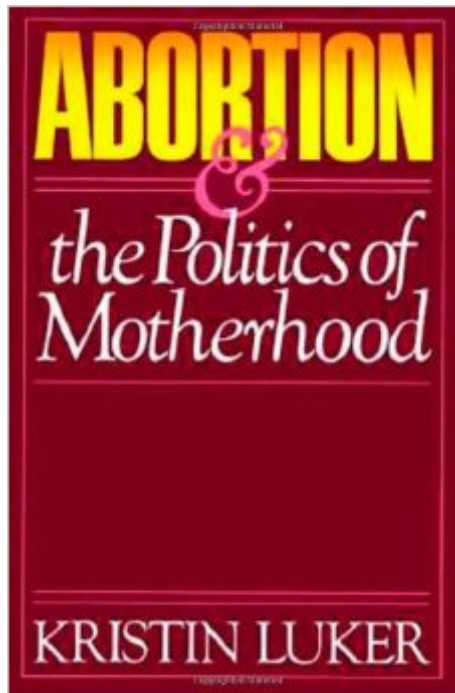


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# Abortion & The Politics Of Motherhood



## Synopsis

In this important study of the abortion controversy in the United States, Kristin Luker examines the issues, people, and beliefs on both sides of the abortion conflict. She draws data from twenty years of public documents and newspaper accounts, as well as over two hundred interviews with both pro-life and pro-choice activists. She argues that moral positions on abortion are intimately tied to views on sexual behavior, the care of children, family life, technology, and the importance of the individual.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Luker should be commended for her tremendous contribution with this book. *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood* tackles a phenomenal project, namely, charting the history of attitudes towards abortion. She does through a thorough analysis of historical sources (concentrating mainly on attitudes and later legislation in the US but starting with ancient Western philosophies) and continues through the present day where she begins to interweave personal stories of women (both pro-life and pro-choice) with her narrative. I was continually impressed with both Luker's fine writing as well as her skill in being able to analyze philosophy, history, the law, and oral history and meld it all into a gripping narrative.

The authors provide an intelligent perspective of the abortion issue. They were quick to identify few readers pick up a book on this subject without attempting to determine the slant. It was refreshing

that the authors went to some effort to present the issues from the perspectives of those involved rather than a rant on justifying the author's position over the reader's. This is neither an editorial or a novel but a good reference for those on either side of the abortion issue to learn another perspective and not get assaulted in the process.

This is a great book about abortion. The author tried to be as even-handed as possible by using extensive interviews from both pro-life and pro-choice people. Ms. Luker also draws on many public documents as well so this book is thoroughly researched. This is a great, informative book for anyone (pro-life, pro-choice, don't know) because it does show all sides to the debate. In this day and age where the abortion issue is front and center, this is a book everyone should read at least once.

Really great book on the history of abortion, focusing on California, up until the decade following Roe. Found Luker's predictions for the future have mostly turned out. Meticulously researched - great text for academics and laypersons alike.

Luker understands the sub-texts underlying this debate they remain the same as when the book was written--no possibility of conversation is offered because I suspect there is none but one thing is for sure the question is not a race question it is a class (and race question)

After reading some of *The Brethren* by Bob Woodward, I was interested in reading the actual legal opinions of the Supreme Court in 1973 RE *Roe v Wade* and *Doe v Bolton*. I found these on the Internet and read the majority and dissenting opinions. I wanted to understand their reasoning a little better. I don't have a legal background but have studied some philosophy and psychology. As I recall, this book was more about what was happening in society that the author thought or discovered as contributing to *Roe v. Wade*. Although I have not finished it, I am pleasantly surprised. She is a good writer, doesn't get too technical in legal language, her research and conclusions really do help make sense of how things - and help me understand what was going on in society, in certain professions, etc. She does not seem to favor one side or the other but has written a book to help people understand either side, as far as I can tell. That's why I like it so far.

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