

Abortion Hotline in 55-Word Stories

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8 am

On-call shift begins Text from overnight, simply Help. Message back: I'm the doctor on call. How can I help? Hours pass, no reply. Imagine a place where women do not need to text faceless strangers in the middle of the night for abortion help. I google the area code: Dallas, Texas. This isn't that place.

11 am

Another message We exchange texts She had a medication abortion two weeks ago, cramped and bled for days, no longer feels pregnant, but her test is positive. A simple answer: Pregnancy hormones remain in urine for a month or more. Clear relief: Thank you.

A nameless doctor answering questions when the local clinic risks shame

12 noon

Another text: she's remembering her abortion three years ago, and feels sad, needs support Many women feel that way, even years later But we know our bodies, what choices are right for our lives Message resources for online and hotline support She must be so alone, reaching out to a stranger rather than a friend

From the Department of Humanities, Health, and Society, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Florida International University, Miami, FL.

2 pm

I need an abortion but don't have \$ I don't google the 305 area code—it's my city No Medicaid funding for abortions in Florida but multiple clinics in our county We message about sliding scale fees and abortion funds A moment for ensuring reproductive justice, abortion must be legal and accessible in all 50 states

5 pm

First phone call, as my shift ends She wants to get abortion pills online, but she's scared and nervous Are they safe? Legal? How do I take them? She's reassured about the medical concerns Referred to a legal hotline Texted a link for online pills For our autonomy, the right to choose must be preserved

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