

Abstract (in English):

The thesis deals with the problem of induced abortions. It focuses on, and offers an analysis of, common ways in which abortion has recently been defended in the Czech Republic. In an examination of usual lines of defence of abortion, a description of ongoing philosophical debate about morality of abortion is employed. Arguments founded on bodily integrity and drawn from general feministic positions are attacked with the aim to show that all these ways of defending abortion elude the crucial problems such as the moral status of a fetus, father rights, the nature of discourses which underlie women's choices to abort, and the consequences of the common contemporary view of abortions for women's lives. The tension between basic sexual needs and responsibility for a human life that begins is set forth as the pivotal problem. Concerning the theoretical question of the moral status of a fetus, the thesis endorses a skeptical stance. As a consequence, unassailable solution to the question of permissibility of abortions is rejected as an impossible task. Such a negative result invites a question of how, if at all, the contemporary discourse might be substantiated in which abortions are treated quite straightforwardly as permissible acts. The acquaintance with philosophical problems concerning abortion allows us to uncover the criticised lines of defense of abortion as deeply amoral and delusory, regardless of how the question about permissibility of abortion is eventually handled.

