Abortion Access and Public Health

As of this writing, at least 7 U.S. states have passed bills restricting access to abortion, with the intent of challenging all or part of *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 federal law permitting the procedure. Numerous health professional societies have released statements in support of abortion services, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, the Royal College of General Practitioners, and a joint panel of twelve women’s health organizations. Below is a selection of articles exploring abortion access and its effects on maternal and family health.

- **Comparison of Health, Development, Maternal Bonding, and Poverty Among Children Born After Denial of Abortion vs After Pregnancies Subsequent to an Abortion.** Foster DG, Biggs MA, Raifman S, Gipson J, Kimport K, Rocca CH.

- **Effects of Carrying an Unwanted Pregnancy to Term on Women's Existing Children.** Foster DG, Raifman SE, Gipson JD, Rocca CH, Biggs MA.

- **Role of birth spacing, family planning services, safe abortion services and post-abortion care in reducing maternal mortality.** Ganatra B, Faundes A.

- **Side Effects, Physical Health Consequences, and Mortality Associated with Abortion and Birth after an Unwanted Pregnancy.** Gerdts C, Dobkin L, Foster DG, Schwarz EB.

- **Socioeconomic Outcomes of Women Who Receive and Women Who Are Denied Wanted Abortions in the United States.** Foster DG, Biggs MA, Ralph L, Gerdts C, Roberts S, Glymour MM.

By Rachel Becker, MLIS