Abortion and Miscarriage in the United States

- **Similar:**
  - Ways pregnancies end
  - Can be kept secret: first trimester events
  - Common events:
    - 20% of recognized pregnancies end in abortion; 12-14% in miscarriage
    - 1 in 3 women will have an abortion; 1 in 4 for miscarriage

- **Centers for Disease Control; Jones and Kavanaugh (2011)**

- **Contact Prevalence**

  - Number of people in a community who personally know someone with a given condition
  - “Do you know anyone who _______?”
  - Function of:
    - Prevalence of a given trait
    - Concentration of that trait in certain communities
    - Social network size and structure of those communities
    - Recall
    - Disclosure and secret-keeping patterns (for concealable traits)

- **Miscarriage has Higher Contact Prevalence**

- **Pro-Choice Hear Abortion Secrets**

  - Contact Prevalence of Abortion by Abortion Attitude
The Stigmatized and the Wise

Predicted Probability of Knowing Someone Who Has Had an Abortion by R's Own Experience & Attitude

Why does it matter?

- Experiences we have & the experiences we hear of others’ influence us
- Contact hypothesis
- Have experience with or in-contact with abortion
  - Think more patients are mothers
  - Think more patients attend religious services often
  - Endorse more reasons why women have abortions