

Levels of Male Influence on Abortion Vulnerability

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Low Risk

Moderate Risk

High Risk

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10



Protector

The father knows about the pregnancy and doesn't want his child aborted. It is typically at this point that the man discovers he has NO LEGAL RIGHTS to stop an abortion decision.

He may propose, get down on his knees and beg, but other factors bring the woman to an abortion decision. He may accompany her to clinic.

Afterwards, this man often feels emasculated by his inability to prevent his child's death.

The relationship typically ends due to the death of his child.

Uninvolved

The father does not know about the pregnancy.

- He could be:
 - A "potential" father among several others
 - Temporary boyfriend
 - Woman want out of relationship – baby ties her to him
 - Rapist

May never hear about pregnancy or influence her choice.

He may discover the abortion and grieve or feel relieved.

Neutral

Society has trained men to allow women to make the choice over her own body. Many potential fathers relays, "I'll support whatever choice you make."

This man doesn't propose or encourage an abortion decision. *He simply refuses to participate in the decision, allowing the decision to be solely the woman's choice.*

His behavior communicates, "Please abort but I don't want to feel guilty about it..."

Women can feel abandoned.

Enforcer

The father of the baby pressures, coerces or encourages the abortion. He may threaten physical harm or abandonment.

This man has likely encouraged other women to abort – and/or encouraged abortion with his male friends.

Other tactics – i.e., encourage woman to take drugs then push abortion due to impact on child.

Could be the woman's father, brother, new boyfriend, etc.

Man could physically abuse woman to bring on miscarriage.