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A must-read as the raging debate over abortion continues
Perilous Times: An Inside Look at Abortion Before—and After—Roe v Wade

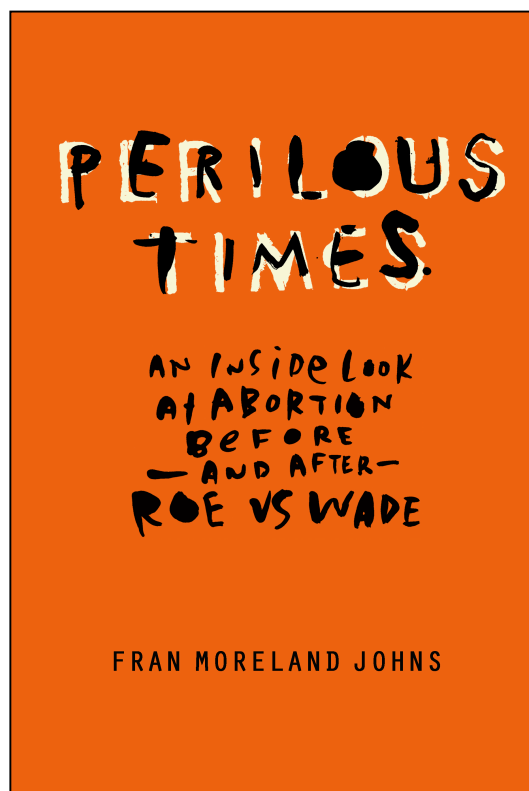
"... rich in her trademark blend of stories, history, knowledge and passion. I join [Fran Moreland Johns] in the belief that almost nothing could be more important to address and fight for than women's reproductive rights. This book is an important contribution to that discussion, for which I thank and admire her greatly." –**Anne Lamott**, bestselling author *Bird by Bird*, *Operating Instructions*, and *Traveling Mercies*

According to the World Health Organization, each year, nearly 42 million women faced with an unplanned pregnancy have an abortion, and about 20 million of them resort to unsafe abortion. The matter of unsafe abortion in the United States led to the legal proceedings of Roe v Wade in 1973, which legalized abortion, but since then the contentious debate over abortion continues.

Perilous Times: An Inside Look at Abortion Before – and After – Roe v Wade (YBK Publishers, Inc./May 20th, 2013) by Fran Moreland Johns, comes into this acrimonious dispute at the right time.

Illuminating the dramatic, ongoing struggle for women's reproductive rights in the U.S, *Perilous Times* focuses on a vast variety of women's personal, sometimes devastating, experiences of back alley abortions before Roe v Wade and on physicians and activists who risked everything to provide safe procedures. Opening with the author's own story of a 1956 abortion necessitated by an incidence of workplace rape, *Perilous Times* paints a picture of those days while covering the dangers and difficulties that extend beyond 1973 into the present day. Contemporary stories illustrate parallels with former times.

Also included are stories from boyfriends and husbands, and comments from those prominent in reproductive rights today. *Perilous Times* creates a woven fabric of the ongoing story as abortion opponents continue the drive to limit or deny access to safe and legal procedures, and provides new insight into an emotionally charged issue. Women and men on either side of the issue will be moved, and enlightened. This is a must-read for today's perilous times.



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About the Author

Fran Moreland Johns is the author of *Dying Unafraid* (Synergistic Press,) a nonfiction book telling of people who did just that. Inspired by her personal experiences, *Dying Unafraid* led to other published work on end-of-life issues – including contributions to Beliefnet.com beginning with its initial issue – and activism in that field including offices on the board of Compassion & Choices of Northern California and the Bay Area Network for End of Life Care. She has written essays, articles, columns and short stories published since the 1950s. Johns is the mother of three adult children and grandmother of five. A native of Virginia who spent much of her adult life in Atlanta, she lives in San Francisco with her husband, writer/editor Bud Johns, and is active in literary, interfaith and arts causes.



Until its purchase by Forbes in August, 2010, Johns wrote a paid blog, *Boomers & Beyond*, for news aggregate website True/Slant. *Boomers & Beyond* currently appears at franjohns.net.

A graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman's College (BA, Art) and long-time newspaper and magazine writer, Johns later earned her MFA in Short Fiction from the University of San Francisco and began publishing short stories, including prize-winning stories in *Literal Latte* and the Cape Fear Mystery Festival's contest and chapbook. Her fiction and non-fiction works have appeared in national newspapers and magazines and online sites; an autobiographical feature appeared in the February 2011 issue of *More Magazine*. She is the author of several non-fiction books, including the biographical memoir *Never In Doubt*, and is the recipient of a California Senior Leaders award.

Perilous Times: An Inside Look at Abortion Before Roe v Wade

by Fran Moreland Johns

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