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**Canada has had no abortion law since 1988, when the Supreme Court struck down the existing laws and tasked Parliament with developing new laws that did not infringe on a woman's security of the person.**

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**Parliament never did that.**

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**Instead we're left with Criminal Code Section 223:**

223 (1) A child becomes a human being within the meaning of this Act when it has completely proceeded, in a living state, from the body of its mother, whether or not

- (a) it has breathed;
- (b) it has an independent circulation; or
- (c) the navel string is severed.

**The legal case that brought us here:**

**Supreme Court of Canada** (full case)

<https://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/288/index.do>

**Morgentaler Decision** (summary and analysis)

<http://www.morgentalerdecision.ca/>

## **Canadian Medical Association Guidelines**

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA), in light of the lack of laws, has attempted to implement guidelines around abortion for doctors to follow. These guidelines recommend counseling for women facing an unplanned pregnancy, as well as conscientious objection for doctors not wishing to perform abortions. However, they also include the note, "Elective termination of pregnancy after fetal viability may be indicated under exceptional circumstances."

**There are no laws in our Criminal Code regulating abortion, and the CMA guidelines do not prevent doctors from carrying out abortions at any stage of pregnancy.**

**Pre-born children in Canada are left completely unprotected for the duration of their life in the womb.**

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