

# The Jane Collective

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Group Website

439 words

Today, the topic of abortion is heavily disputed. Controversy around the moral implications surrounding the topic of abortion is debated throughout the nation. Many believe it is a woman's right, while others believe it is terminating a child's chance at life. The relevancy to current day policy debate, is what made it interesting to research, along with the history surrounding the status of abortion in the United States prior to Roe v Wade, the 1973 decision that legalized abortion throughout the US.

We based most of our research process off of the question, *To what extent did the Jane Collective alter the mindset of the public and leave a lasting impact on the reproductive rights movement?* By determining a strong research question we were able to do organized, extensive research. After determining our research question, we conducted preliminary research in an effort to gain a basic understanding of the organization. Next, we formulated a thesis; *The Jane Collective was a radical movement that pioneered the reproductive rights movement, and broke the physical and ideological barriers surrounding abortion policy. "Jane" made significant strides towards providing accessible abortions for all women, and catering to her needs.* Finally, in order to form a deeper understanding of "Jane," we looked at both sides of the debate surrounding abortion policy because the purpose of this project was not express personal sentiments, but rather to inform the audience on a controversial, yet important, piece of history.

We chose to do a website because we believed it was the most immersive category offered, as it allows the audience to interact with our project, and gain a complete understanding of the topic. We made sure to take advantage of every feature of the website software, using a

variety of quotes, pictures, excerpts, interviews from members of the Jane Collective, and a video clip.

The barriers broken by way of “Jane” are apparent; the organization combatted the physical and ideological barriers surrounding abortion procedures. Prior to the Jane Collective, many women suffered physical consequences due to illegal, back alley abortions. Often, extenuating circumstances, such as rape, incest, and an inability to provide for a child could put a woman in a dangerous situation. During its time of operation, “Jane” helped perform 11,000 safe, albeit abortions, along with counseling services to women in need. Although death by way of abortion in the United States still exists, “Jane” put a crack in the barrier. Additionally, before the organization became such a large force, the stigma associated with abortion was at large. Similar to the physical barrier, the problem was not entirely erased; however, the mindset of the public shifted.

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