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Year of Publication: 2017

Chesney-Lind, Meda ; Hadi, Syeda Tonima, [Patriarchy, Abortion, and the Criminal System: Policing Female Bodies](#) [1], Women & Criminal Justice, Vol. 27, no. 1, 2017, pp. 73-88

This paper argues for a conceptualising denial of abortion as the patriarchal policing of women's bodies and their sexuality. The authors briefly review international trends regarding abortion politics, including many thousands of abortion related deaths, injuries and loss of fertility, and then analyze women's access to abortion in two countries, the United States and Bangladesh, which represent two very different contexts: the developed and developing world. They argue that abortion services are being constrained by misogynistic politics that deny women control over their bodies. Finally, the paper reviews recent international efforts to establish abortion rights in the context of human rights. In particular, a recent United Nation's report describes moves to recriminalise both contraception and abortion in the U.S. and Europe as the deliberate denial of medically available and necessary services and hence a form of "torture."

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[1] <https://civilresistance.info/biblio-item/2017/patriarchy-abortion-and-criminal-system-policing-female-bodies>