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COMPTÉ RENDU DU TROISIÈME CONGRÈS
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THE RIGHT TO ABORTION

By C. H. St. J. Robinson

In 1973, an attempt was made to extend the scope of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882, by the introduction of the Abortion Bill, Private Member's Bill. This bill, sponsored by Dr. W. J. Robinson, sought to remove the legal restriction on abortion, particularly for the purpose of female sterilization, and to extend the rights of married women to control their reproduction.

The bill was met with significant opposition from the medical and legal communities, who argued that the extension of legal rights to women endangered the health and well-being of both women and children. The bill was eventually defeated in the House of Commons, with the issue of women's rights to control reproduction remaining a controversial topic.

The debate surrounding the bill highlighted the tension between individual rights and social responsibilities, with arguments centered on the moral and ethical implications of legalizing abortion. The issue of reproductive rights continues to be a subject of debate, reflecting broader discussions about gender equality, women's empowerment, and the role of the state in regulating personal decisions.

While the immediate threat to the bill was avoided, the debate it provoked underscored the complexity of the issue and the need for a more nuanced approach to reproductive rights. The implications of legalizing abortion extend beyond the immediate implications for women, touching on issues of family dynamics, social policies, and the broader concept of personal autonomy.
THE RIGHT TO ABORTION

The case for abortion is the right to reproductive freedom. It is a basic human right that should be protected and respected. Abortion is a personal decision that should be made by the individual, in consultation with their healthcare provider, based on their own circumstances and needs. It is a right that should be available to all women, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, or religion. The right to abortion is essential for women's health and autonomy, and it is a key component of reproductive justice. Therefore, we must work to ensure that women have access to safe and legal abortion services, and that they are able to make informed decisions about their own bodies. 

The case for abortion is also related to the broader struggle for social justice and equality. Abortion is often used as a tool to control women's bodies and to maintain the status quo of patriarchy and oppression. It is a way to silence women and to prevent them from exercising their rights and freedoms. Therefore, we must also work to challenge and resist these systems of power and inequality, and to build a more just and equitable society for all.