

**SAMPLE SOURCED  
ARTICLE  
See also Source A and  
Source B**

**BY CINDY JAQUITH**

A reactionary alliance of the Russian government, the church hierarchy, and groups opposed to a woman's right to choose is pressing to make abortion illegal again. The backdrop is an anti-working class, nationalist campaign by top state officials who say Russia faces a "national security" crisis because its population has sharply declined. They blame the falling birth rate on women. <A1 B2 C4,5,8>

Currently abortion is available in Russia for the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, at no cost to the woman, and into the second trimester under certain conditions, the Associated Press reports. <A2>

Russian president Dmitry Medvedev signed a law July 14 that makes it illegal to describe abortion as a safe procedure. The law also requires at least 10 percent of any ads for abortion services to contain warnings that abortion is dangerous to your health. <C1,2>

This fall, according to the Moscow news agency RIA Novosti, the Russian parliament will consider a bill that would disqualify abortion as a medical service, meaning doctors could choose not to perform them. The bill would also make it a crime for doctors to perform abortions during the second half of pregnancy.

Opponents in Russia of women's right to control their own bodies use the same methods as their U.S. counterparts—falsely claiming to be "pro-life" and glorifying the family. President Medvedev's wife, Svetlana Medvedeva, is a good example. Her Foundation for Social and Cultural Initiatives recently sponsored a "Week Against Abortion" campaign titled "Give Me Life." Along with the Russian Orthodox Church hierarchy, she also declared a "Day of Family, Love, and Faithfulness" holiday. <C4,5,8>

Russia's population has declined by