

EXHIBIT A

SATANIC ABORTION RITUAL

The Satanic Abortion Ritual is a destruction ritual that serves as a protective rite. Its purpose is to cast off notions of guilt, shame, and mental discomfort that a patient may be experiencing due to choosing to have a medically safe and legal abortion.

Even the most confident and unapologetic individual can experience uncomfortable feelings and anxiety for choosing to terminate their pregnancy. Laws in many states that impose waiting periods and state-mandated counseling can exacerbate these feelings, as can social condemnation and outright harassment by those who oppose abortion.

Misinformation about abortion and guilt for pursuing that option can be a lot to handle. It can be exhausting and frustrating to try to shrug off and dismiss internal and external pressures, especially those driven by religious convictions that disregard the beliefs and freedoms of others. Even when one recognizes that these criticisms are invalid, they can make an already troubling time even harder.

This ritual is intended to alleviate some of these stressors and empower the patient to be guided by the Third and Fifth Tenets when pursuing their decision.

The purpose of the ritual is not to persuade someone to have an abortion if they are undecided. Instead, the ritual serves to assist in confirming their decision and to ward off the effects of unjust persecution, which can cause one to stray from the paths of scientific reasoning and free will that TST members strive to embody.



ABOUT THE RITUAL PREPARATIONS

TST's abortion ritual can be performed to address definable concerns or to overcome unproductive feelings.

The ritual, which includes the abortion itself, spans the entirety of the pregnancy termination procedure. There are steps to be performed before, during, and after the medical or surgical abortion.

Because rituals are deeply personal to those enacting them, there are variations in how it may be performed. The ritual can be personalized based on personal preferences and availability of materials. There is no need to purchase anything special or to adhere to every word. What is essential is the spirit and general intent.

One can also perform their favorite destruction ritual to target any of the unwanted feelings incited by adversity faced as a consequence of choosing to have an abortion. Feel free to take or leave whatever you wish from this one to build your own.

Before performing the ritual, you may choose to review the science about the safety and reality of abortion and the debunked claims from those who oppose abortion. You may also choose to read stories or listen to podcasts about people who made great sacrifices in the struggle to establish the reproductive rights we have today. These stories can be inspirational and may subdue stigmas you might feel from those who oppose abortion.

Your ability to choose to terminate a pregnancy is consistent with the ideals of liberty and freedom. Be proud of pursuing what you want for your life despite opposition.

IMPLEMENTS

- A quiet space where you feel comfortable
- Something that allows you to see your reflection
- A copy of The Satanic Temple's third and fifth tenets and personal affirmation

TENETS AND AFFIRMATIONS

Tenet III

One's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone.

Tenet V

Beliefs should conform to one's best scientific understanding of the world. One should take care never to distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs.

Personal Affirmation

*By my body, my blood
By my will, it is done.*



PROCEDURES

For medical abortions:

Immediately before taking the medication(s) to terminate your pregnancy, look at your reflection to be reminded of your personhood and responsibility to yourself. Focus on your intent, take deep breaths, and make yourself comfortable. When ready, read the Third Tenet aloud to begin the ritual. After swallowing the medication(s), take another deep breath and recite the Fifth Tenet. After you have passed the embryo, return to your reflection, and recite the personal affirmation. Feel the doubts dissipating and your confidence growing as you have just undertaken a decision that affirms your autonomy and free will. The religious abortion ritual is now complete.

For surgical abortions:

Immediately before receiving any anesthetic or sedation, look at your reflection to be reminded of your personhood and responsibility to yourself. Focus on your intent, take deep breaths, and make yourself comfortable. When you are ready, say the Third Tenet aloud. The surgery can now begin. During the operation, take another deep breath and recite the Fifth Tenet. Immediately after the surgery, return to your reflection and recite the personal affirmation. Feel the doubts dissipating and your confidence growing as you have just undertaken a decision that affirms your autonomy and free will. The religious abortion ritual is now complete.

