VICTORIANS' VIEWS ON ABORTION

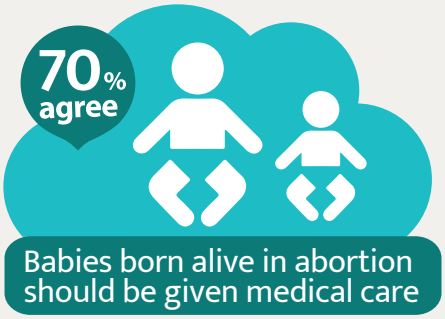
POLL RESULTS | MARCH 2023

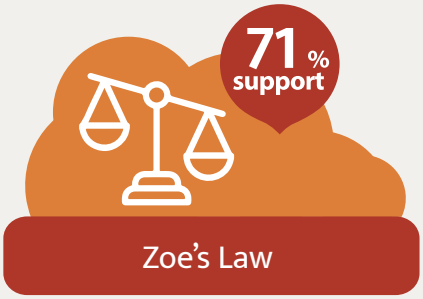
Pro-Life Victoria (Inc.)

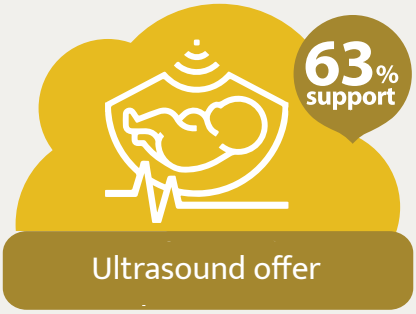
Compass Polling

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An on-line opinion poll was conducted by independent market research firm Compass Polling, commissioned by Pro-Life Victoria on 3 March to 9 March 2023. The poll had a representative sample of 1,013 Victorian voters, which has a margin of error at most plus or minus 2.5%.



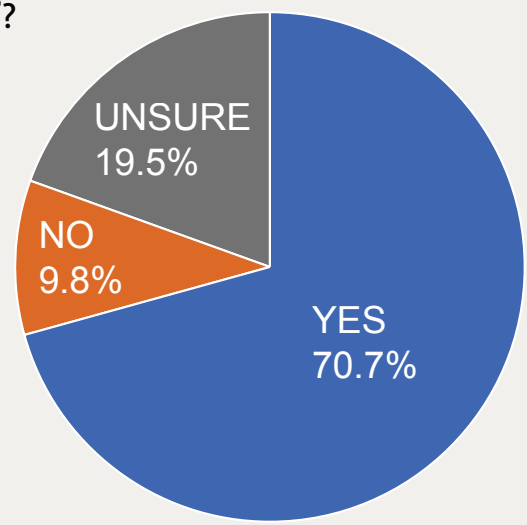




Zoe's Law

In NSW a law called 'Zoe's Law' mandates that an unborn baby at least 20 weeks old (or at least 400 grams in weight) killed by a third party criminal act, for example by a drunk driver or by domestic violence towards the mother, has his or her own legal rights and the perpetrator is charged with killing the baby.

Do you agree with 'Zoe's Law'?

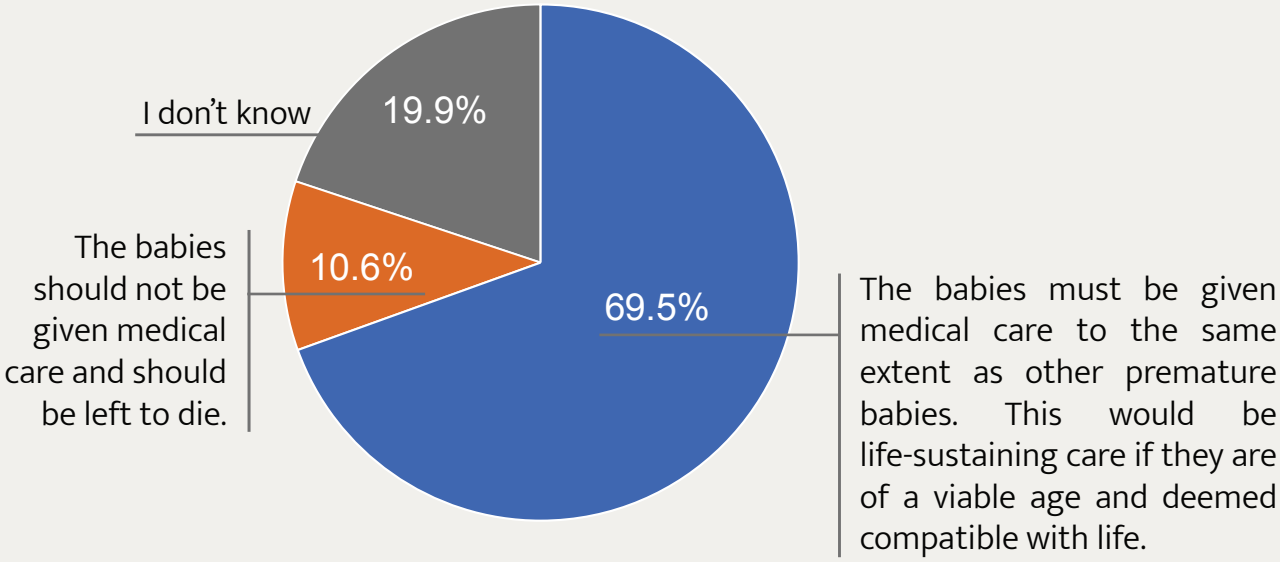


The results reveal that of the 70.7% agree with 'Zoe's Law' while only 9.8% disagree. Adjusted for Victorians who have an opinion on 'Zoe's Law', it has almost 88% support.

Babies Born Alive in Abortion Procedure

Termination of pregnancy is permitted in all Australian states and territories under various circumstances after 20 weeks of pregnancy. This is referred to as a 'late-term abortion'. Sometimes a baby is born alive in a 'late-term abortion' procedure.

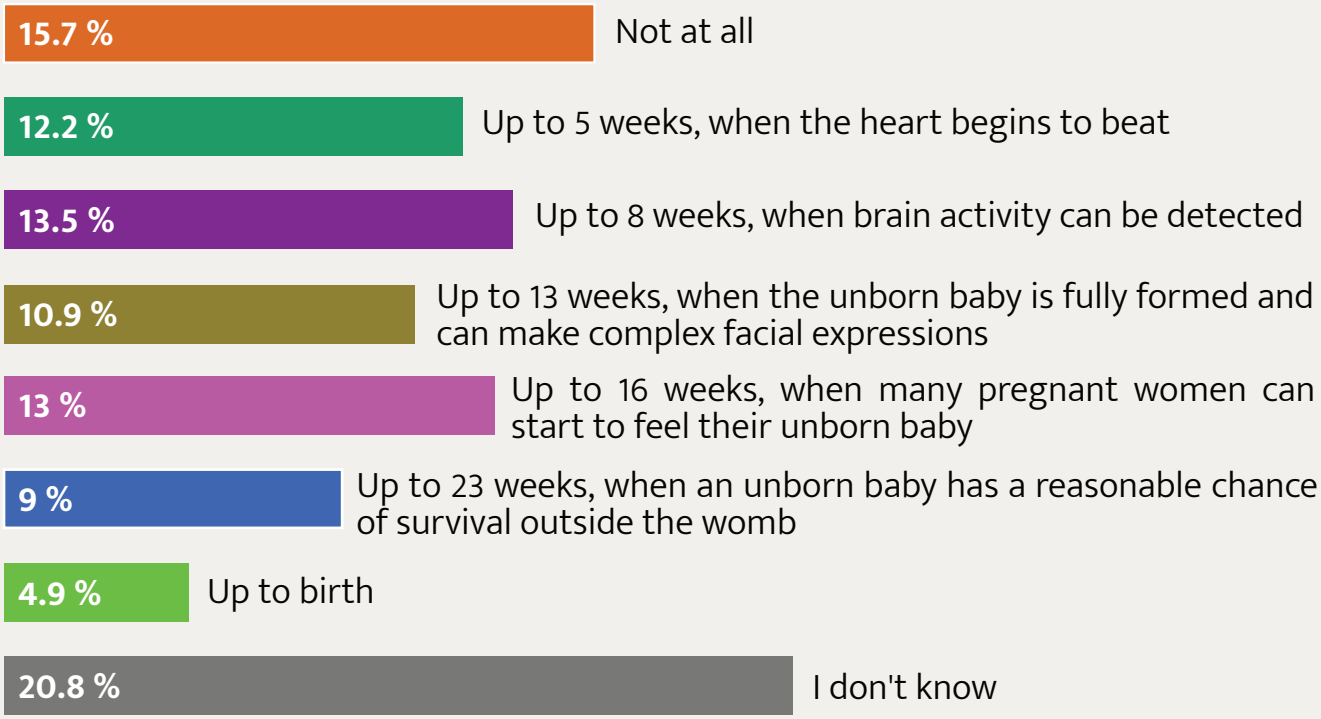
Which is closer to your own view about babies born alive after late-term abortion procedures?



Over 80% Victorians have a view on the matter, and of those 87% think babies born alive in abortion of a viable age and deemed compatible with life should be given medical care.

Time Limits on Abortion

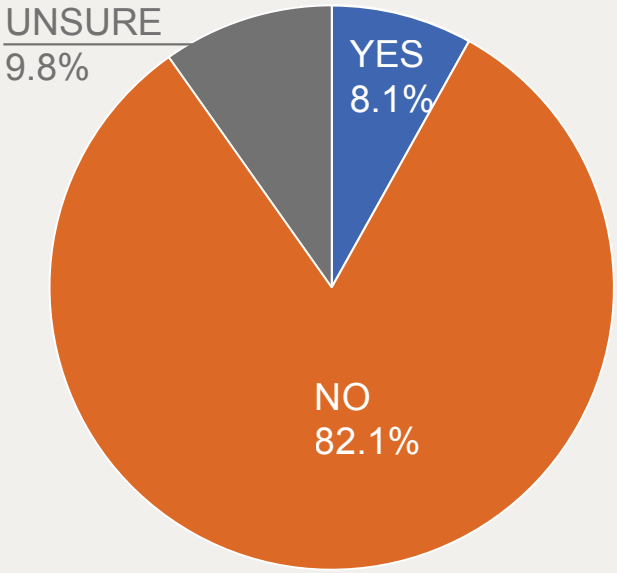
Up to what stage of pregnancy would you allow abortion?



The results show that 74% of Victorians are opposed to abortion past 23 weeks gestation, 65% oppose abortion past 16 weeks gestation, and 52% oppose abortion past 13 weeks gestation. Adjusted for Victorians who have an opinion on the matter, 94% of Victorians oppose abortion past 23 weeks gestation.

Sex-Selective Abortion

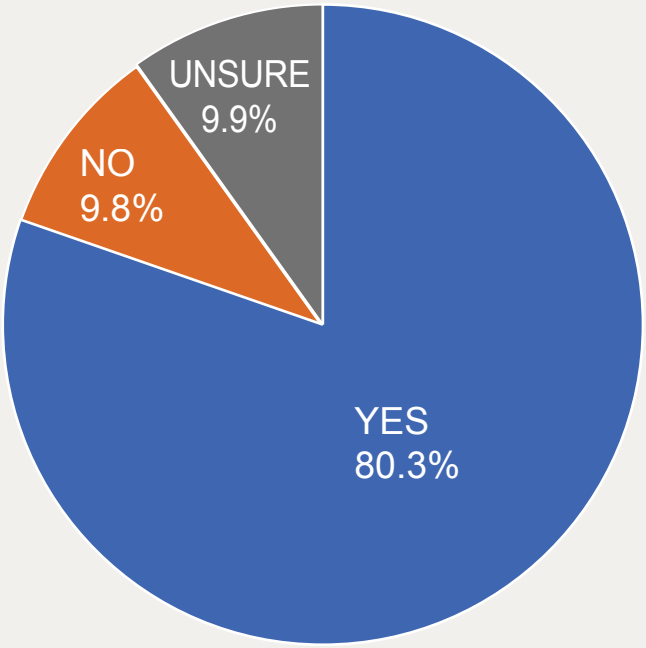
Sex-selective abortion is terminating an unborn baby because of its sex. There is evidence of sex-selective abortion occurring in Australia. Do you agree that aborting a baby, solely because of its sex, should be allowed?



82% of Victorians are opposed to sex-selective abortion and of those Victorians who have a view on this matter, 91% are opposed to sex-selective abortion.

Face-to-Face Doctor Consultation

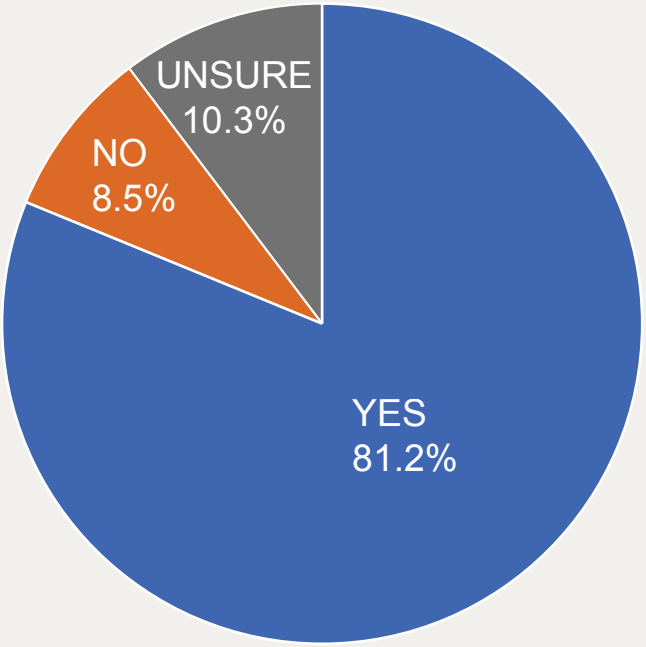
Do you think a woman requesting an abortion should be seen in person by a doctor?



Of the Victorians who have a view on the matter, 89% think a woman requesting an abortion should be seen by a doctor in person.

Free Counselling

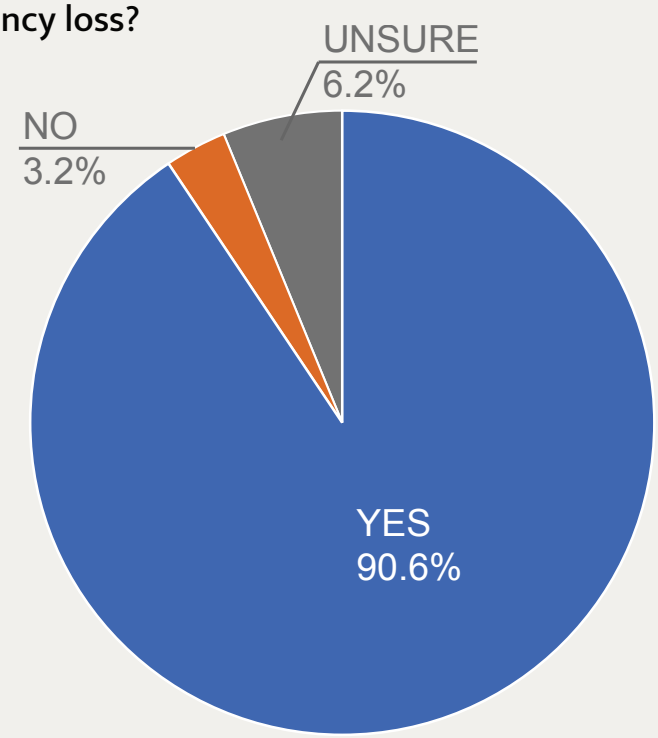
Do you think a woman considering an abortion should be offered at least two free counselling sessions prior to the abortion?



Of the Victorians who have a view on the matter, 90.5% think a woman should be offered at least two free counselling sessions prior to an abortion.

Informed Consent – Risks

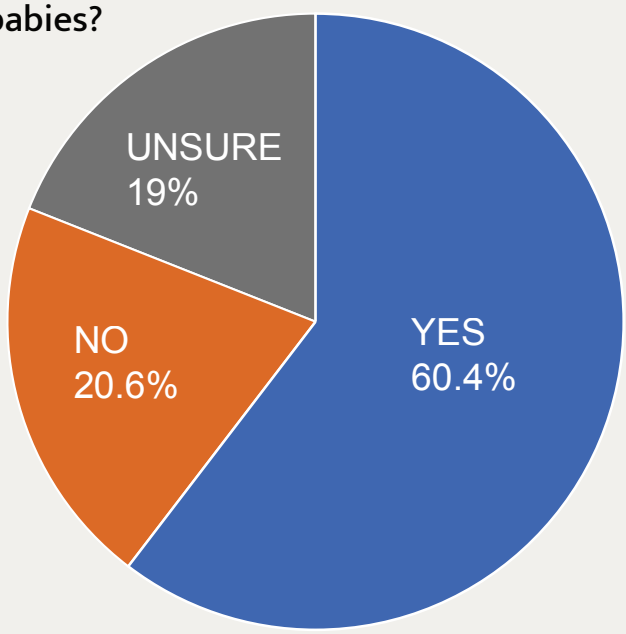
Do you think a woman considering an abortion should receive information on the procedure as well as any physical and psychological risks associated with abortion and subsequent pregnancy loss?



Support for information on the procedure and physical and psychological risks, broadly categorised as "informed consent", was over 90%, and when adjusted for the 93.8% of Victorians who have a view on the matter, support is 96.6%.

Informed Consent - Foetal Development Information

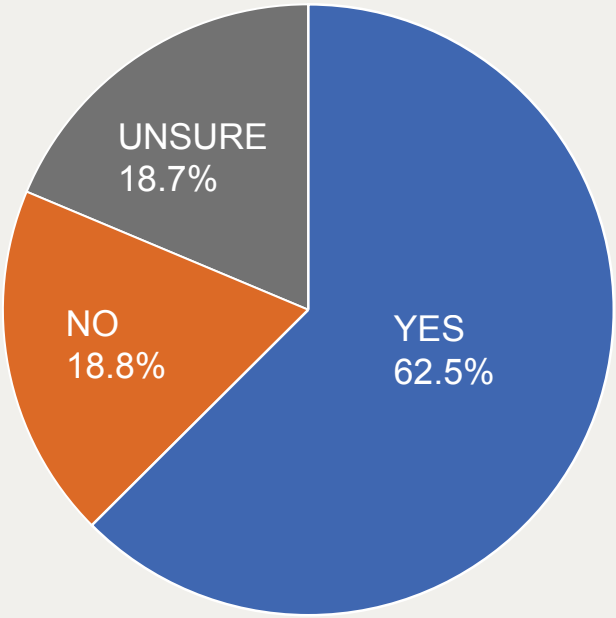
Do you think a woman considering an abortion should receive information on the development of unborn babies?



Of the Victorians who have a view on this issue, 75% think women considering an abortion should receive information on the development of unborn babies.

Free Ultrasound Offer

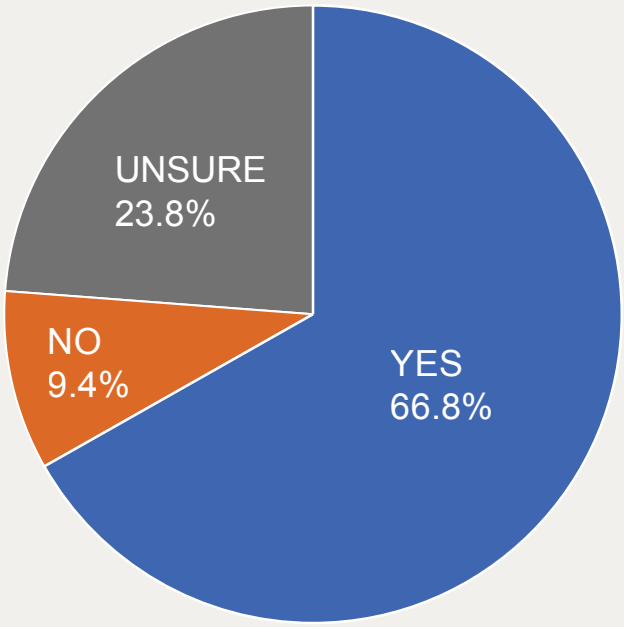
Do you think a woman considering an abortion should be given the choice of seeing, for free, an ultrasound of her unborn baby?



The results reveal that of those Victorians who have an opinion on the matter, 77% think a woman considering an abortion should be offered a free ultrasound.

Law Against Abortion Coercion

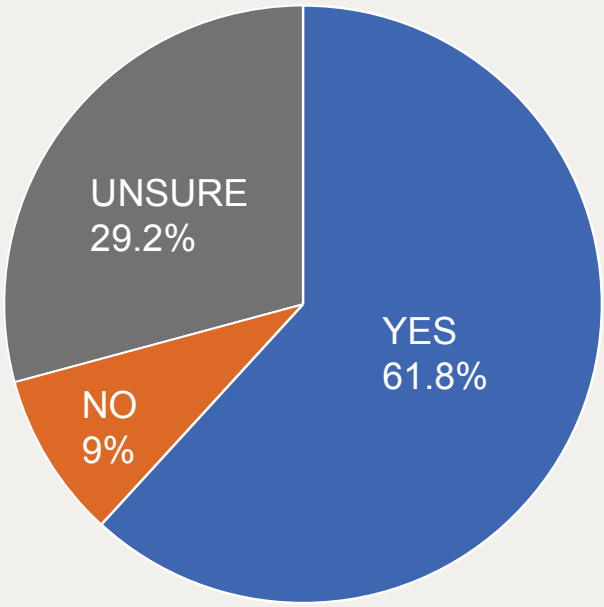
Do you think there should be a law against coercion to abort, in order to protect a woman who wants to keep her unborn baby?



The results reveal that of those Victorians who have an opinion on the matter, 88% think there should be a law against abortion coercion.

Pain Relief for Babies

There is substantial medical evidence that an unborn baby may be capable of experiencing pain during an abortion procedure after 22 weeks of pregnancy. Should the law require that pain relief be given to the baby before an abortion after 22 weeks of pregnancy?

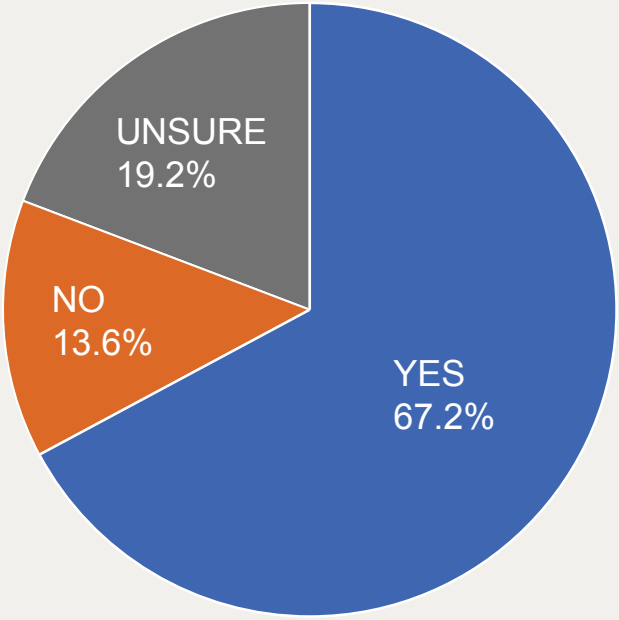


The results reveal that of those Victorians who have an opinion on the matter, 87% think a baby 22 weeks or older should be given pain relief prior to an abortion.

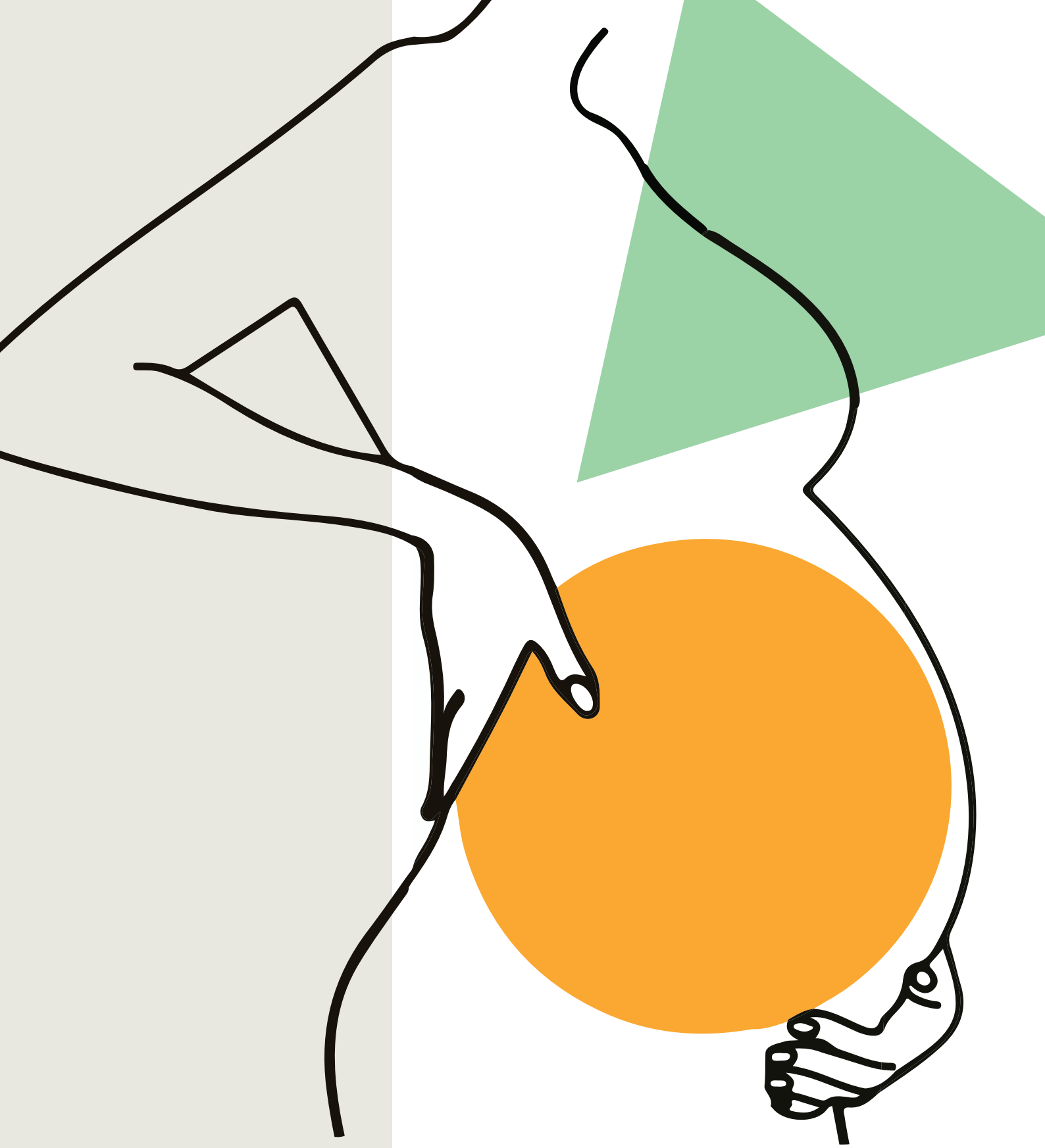
Anonymised Data on Abortions

South Australia is the only state that publishes the annual number of abortions and records the reasons why women choose abortion. Collecting anonymised data on abortion can help governments understand why women choose abortion and evaluate whether they are being offered adequate support in unplanned or crisis pregnancies.

Do you think that the Victorian Government should collect anonymised data on abortions in this state?



The results reveal that of those Victorians who have an opinion on the matter 83% think the Victorian government should collect anonymised data on abortions.



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Pro-Life Victoria (Inc.)
Pro-Life Victoria
378 Nicholson St,
Fitzroy North VIC 3068
www.prolife.org.au

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