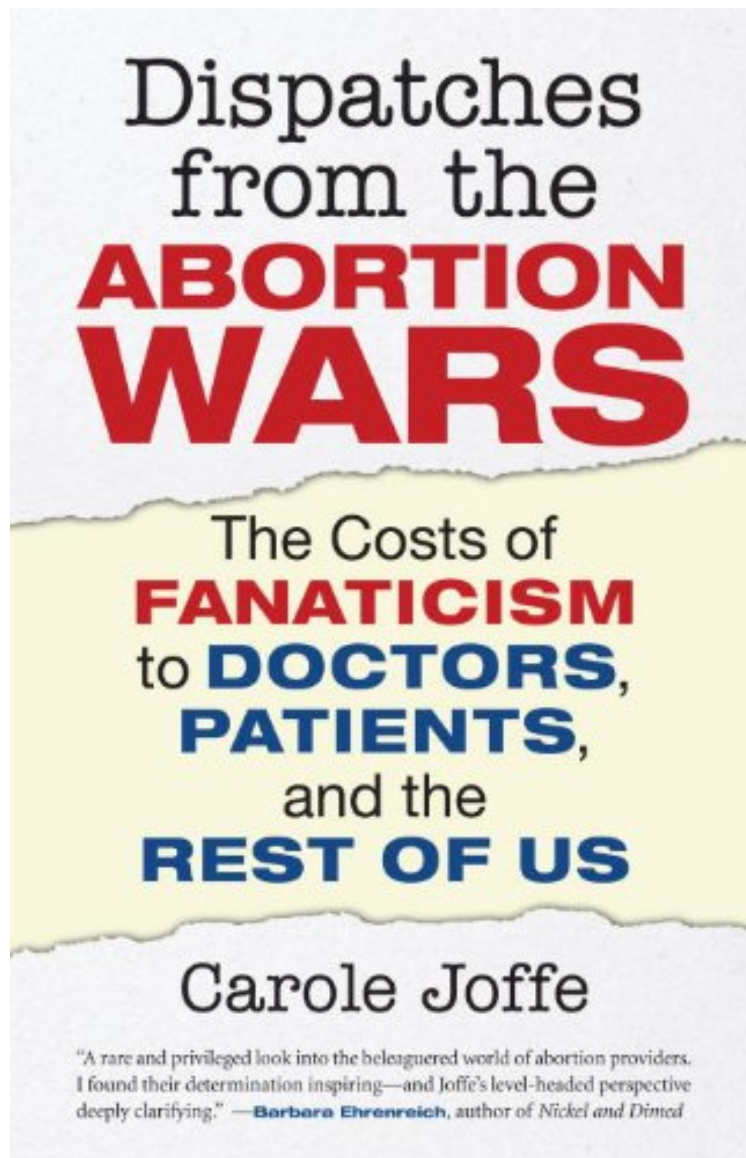


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Dispatches from the Abortion Wars: The Costs of Fanaticism to Doctors, Patients, and the Rest of Us

Carole Joffe

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Carole Joffe : Dispatches from the Abortion Wars: The Costs of Fanaticism to Doctors, Patients, and the Rest of Us before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dispatches from the Abortion Wars: The Costs of Fanaticism to Doctors, Patients, and the Rest of Us:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The author is very straight forward and descriptive about the good, the bad, and the ugly truth of reproductive rights; specifically, this author focuses on abortion and its political and social impacts on modern society. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great!!! By ganddw42 "Dispatches from the Abortion Wars" by Carole Joffe. A thought provoking account of the assault on women's reproductive services by religious zealots who see it as their duty to shove their beliefs down every woman in this country's throat. But, if you are like me very passionate about the issue of abortion and women's reproductive health care and easily infuriated, you might want to think hard before buying this book. It's an unvarnished account of life in the trenches of the constant war on women's reproductive care services that has been raging for the last 40 years now. And isn't likely to end anytime soon. If a person didn't know better, they would think it was the beginning of the last century not 2013. Where a simple surgical procedure has been so demonized by Christian zealots who are relying on a heavy dose of religious superstition to sell their ignorance. It's in danger of disappearing. The book is written well and very informative, it gives a lot of details in the health care field that up until now I was not aware of. So, the book is extremely informative about the newest things in women's reproductive health care that every young woman needs to know in order to be informed, the reason I gave it such high marks. I remember all too well when abortion was illegal and religious zealots ruled the country. And they want to drag us kicking and screaming back into that same ignorance. I have no desire to return to such a country again, to put my Granddaughters through the misery a lot of we women learned to live with in that era. And the way it's looking it is going to happen again. So many women keep voting the anti-choice politician's back into office to do us more damage. I pay close attention to how they vote. There are parts that are very disturbing, the idea we the taxpayer are paying for Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC) to spread lies and misinformation is infuriating. These zealots are a blight on this country. But, it happens daily and politician's keep giving these parasites taxpayer funds so they can continue to spread their lies and mislead young women. The tactics these zealots use are even more infuriating. They are the kind of people who have literally no ethics or morals guiding them. They make a mockery out of Christianity. 12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. another great book by joffe By William F Harrison Carole Joffe wrote a book called Doctors Of Conscience about 11 or 12 years ago. I first met her over the telephone when I called her to ask the address and phone number of one of the doctors she featured in that book. We soon met at my first National Abortion Federation meeting after she talked me into joining in 1999. At my first meeting I met some of the most incredible people I had ever met and many became fast friends. Now, several of these friends are dead. One, Dr. George Tiller, murdered only last year by a religious fanatic, Scott Roeder, in George's church in Wichita as he handed out church materials. I have been a victim of the same religious terrorists that have murdered others and burned our clinics and offices. However, like most of my incredibly brave colleagues among the abortion provider group, I also refuse to be intimidated by these Christian Taliban. Carole does an excellent job of featuring our colleagues.

Surprising firsthand accounts from the front lines of abortion provision reveal the persistent cultural, political, and economic hurdles to access. More than thirty-five years after women won the right to legal abortion, most people do not realize how inaccessible it has become. In these pages, reproductive-health researcher Carole Joffe shows how a pervasive stigma cultivated by the religious right operates to maintain barriers to access by shaming women and marginalizing abortion providers. Through compelling testimony from doctors, health-care workers, and patients, Joffe reports the lived experiences behind the polemics, while also offering hope for a more compassionate standard of women's health care.

From Publishers Weekly Sociologist Joffe elaborates on the violence, stigmatization and legal actions perpetrated against those providing, receiving or even tangentially involved with abortion, despite the protections due under *Roe v. Wade*. Joffe elucidates the human component of this contentious issue through exploring the hardships of medical professionals and health-care administrators, yet the author's near apotheosis of abortion providers weakens the credibility of her arguments. Furthermore, while criticisms of flamboyantly reactionary rhetoric might be warranted, at times Joffe's own language, such as references to women's health clinics as ground zero in the abortion wars, can seem similarly overwrought. Joffe is at her best taking a more nuanced approach to the issue, as when she discusses her interviews with one nurse who considers herself pro-choice but refuses to take part in the medical procedure. While the book provides ample confirmation of damaging actions taken by the movement against abortion providers and receivers, it fails to critically examine pro-life ideology or substantiate claims that anti-abortion activists have distract[ed] from fully identifying an appropriate sexual and reproductive agenda. (Jan.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Sociologist Joffe doesn't present a balanced account but writes as a war correspondent embedded with the troops. Though fanatics constitute a small portion of anti-abortionists, their violent acts and extreme politics have made abortion highly controversial and

contributed to medical administrators reluctance to provide it. Legislative restrictions make TRAP (Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers) a greater threat than bombs or bullets, with excessive and unnecessary government regulations increasing the costs and scarcity of abortion services. Against that backdrop, Joffe depicts providers as activists and clinics as ground zero in the abortion wars, citing such incidents as the infamous anthrax letter assaults on clinics by extremists to verify those characterizations. She adduces the two Americas of reproductive health, placing abortion within Americas striking disparity of health care for the poor vis--vis the non-poor and using case histories to put human faces on the effects of that two-tiered system and the consequences of public-funding cutbacks. This scholarly yet clear and well-paced reportage from the front will stir as it encourages debate. --Whitney Scott No one knows more about reproductive rights in the United States than Carole Joffe. This indispensable book . . . is both harrowing and galvanizing. Michelle Goldberg, author of *The Means of Reproduction* Terrificclear, terse, and full of things you need to know. Katha Pollitt, author of *Virginity or Death!* Riveting. Joffes insights into popular culture, alongside her analysis of the recent barrage of ballot initiatives, are spot on in explaining the growth of negative attitudes about abortion. Eleanor J. Bader, *Feminist* Instructive and memorable. Emily Bazelon, *Slate*