

## Questions related to Physicians Push to Criminalize Abortion

1. According to this 1858 medical editorial, was abortion on the rise? Quote the text.
2. What did the editorial call abortionists, and how were abortionists attracting patients?
3. Had the daily press or the religious press taken a stand against abortion? Explain.
4. How effective were the medicines of the time at producing an abortion, and how did this effectiveness compare with the advertising claims made about them?
5. How had women come to regard abortion, and did this attitude affect all social classes?
6. While admonishing physicians not to give in and perform abortions, discuss how the editorial expressed sympathy for women in certain situations who sought abortions.
7. Did the editorial seem to view contraception as equivalent to abortion? Explain.
8. Did the editorial claim that abortion at any stage of pregnancy is “murder,” and did it discuss cases where the pregnancy is endangering the mother’s life? If current laws were incapable of stopping abortions, what was the medical profession urged to do?