

# Christian Concern – Abortion Poll

## METHODOLOGY NOTE

ComRes interviewed 2,004 GB adults online between 24th and 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Data were weighted to be representative of all GB adults aged 18+. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

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To commission a voting intention poll or a public opinion survey please contact Katharine Peacock:

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To register for Pollwatch, a monthly newsletter update on the polls, please email: [pollwatch@comres.co.uk](mailto:pollwatch@comres.co.uk)

## Abortion Survey

### ONLINE Fieldwork: 24th-26th October 2014

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

**Q.1 Under UK law, an abortion can usually only be carried out during the first 24 weeks of pregnancy as long as it is carried out in a hospital or specialist licensed clinic, and two doctors must agree that an abortion would cause less damage to a women's physical or mental health than continuing with the pregnancy. The baby's gender is not a legally acceptable reason for authorising an abortion. Do you agree or disagree with these statements about abortion?**

**Base: All respondents**

|   | Gender      |            |            | Age        |            |            |            |            |            | Social Grade |            |            |            | Employment Sector |            |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
|   | Total       | Male       | Female     | 18-24      | 25-34      | 35-44      | 45-54      | 55-64      | 65+        | AB           | C1         | C2         | DE         | Public            | Private    |
| Unweighted base   | 2004        | 1027       | 977        | 191        | 265        | 357        | 392        | 331        | 468        | 601          | 584        | 307        | 512        | 258               | 767        |
| Weighted base   | 2004        | 982        | 1022       | 238        | 337        | 337        | 357        | 298        | 436        | 536          | 556        | 437        | 476        | 293               | 829        |
| <b><u>Aborting babies because of their gender should explicitly be banned by law</u></b>  |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |            |            |            |                   |            |
| Agree   | 1679<br>84% | 806<br>82% | 873<br>85% | 158<br>66% | 246<br>73% | 279<br>83% | 315<br>88% | 273<br>92% | 409<br>94% | 443<br>83%   | 463<br>83% | 363<br>83% | 410<br>86% | 243<br>83%        | 658<br>79% |
| Disagree  | 97<br>5%    | 58<br>6%   | 38<br>4%   | 18<br>7%   | 33<br>10%  | 19<br>6%   | 11<br>3%   | 10<br>3%   | 7<br>2%    | 42<br>8%     | 21<br>4%   | 17<br>4%   | 17<br>4%   | 21<br>7%          | 44<br>5%   |
| Don't know  | 228<br>11%  | 118<br>12% | 110<br>11% | 62<br>26%  | 58<br>17%  | 40<br>12%  | 31<br>9%   | 15<br>5%   | 21<br>5%   | 50<br>9%     | 72<br>13%  | 56<br>13%  | 50<br>10%  | 29<br>10%         | 127<br>15% |
| <b><u>Given that aborting babies on the basis of gender is acceptable in some other countries, it should be accepted in Britain</u></b>                         |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |            |            |            |                   |            |
| Agree   | 142<br>7%   | 84<br>9%   | 57<br>6%   | 30<br>12%  | 41<br>12%  | 25<br>7%   | 21<br>6%   | 8<br>3%    | 17<br>4%   | 53<br>10%    | 40<br>7%   | 28<br>7%   | 20<br>4%   | 30<br>10%         | 87<br>10%  |
| Disagree  | 1669<br>83% | 798<br>81% | 871<br>85% | 167<br>70% | 242<br>72% | 276<br>82% | 313<br>88% | 271<br>91% | 400<br>92% | 447<br>83%   | 460<br>83% | 356<br>81% | 407<br>85% | 243<br>83%        | 637<br>77% |
| Don't know  | 193<br>10%  | 100<br>10% | 93<br>9%   | 41<br>17%  | 55<br>16%  | 37<br>11%  | 23<br>7%   | 18<br>6%   | 19<br>4%   | 36<br>7%     | 56<br>10%  | 53<br>12%  | 49<br>10%  | 20<br>7%          | 106<br>13% |
| <b><u>Where it can be proved that an abortion was authorised on grounds of the baby's gender, the doctor authorising that abortion should be prosecuted</u></b> |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |            |            |            |                   |            |
| Agree   | 1602<br>80% | 772<br>79% | 830<br>81% | 150<br>63% | 230<br>68% | 264<br>78% | 299<br>84% | 266<br>90% | 392<br>90% | 439<br>82%   | 441<br>79% | 344<br>79% | 377<br>79% | 242<br>83%        | 629<br>76% |
| Disagree  | 135<br>7%   | 77<br>8%   | 58<br>6%   | 37<br>16%  | 45<br>13%  | 20<br>6%   | 18<br>5%   | 10<br>3%   | 6<br>1%    | 42<br>8%     | 38<br>7%   | 25<br>6%   | 30<br>6%   | 18<br>6%          | 72<br>9%   |
| Don't know  | 267<br>13%  | 133<br>14% | 135<br>13% | 51<br>21%  | 62<br>19%  | 54<br>16%  | 40<br>11%  | 22<br>7%   | 38<br>9%   | 54<br>10%    | 77<br>14%  | 67<br>15%  | 69<br>14%  | 33<br>11%         | 128<br>15% |

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Absolutes/col percents

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**Base: All respondents**

|   | Gender      |            | Age        |            |            |            |            |            | Social Grade |            |            |            | Employment Sector |            |            |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
|   | Total       | Male       | Female     | 18-24      | 25-34      | 35-44      | 45-54      | 55-64      | 65+          | AB         | C1         | C2         | DE                | Public     | Private    |
| Weighted base   | 2004        | 982        | 1022       | 238        | 337        | 337        | 357        | 298        | 436          | 536        | 556        | 437        | 476               | 293        | 829        |
| <b><u>The General Medical Council, the body responsible for regulating doctors, should discipline doctors authorising abortions on grounds of the baby's gender</u></b> |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |            |            |            |                   |            |            |
| Agree   | 1674<br>84% | 812<br>83% | 862<br>84% | 160<br>67% | 247<br>73% | 272<br>81% | 312<br>87% | 276<br>93% | 406<br>93%   | 447<br>83% | 467<br>84% | 363<br>83% | 397<br>83%        | 251<br>86% | 656<br>79% |
| Disagree  | 98<br>5%    | 49<br>5%   | 48<br>5%   | 20<br>8%   | 30<br>9%   | 18<br>5%   | 15<br>4%   | 5<br>2%    | 11<br>2%     | 42<br>8%   | 27<br>5%   | 8<br>2%    | 21<br>4%          | 16<br>6%   | 47<br>6%   |
| Don't know  | 233<br>12%  | 121<br>12% | 112<br>11% | 59<br>25%  | 61<br>18%  | 47<br>14%  | 31<br>9%   | 16<br>5%   | 19<br>4%     | 46<br>9%   | 62<br>11%  | 66<br>15%  | 58<br>12%         | 25<br>9%   | 127<br>15% |
| <b><u>Doctors who sign abortion consent forms without actually seeing the patient, which is against the law, should be prosecuted</u></b>                               |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |              |            |            |            |                   |            |            |
| Agree   | 1650<br>82% | 795<br>81% | 855<br>84% | 163<br>68% | 243<br>72% | 279<br>83% | 303<br>85% | 262<br>88% | 401<br>92%   | 451<br>84% | 442<br>80% | 357<br>82% | 400<br>84%        | 247<br>84% | 639<br>77% |
| Disagree  | 104<br>5%   | 56<br>6%   | 48<br>5%   | 27<br>12%  | 28<br>8%   | 16<br>5%   | 15<br>4%   | 7<br>2%    | 11<br>2%     | 28<br>5%   | 31<br>6%   | 22<br>5%   | 23<br>5%          | 17<br>6%   | 50<br>6%   |
| Don't know  | 250<br>12%  | 131<br>13% | 119<br>12% | 48<br>20%  | 67<br>20%  | 42<br>12%  | 40<br>11%  | 29<br>10%  | 25<br>6%     | 57<br>11%  | 83<br>15%  | 57<br>13%  | 53<br>11%         | 29<br>10%  | 141<br>17% |

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**Base: All respondents**

|   | Region      |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|   | Total       | Scotland   | Wales     | NET: England | North East | North West | Yorkshire & Humberside | West Midlands | East Midlands | Eastern    | London     | South East | South West |
| Unweighted base   | 2004        | 175        | 110       | 1719         | 91         | 241        | 154                    | 203           | 143           | 168        | 195        | 321        | 203        |
| Weighted base   | 2004        | 180        | 100       | 1723         | 80         | 220        | 180                    | 180           | 140           | 200        | 261        | 281        | 180        |
| <b><u>Aborting babies because of their gender should explicitly be banned by law</u></b>  |             |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
| Agree   | 1679<br>84% | 154<br>86% | 91<br>91% | 1434<br>83%  | 70<br>87%  | 186<br>84% | 148<br>82%             | 153<br>85%    | 120<br>86%    | 171<br>86% | 187<br>72% | 235<br>84% | 163<br>90% |
| Disagree  | 97<br>5%    | 6<br>3%    | 1<br>1%   | 90<br>5%     | 6<br>8%    | 15<br>7%   | 10<br>5%               | 5<br>3%       | 5<br>3%       | 7<br>4%    | 21<br>8%   | 15<br>5%   | 7<br>4%    |
| Don't know  | 228<br>11%  | 20<br>11%  | 9<br>9%   | 199<br>12%   | 4<br>5%    | 19<br>9%   | 22<br>12%              | 22<br>12%     | 15<br>11%     | 22<br>11%  | 53<br>20%  | 30<br>11%  | 11<br>6%   |
| <b><u>Given that aborting babies on the basis of gender is acceptable in some other countries, it should be accepted in Britain</u></b>                         |             |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
| Agree   | 142<br>7%   | 8<br>4%    | 4<br>4%   | 130<br>8%    | 10<br>13%  | 24<br>11%  | 19<br>10%              | 16<br>9%      | 4<br>3%       | 11<br>6%   | 30<br>12%  | 15<br>5%   | 2<br>1%    |
| Disagree  | 1669<br>83% | 154<br>85% | 88<br>88% | 1428<br>83%  | 63<br>79%  | 179<br>81% | 147<br>81%             | 150<br>83%    | 122<br>87%    | 171<br>85% | 191<br>73% | 241<br>86% | 163<br>91% |
| Don't know  | 193<br>10%  | 19<br>11%  | 8<br>8%   | 166<br>10%   | 6<br>8%    | 18<br>8%   | 15<br>8%               | 15<br>8%      | 15<br>10%     | 19<br>9%   | 39<br>15%  | 25<br>9%   | 15<br>8%   |
| <b><u>Where it can be proved that an abortion was authorised on grounds of the baby's gender, the doctor authorising that abortion should be prosecuted</u></b> |             |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
| Agree   | 1602<br>80% | 141<br>78% | 85<br>85% | 1376<br>80%  | 67<br>83%  | 179<br>81% | 134<br>75%             | 148<br>82%    | 115<br>82%    | 165<br>83% | 182<br>70% | 231<br>82% | 154<br>85% |
| Disagree  | 135<br>7%   | 12<br>7%   | 5<br>5%   | 118<br>7%    | 7<br>8%    | 15<br>7%   | 20<br>11%              | 10<br>6%      | 7<br>5%       | 7<br>4%    | 28<br>11%  | 15<br>5%   | 10<br>5%   |
| Don't know  | 267<br>13%  | 27<br>15%  | 11<br>10% | 229<br>13%   | 7<br>8%    | 27<br>12%  | 26<br>14%              | 22<br>12%     | 18<br>13%     | 28<br>14%  | 50<br>19%  | 34<br>12%  | 17<br>9%   |

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**Base: All respondents**

|   | Region      |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|   | Total       | Scotland   | Wales     | NET: England | North East | North West | Yorkshire & Humberside | West Midlands | East Midlands | Eastern    | London     | South East | South West |
| Weighted base   | 2004        | 180        | 100       | 1723         | 80         | 220        | 180                    | 180           | 140           | 200        | 261        | 281        | 180        |
| <b><u>The General Medical Council, the body responsible for regulating doctors, should discipline doctors authorising abortions on grounds of the baby's gender</u></b> |             |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
| Agree   | 1674<br>84% | 152<br>85% | 94<br>94% | 1428<br>83%  | 68<br>84%  | 187<br>85% | 148<br>82%             | 155<br>86%    | 117<br>84%    | 174<br>87% | 188<br>72% | 233<br>83% | 158<br>88% |
| Disagree  | 98<br>5%    | 7<br>4%    | *<br>*    | 90<br>5%     | 8<br>9%    | 7<br>3%    | 8<br>5%                | 7<br>4%       | 5<br>3%       | 6<br>3%    | 27<br>10%  | 16<br>6%   | 8<br>4%    |
| Don't know  | 233<br>12%  | 21<br>12%  | 6<br>6%   | 205<br>12%   | 5<br>6%    | 27<br>12%  | 24<br>13%              | 19<br>11%     | 18<br>13%     | 20<br>10%  | 45<br>17%  | 32<br>11%  | 14<br>8%   |
| <b><u>Doctors who sign abortion consent forms without actually seeing the patient, which is against the law, should be prosecuted</u></b>                               |             |            |           |              |            |            |                        |               |               |            |            |            |            |
| Agree   | 1650<br>82% | 147<br>82% | 89<br>89% | 1413<br>82%  | 68<br>85%  | 179<br>81% | 146<br>81%             | 153<br>85%    | 119<br>85%    | 166<br>83% | 188<br>72% | 240<br>86% | 154<br>85% |
| Disagree  | 104<br>5%   | 7<br>4%    | 2<br>2%   | 95<br>6%     | 5<br>6%    | 9<br>4%    | 9<br>5%                | 7<br>4%       | 7<br>5%       | 12<br>6%   | 21<br>8%   | 16<br>6%   | 8<br>5%    |
| Don't know  | 250<br>12%  | 26<br>15%  | 9<br>9%   | 215<br>12%   | 7<br>9%    | 32<br>15%  | 25<br>14%              | 21<br>11%     | 15<br>11%     | 22<br>11%  | 51<br>20%  | 24<br>9%   | 18<br>10%  |