Reviewer:

The discussion on the Republican Party candidate's stance on abortion in the U.S. seems somewhat disconnected from the study's main focus on Tehran. Consider revising or contextualizing this within global abortion debates more directly related to Iran.

The article quotes the WHO's definition of health but does not analyze its applicability to the specific socio-legal context of Tehran. A brief discussion on how Iran's health policies align or diverge from the WHO's stance on abortion could be beneficial.

The discussion on marital dissatisfaction as a driver of abortion decisions is compelling. However, it would be valuable to compare this with research on marital quality and fertility choices in Iran to provide a broader context.

Several respondents mention abandoning religious beliefs regarding abortion. This could be strengthened by incorporating sociological theories on secularization or changing religious attitudes in urban Iran.

The study claims that extramarital relationships are becoming normalized. This is a strong assertion that requires empirical support. Are there sociological studies or legal changes that suggest increasing acceptance of such relationships?

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.