

Comparison of abortion and contraceptive behaviour in 2009 and 2019 in selected European countries

Abstract

The main objective of this thesis is to determine to what extent abortion behaviour contraceptive patterns have changed from 2009 to 2019 in selected European countries. The first chapter discusses the aims, research questions and structure of the thesis. The second chapter contains the theoretical framing of the thesis and focuses on basic information about abortion in the context of the 2nd demographic transition, opinion trends, legislation and last but not least contraception. In the third chapter, resources and methodology are presented. In the analytical part of the thesis, Chapter 4 outlines the level of abortion rates among European countries and then conducts a cluster analysis in order to detect groups of countries with similar abortion behaviour and to identify patterns of abortion behaviour in 2009 and 2019. From the resulting abortion patterns, representatives of each group of patterns were selected and their abortion rates and contraceptive prevalence were compared graphically. The last chapter of the analytical part of the thesis examines societal attitudes towards justification of abortion, where the relationship of social factors (gender, age, education, religious beliefs and justification of homosexuality) to respondents' endorsement of women undergoing abortion was investigated.

Keywords: level of artificial abortion, prevalence of contraception, abortion legislation, society's attitudes towards abortion, models of abortion behavior