

PROLIFE FACTS

In 2016, there were 12,823 induced abortions in New Zealand, which is 332 fewer than in 2015 (13,155). The general abortion rate was 13.5 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years, down from 14.2 per 1,000 in 2015. This is the lowest rate in over 25 years. Voice for Life president and media spokeswoman Jacqui deRuiter says the decline in abortions is welcome, but the reality is that 12,823 Kiwi babies tragically had their lives cut short. Their human rights to live and enjoy a future were denied. Jacqui deRuiter suggests that many could have been saved if Open Adoption received more official support, given the number of childless couples seeking to adopt. The decline in teenage abortions may be due to a downward trend in the proportion of New Zealand youth who are sexually active. The Youth 2012 survey of New Zealand secondary school students conducted by researchers at the University of Auckland found that 24% of students were sexually active, compared to 33% in 2001 and 2007. Voice for Life believes that their website animations providing information about prenatal development and abortion through social media may be a further factor that has contributed to the reduced abortion rate, as this may have promoted greater awareness of the preborn baby as a human being, and a greater understanding of the reality of what takes place in an abortion.

For more pro-life information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

Half page
95 x 128.5

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Eighth page
47.5 x 128.5

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Quarter page
95 x 64

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