

## Medical Termination of Pregnancy

- Sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Persons Act Chapter 11:08 prohibit the unlawful procuring of an abortion or assisting in procuring an abortion.
- The common law doctrine of necessity, however, recognizes that an abortion can be lawfully performed by a physician, in a medically appropriate setting, if the procedure is performed in good faith to preserve the life or health (including the mental health), of the mother.
- It is advisable for the physician performing the procedure to obtain agreement in writing from at least one senior colleague that the procedure is warranted
- According to the best interpretation of the law in Trinidad and Tobago, rape, incest or severe foetal abnormality are not of themselves a good indication for an abortion unless they threaten the life or physical or mental health of the woman involved.