



# Press Release

## Citizens in 23 Countries Polled: 43% Support a Woman Having an Abortion Whenever She Decides She Wants One

### Another 41% Support Abortion in Limited (30%) or Dire (11%) Situations Only 5% Say it Should Never be Permitted

**New York, June 4, 2015** - A new BuzzFeed News/Ipsos global poll of citizens in 23 countries finds that 43% of global citizens fully support a woman having an abortion whenever she decides to have one, 30% believe that abortion should be permitted in certain circumstances, such as if a woman has been raped and 11% who indicate that abortion should not be permitted under any circumstances, except when the life of the mother is in danger. In addition to the 5% who indicate that abortion should never be permitted, no matter what circumstance exists and 11% say that they “don’t know” or “prefer not to say”.

In essence, three quarters (73%) of the global respondents surveyed are, at the very least, broadly permissive for abortions to be carried out while 16% are extremely limiting in, or not at all supportive of, a woman having an abortion.

The survey also finds that one third (34%) of all men and women surveyed combined indicate that either they personally have, or someone close to them has, had an abortion (39% female/30% male).

#### **Methodology Overview...**

*The study is based on interviews conducted via Ipsos’ Global Advisor online Omnibus from April 24th – May 8th 2015 interviews with 17,030 adults across 23 countries—of which the total number of women surveyed was 8,520. Of those citizens surveyed, 15 countries yield results that are balanced to reflect the general population: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The nine remaining countries surveyed –Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey – reflect online populations that tend to be more urban and have higher education/income than the general population. As such, for total population comparisons the total global group surveyed can be referred collectively as Primary Consumer Citizens.*

#### **A plurality (43%) fully supports a woman having an abortion whenever she wants one...**

Of the 43% of global citizens (males 42%/females 45%) who support a woman having an abortion whenever she decides to have one, they are most likely to be found in Sweden (78%) followed by those in France (67%), Great Britain (66%), Hungary (65%), Spain (60%), Turkey (59%), Canada (54%), Belgium (52%), Germany (50%), Australia (49%), Italy (47%), the United States (40%), Ireland (37%), Japan (36%), Russia (36%), India (35%), Poland (33%), China (32%), South Korea (31%), Argentina (25%), South Africa (21%), Mexico (14%) and Brazil (13%).

Of the 45% females surveyed who take this point of view, they are led by those in Sweden (82%/75% males) followed by those in Turkey (71%/46% males), Great Britain (68%/64% males), Hungary (67%/62% males), France (67%/67% males), Spain (65%/55% males), Belgium (55%/50% males), Australia (52%/46% males), Canada (52%/56% males), Germany (51%/49% males), Italy (47%/47% males), Ireland (45%/30% males), the

United States (41%/38% males), India (35%/34% males), Japan (35%/37% males), China (34%/29% males), Russia (32%/41% males), Poland (31%/34% males), South Korea (31%/30% males), Argentina (27%/22% males), South Africa (22%/20% males), Brazil (13%/14% males) and Mexico (13% 16% males).

***Three in Ten (30%) believe abortion should be permitted in certain circumstances...***

Of the 30% of global citizens who believe that abortion should be permitted *in certain circumstances, such as if a woman has been raped*, they are most likely to come from South Korea (48%) followed by those in Argentina (43%), Brazil (41%), South Africa (40%), Poland (39%), Ireland (38%), Mexico (37%), China (37%), Belgium (34%), Germany (33%), Japan (32%), India (29%), the United States (29%), Australia (28%), Spain (26%), France (24%), Canada (24%), Great Britain (22%), Italy (22%), Russia (21%), Hungary (17%), Turkey (11%) and Sweden (10%).

Of females surveyed, 28% share this view led by those in South Korea (50%/46% males) followed by those in Argentina (43%/44% males), Poland (40%/38% males), South Africa (39%/40% males), Brazil (38%/44% males), China (38%/36% males), Japan (34%/29% males), Belgium (33%/35% males), Germany (33%/34% males), Ireland (32%/43% males), Mexico (31%/43% males), the United States (25%/32% males), India (25%/32% males), Canada (25%/22% males), Italy (23%/20% males), Spain (23%/29% males), France (22%/25% males), Russia (22%/19% males), Great Britain (21%/23% males), Australia (21%/35% males), Hungary (14%/20% males), Turkey (8%/14% males) and Sweden (8%/12% males).

***One in Ten (11%) believe abortion should not be permitted under any circumstance unless the mother's life is in danger...***

Of the 11% of global citizens who believe that abortion should *not* be permitted under any circumstances, *except when the life of the mother is in danger*, they are most likely to come from Mexico (23%) followed by those in Brazil (19%), India (19%), Russia (18%), South Africa (18%), China (18%), Argentina (16%), United States (13%), Turkey (13%), Italy (12%), Poland (11%), Ireland (11%), South Korea (9%), Canada (8%), Australia (7%), Hungary (6%), Germany (5%), Spain (5%), Belgium (3%), Great Britain (3%), Japan (3%), Sweden (2%) and France (1%).

Of women surveyed, this view is most supportive by those in Mexico (28%/19% males) followed by those in Russia (23%/13% males), Brazil (21%/17% males), India (18%/20% males), South Africa (16%/20% males), China (15%/21% males), Italy (13%/11% males), United States (13%/14% males), Poland (13%/10% males), Argentina (12%/21% males), Ireland (11%/10% males), Turkey (10%/16% males), Canada (9%/7% males), South Korea (7%/11% males), Australia (7%/7% males), Hungary (6%/6% males), Germany (4%/6% males), Spain (4%/6% males), Great Britain (3%/4% males), Belgium (3%/3% males), Japan (2%/4% males), Sweden (1%/4% males) and France (1%/4% males).

***Only 5% believe abortion should never be permitted, no matter what circumstance exists...***

Of the 5% of global citizens who believe that abortion should not be permitted under any circumstances, they are most likely to come from Japan (27%) followed by those in Russia (22%), Italy (14%), United States (12%), Argentina (12%), Australia (12%), Canada (11%), Poland (10%), Ireland (10%), China (10%), South Africa (9%), Brazil (9%), Mexico (9%), Turkey (9%), Belgium (9%), Germany (9%), Hungary (9%), Sweden (8%), South Korea (8%), Great Britain (7%), Spain (7%), France (7%) and Argentina (6%).

Of women surveyed, they are most likely to be in Brazil (20%/15% males) followed by those in Mexico (16%/16% males), South Africa (12%/12% males), Argentina (11%/7% males), India (9%/3% males), the United States (8%/4% males), Poland (7%/7% males), Italy (5%/5% males), Canada (4%/3% males), Russia (4%/3% males), Ireland (4%/5% males), Australia (4%/3% males), South Korea (3%/5% males), Germany (3%/1% males), Turkey (3%/13% males), Sweden (2%/0% males), Belgium (2%/1% males), China (2%/4% males), Japan (2%/2% males), Spain (2%/2% males), Hungary (1%/4% males), France (1%/0% males) and Great Britain (1%/1% males).



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### ***One Third (34%) of all men and women surveyed combined indicate they personally have, or someone close to them has, had an abortion...***

One third (34%) of all citizens surveyed combined indicate that either they personally have, or someone close to them has, had an abortion. This figure includes female (39%) and male (30%) respondents who were asked separate questions and had the results combined\*.

Those who responded in the affirmative are most likely in Russia (68%: 63% male/72% female ) followed by those in China (53%: 52% male/54% female), Hungary (45%: 40% male/50% female), Mexico (39%: 36% male/41% female), Spain (39%: 34% male/44% female), Sweden (38%: 26% male/50% female), the United States (38%: 33% male/42% female), France (38%: 35% male/41% female), Canada (37%: 32% male/41% female), Argentina (36%: 33% male/40% female), Australia (36%: 34% male/37% female), Brazil (35%: 31% male/38% female), Turkey (34%: 16% male/53% female), Great Britain (31%: 27% male/34% female), South Africa (29%: 24% male/33% female), Italy (29%: 27% male/30% female), India (29%: 24% male/34% female), South Korea (29%: 24% male/33% female), Ireland (25%: 21% male/30% female), Japan (25%: 18% male/32% female), Belgium (24%: 20% male/29% female), Germany (17%: 17% male/18% female) and Poland (14%: 14% male/14% female).

Half (49%) indicated that neither have they personally had an abortion nor did they know someone who had (52% male/47% female). In addition, 13% indicated they were “not sure” (15% male/11% female) and 3% preferred not to answer the question (3% male/3% female).

*\*Females were asked if they personally have, or someone close to them has, had an abortion; males were asked if someone close to them has had an abortion.*

*The study is based on interviews conducted via Ipsos' Global Advisor online Omnibus from April 24th – May 8th 2015 interviews with 17,030 adults across 23 countries. Approximately 500 interviews conducted in each of Argentina, Belgium, Mexico, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Turkey, Hungary, India, and Ireland. Approximately 1,000 interviews conducted in each of Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain, and the United States. Respondents were age 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries. Data are weighted to age, gender, region and household income based on recent Census and/or population figures for each country. The global numbers were calculated such that each market was given equal weight when aggregated (unweighted base size = 500 for all) Where internet penetration is more than approx. 60%, the data output is comparable to the general population. Of those surveyed, 15 countries yield results that are balanced to reflect the general population: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The nine remaining countries surveyed –Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey – reflect online populations that tend to be more urban and have higher education/income than the general population. As such, for total population comparisons the total global group surveyed can be referred collectively as Primary Consumer Citizens. The precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval. In this case, a poll of 1,000 is accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and one of 500 is accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points in their respective general populations.*



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