

Having to deal with unexpected pregnancy

An unplanned pregnancy is common. Some women will choose to continue and others not.

The decision to have an abortion is not one any woman wants to make. It is only ever the best of two bad options, and often highlights the distance between a woman's idealised dreams of what she would wish to be able to offer a child and the practical realities of the material world.

It is sometimes a decision which has to be made and is made with equanimity for she feels totally unable to assume such major responsibilities at this time in her life. She may struggle to look after herself, have relationship issues, be financially strapped or a combination of all three.


For other women the decision is less immediate and takes time and exploration. Her circumstances may be uncertain but there may be resources she could call upon. Discussion with family may help and welfare organisations may have contributions to make. Many women have not thought seriously about the issue of abortion.

At the Women's Clinic on Richmond Hill, we prefer for a woman to come in for discussion. A medical history will be taken, procedural information given and the decision discussed and confirmed. A second theatre appointment will be provided within the week. For some people there are issues with work, geography or childcare and a one-day appointment will be provided.

If there are uncertainties with the decision we would encourage further discussion before a theatre appointment is made.

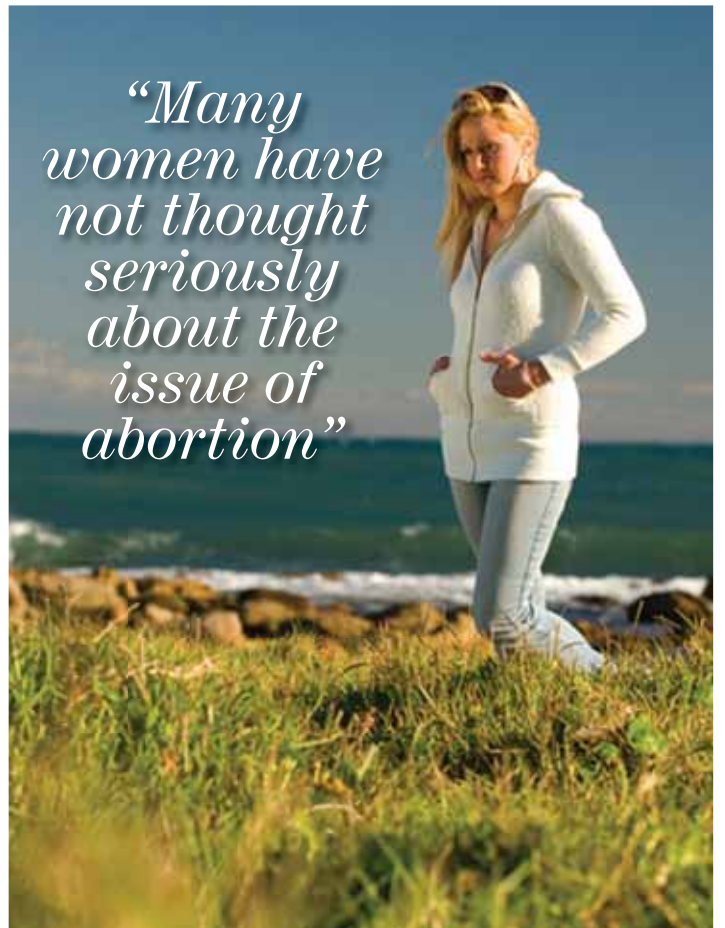
The discussion might be a family, a counsellor, a psychologist or a relationship mediator depending on the issues to be addressed.

The procedure itself only takes 10 minutes or so but most women would choose to have a general anaesthetic and expect to be at the clinic for three to five hours. Our clinic only uses specialist anaesthetists and has a day surgery registered facility. For women who don't suffer pain and their periods are normal they can return to everyday activities the following day. If a woman has bad periods, a day or two rest would be advised.

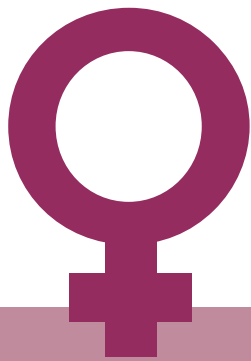
If a woman's decision is clear and considered she would expect to feel relieved post procedure. But having said that it is a difficult and stressful time and there may be a period of sadness. 

Dr Mark Jones, Women's Clinic on Richmond Hill

"Many women have not thought seriously about the issue of abortion"



The Women's Clinic on Richmond Hill



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