Abortion: Scenarios

Your task:

Study the different scenarios described below. In your groups discuss what advice you would give the person. Most importantly, you need to decide if you would approve of the woman having the abortion.

Scenario 1: The struggling family.

Despite using different contraceptive methods, a mother of five has managed to conceive again (become pregnant). Her partner has recently left her, she is unemployed and she struggles to feed and clothe her children on the benefits that she receives. She is applying for an abortion on the grounds that having the child could dramatically affect her family’s health and wellbeing.

Scenario 2: The foetus is severely handicapped.

Patty is twelve weeks into her pregnancy. This is will be her first child and she and her husband Rob are both very excited. They recently went to the hospital for a scan and a check up of the baby. The scan showed that the baby girl has a rare physical condition and may also have severe learning disabilities.

The parents are now considering abortion as they do not want their child to have a short life span, suffer in pain and struggle to communicate.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Scenario 3: The young mother

Emily has just turned sixteen. She celebrated at a party where she had unsafe sex for the first time. She did not know the father and is unable to contact him. Emily’s pregnancy test has been positive, she is four weeks pregnant.

Emily is sitting her GCSE’s and has plans to go to university in the future. Emily has already been quite depressed and anxious recently. Emily is scared by the prospect of motherhood. Emily wants to apply for an abortion on the grounds that having the child would affect her mental health? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT EMILY’S DECISION