

# Correlation between Women's Knowledge, Life Style and Impact Level of Social Networking Sites on Women After Abortion Using Counseling Based On PLISSIT Model

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**Abstract Background:** Abortion is the termination of a pregnancy prior to fetal viability, often presenting a woman with physical and emotional challenges. Nurses play a crucial role in post-abortion counseling, aiding in recovery, lifestyle improvement, and providing psychological support to women and their families. The PLISSIT model offers a framework for healthcare providers to implement effective strategies for addressing post-abortion life adjustments. **Aim:** The current study was conducted to evaluate correlation between women's knowledge, life style and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion using counseling based on PLISSIT model. **Subjects & Methods: Design:** A quasi-experimental (pre- and post-test) research design was used. **Subjects & Settings:** A convenient sample of 92 women who had abortions affiliated obstetrics & gynecology unit at Beni-Suef University Hospital. **Tools:** (1) structured interview questionnaire. (2) women's knowledge regarding abortion and management. (3) Women's lifestyle after abortion. (4) Information technology. (5) post-abortion counseling based on the PLISSIT model. **Results:** mean age  $28.13 \pm 5.824$  years. The mean of the total general knowledge of the studied women during pretest was  $20.73 \pm 6.33$  regarding general knowledge about abortion which improved posttest to become  $34.04 \pm 6.76$ . Total life style improved from  $38.17 \pm 10.99$  pretest to  $68.33 \pm 10.38$  post test. Total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion improved from  $8.15 \pm 3.05$  to  $14.69 \pm 3.25$  after implementation of counseling. There was a statistically significant improvement among the studied women regarding knowledge; life style sub-items on abortion posttest and total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion, as well ( $p \leq 0.01$ ). **Conclusion:** There was no correlation between total knowledge, lifestyle and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during pretest. Also, there was negative correlation between total knowledge and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during posttest. While, there was strong positive correlation between total knowledge and total lifestyle level and between total lifestyle level and total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion. **Recommendations:** Developing strategies to facilitate women's understanding and support lifestyle adjustments after abortion by applying this study to a large sample in inpatient and outpatient departments.

**Keywords:** Women's Knowledge, Life Style, Social Networking Sites, Abortion, Counseling, PLISSIT Model

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## 1. Introduction

Abortion is defined as the termination of pregnancy and an expulsion from the uterus of an embryo or fetus before 20 week's gestation or when fetal weight is less than 500g [1]. Approximately 26 million legal and 20 million illegal abortions estimated worldwide in 2018, resulting in a worldwide abortion rate of 35 per 1,000

women aged 15-44 [2].

Expectant management is advised as the first-line recommendation for the majority of women in the National Institute for Care and Health Excellence guidelines, leading to complete miscarriage in approximately 50% of women. This can continue safely for as long as necessary, according to women preference, provided that there is no evidence of infection. Expectant management is relatively inexpensive and safe, but its failure rate varies in the literature between 10% and 75% [3].

Awareness of individuals' life style and the detection of the factors that lower the life style can contribute to identifying effective strategies to improve the quality-of-service delivery and the quality of life in the community [4-11]. Aborted women are more likely to experience major difficulties; therefore, life style counseling is an important part of post-abortion care. Concerns over the effects of food habits on women who have abortions, blood loss, smoking, sleep disruption, improper family planning techniques, and emotional state are causing alarm and major issues [12].

Lifestyle is a way of living of individuals, families (households), and societies, which manifest in coping with women's physical, psychological, social, and economic environments on a day to-day basis. Moreover, is formed in specific geographical, economic, political, cultural and religious text. Life style is referred to the characteristics of inhabitants of a region in special time and place [13-19].

The post-abortion period is a very important time for woman; it has an effect on a woman's life style and her family. Nurses play a multi-disciplinary role in women's life span generally, and during post-abortion as a direct care provider, manager, educator, counselor, and researcher to promote post-abortion woman health, which sequentially reflected bone minimizing mortality, morbidity and correcting misconceptions and ill health behaviors post-abortion among patients. As well as improving women's life styles post-abortion [20-27].

Nurses play a crucial role in counselling. Counseling, in a nursing context, is a process where a skilled nurse helps a woman problem-solve to enhance adaptation, address misconceptions, and improve her response to a gynecological exam, ensuring client autonomy in decision-making [28-34].

The PLISSIT model is a therapeutic counseling approach that can help any persuasive practitioner address women's health. The four levels of the PLISSIT model are: Permit (P): Gives a woman permission to discuss issues adversely affect her Limited Information (LI): Provides limited information on the physiological and psychological consequences of post abortion issues without going into detail. Specific Suggestions (SS): offers guidance on how to manage common post-abortion concerns. In some cases, such as when the first three steps fail to resolve the problem. Internal conflict or psychological problems [35,36].

## 2. Aim of the Study

The current study was conducted to evaluate correlation between women's knowledge, life style and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion using counseling based on PLISSIT model.

## 3. Subject and Method

**The subject and methods of the study have been portrayed under four main topics as follows:**

- A. Technical design.
- B. Operational design.
- C. Administrative design.
- D. Statistical design.

**A. Technical design:** The technical item includes research design, setting, subject, and tools for data collection.

**Research design:** A quasi-experimental (pre- and post-test) research design was used in this study.

**Setting:** The study was conducted in the post-natal unit of the Beni-Suef University Hospital's obstetrics and gynecology department, located on the fifth floor in a single room with 15 beds.

**Subjects:**

**Sample type:** A convenient sample of 92 women who had abortions in the previously mentioned setting.

**Sample Size:** Between September 2022 and August 2023, Beni-Suef University Hospital recorded a total of 121 abortions. The target population for this study comprises 92 women who underwent abortions, with sample size calculated using the Steven and Thompson equation [37].

$$n = \frac{N \times P(1-p)}{\left[ \left[ N - 1 \times \left( d^2 \div z^2 \right) \right] + p(1-p) \right]}$$

N= population size = 121,  $z^2 = 1.96$ ,  $d^2 = 0.05$ ,  $p = 0.50$   
n= sample size = 92

$$n = \frac{121 \times 0.05(1-0.05)}{\left[ \left[ 121 - 1 \times \left( 0.05^2 \div 1.96^2 \right) \right] + p(1-0.05) \right]} = 92$$

**Tools of data collection:**

Data were collected using the following tools:

**Tool I:** A Structured Interview Questionnaire

This questionnaire was designed by the researcher based on reviewing related literature, and it was written in simple Arabic. It consists of women's socio-demographic data and general characteristics.-

**Tool II:** Women's knowledge regarding abortion and management

The tool, adapted from Foster et al. (2016) and translated into Arabic, assesses women's knowledge of abortion [38]. It comprises 50 multiple-choice questions (1 point per correct answer, 0 for incorrect) divided into two parts: Part 1 (35 items) covers general abortion knowledge, and Part 2 (15 items) addresses modern educational information on abortion. The total score, out of 50 points, is converted to a percentage. Unsatisfactory knowledge is defined as less than 60% (< 30 points), while satisfactory knowledge is 60% or more ( $\geq 30$  points).

**Tool III:** Women's lifestyle after abortion

This tool, adapted from Ramadan et al. (2021) and translated into Arabic, assesses women's lifestyles post-abortion [2]. It consists of 48 items organized into seven parts: smoking and alcohol, nutritional lifestyle, weight and exercise lifestyle, personal habits, sleeping, spiritual habits and relationships, and sexual intercourse practice. Responses are scored on a three-point Likert scale (always=0, sometimes=1, never=2), with the total score from the 48 items (out of 96 points) converted into a percentage. An unhealthy lifestyle is classified as a total score below 60% (<57.6 points), while a healthy lifestyle is classified as 60% or above ( $\geq 57.6$  points).

**Tool IV:** Information technology

This tool, adapted from Ramadan et al. (2021) and

translated into Arabic, assesses women's lifestyles post-abortion [2]. It consists of 48 items organized into seven parts: smoking and alcohol, nutritional lifestyle, weight and exercise lifestyle, personal habits, sleeping, spiritual habits and relationships, and sexual intercourse practice. Responses are scored on a three-point Likert scale (always=0, sometimes=1, never=2), with the total score from the 48 items (out of 96 points) converted into a percentage. An unhealthy lifestyle is classified as a total score below 60% (<57.6 points), while a healthy lifestyle is classified as 60% or above ( $\geq 57.6$  points).

#### Post-Abortion Counseling Based on the PLISSIT Model

The program, developed in Arabic by a researcher, reviews literature from Turesheva et al. (2023), Haghghi et al. (2022), and Keshavarz et al. (2021) [39,40,41]. It is designed for post-abortion counseling for women, utilizing the PLISSIT model. The program covers abortion definition, signs and symptoms, causes, risk factors, types, complications, management, and post-abortion lifestyle.

#### Tool validity:

Face and content validity was ascertained by a panel of five experts in maternal & newborn health nursing from the faculty of nursing and obstetrics & gynecology from the faculty of medicine at Beni-Suef University. The experts reviewed the tools for clarity, relevance, comprehensiveness, simplicity, and applicability; minor modifications were done, and the final forms were developed.

#### Reliability:

In the present study, reliability was tested using Cronbach's alpha coefficients for women's knowledge (tool II), which was 0.815; women's lifestyle after abortion (tool III), which was 0.773; and information technology (tool IV), which was 0.732.

#### B. Operational design:

The operational design includes a preparatory phase, supportive material, tools validity and reliability, a pilot study, and fieldwork.

The study preparation involved literature review, the development of data collection tools and post-abortion counseling based on the PLISSIT model, and obtaining approval from the Faculty of Nursing dean and Beni-Suef University Hospital manager. A supportive Arabic booklet was created to educate women on abortion recovery, aiming to enhance their lifestyles. A pilot study on 10% of the sample indicated the tools' applicability, with participants included in the main study. Fieldwork, conducted over six months (mid-February to mid-August 2024), involved interviewing post-abortion women in the post-natal unit at Beni-Suef University Hospital, after obtaining their consent. Data collection occurred three days a week across morning and afternoon shifts.

#### Data collection included 4 phases as follows:

The study details a four-phase approach to post-abortion counseling based on the PLISSIT model.

- i. **Assessment phase** involved collecting socio-demographic data, obstetrical and gynecological history, baseline knowledge about abortion, lifestyle information, and IT data through individual interviews and questionnaires.
- ii. **Planning phase** focused on determining the

optimal timing for counseling sessions, setting objectives, defining learning content, preparing the environment, designing methodology and media, and establishing evaluation tools.

- iii. **Implementation phase** consisted of individual, interactive counseling sessions, lasting 45 minutes to one hour, covering the definition, causes, risk factors, signs, symptoms, types, complications, and avoidance of abortion, as well as appropriate lifestyle choices during pregnancy and post-abortion, uterine cleaning methods, and addressing women's concerns.

- iv. **Evaluation phase** assessed the impact of the counseling by administering the same assessment tools four months post-intervention via video calls, Zoom, or home visits, repeating the baseline data collection format to measure changes in women's lifestyles.

#### Ethical Considerations:

Research approval was obtained from the Faculty of Medicine, Beni-Suef Scientific Ethical Committee (Approval number: FMBSUREC/03102023). Participants received information regarding the study's aims, anonymity, and confidentiality, and were reminded of their voluntary participation and right to withdraw.

#### C. Administrative design:

Official permission for the study was secured through letters from the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, Beni-Suef University, to the Manager of Beni-Suef University Hospital. These letters detailed the study's title, aims, primary data items, and anticipated outcomes.

#### D. Statistical design

The data analysis involved descriptive statistics, reporting means and standard deviations for dispersion and percentages for qualitative data, utilizing SPSS version 26. The chi-square test was applied for comparing proportions of qualitative parameters, and the student's t-test for comparing two quantitative variables, especially with large or expected cell sizes less than 5. Statistical significance was set at a P-value less than 0.05, with results below 0.001 indicating high significance.

## 4. Results

Figure 1 shows that, two-thirds (66.3%) of the studied women their age group was 20- 30 years with mean age  $28.13 \pm 5.824$  years, most (87%) of the studied women were married, less than half (42.4%) of the studied women had intermediate education, most of them (81.5%) were not working, more than half (58.7%) of them were from rural areas, more than three-quarters (76.1%) of them had insufficient monthly income and more than half (58.7%) of them had extended family type.

Table 1 shows that, the mean of the total general knowledge of the studied women during pretest was  $20.73 \pm 6.33$  regarding general knowledge about abortion which improved posttest to become  $34.04 \pm 6.76$ . Moreover, total life style improved from  $38.17 \pm 10.99$  pretest to  $68.33 \pm 10.38$  post test. Additionally, total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion improved from  $8.15 \pm 3.05$  to  $14.69 \pm 3.25$  after implementation of

counseling. There was a statistically significant improvement among the studied women regarding knowledge; life style sub-items on abortion posttest and total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion, as well ( $p$  value  $\leq 0.01$ ).

Table 2 represents that; there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women' total knowledge level and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre and posttest.

Table 3 represents that; there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women' total lifestyle level and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre and posttest.

Table 4 represents that; there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women' total

impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre and posttest.

Table 5 shows that, there was no correlation between total knowledge, lifestyle and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during pretest. Also, there was negative correlation between total knowledge and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during posttest. While, there was strong positive correlation between total knowledge and total lifestyle level and between total lifestyle level and total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion.

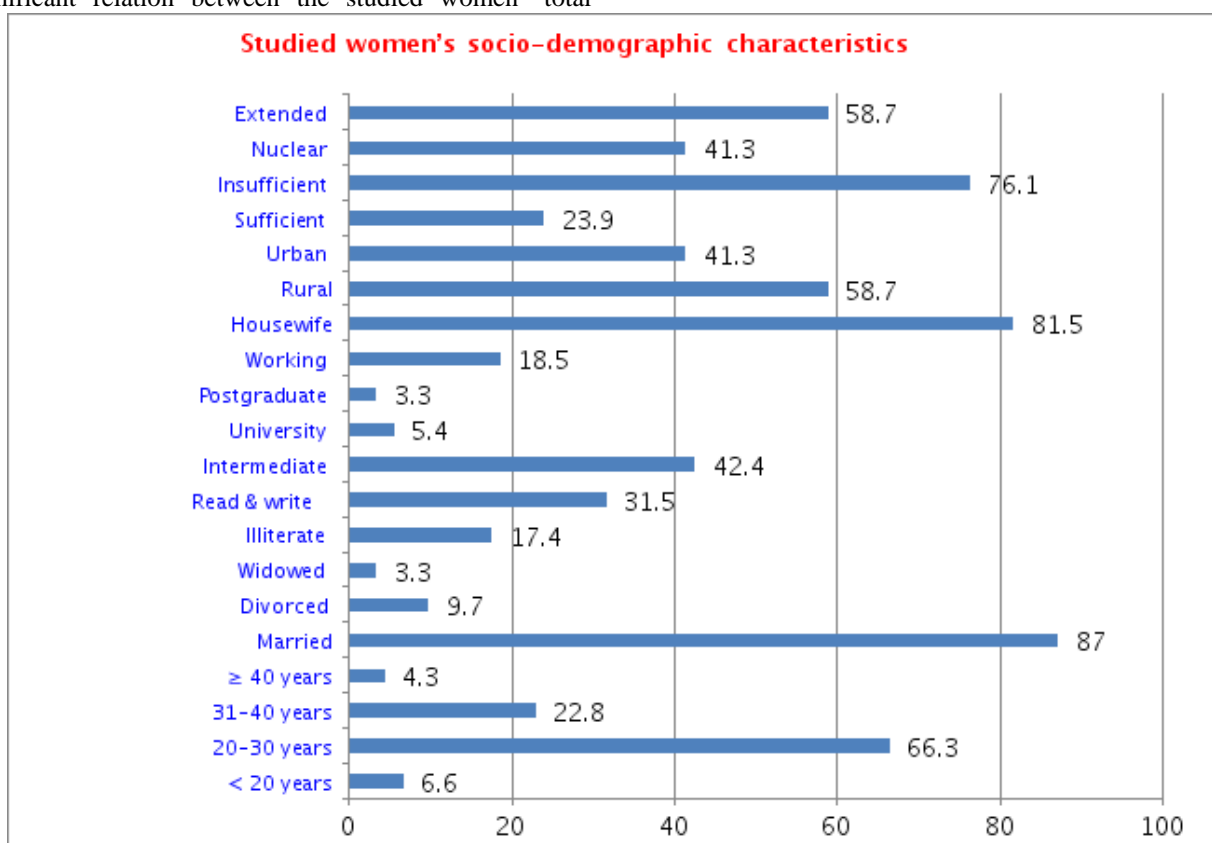


Figure 1. Percentage distribution of the studied women regarding to their socio-demographic characteristics

Table 1. Comparison between the studied women regarding to their knowledge, life style, and the impact of social networking sites on women after abortion (n=92).

Items	Pretest	Posttest	t test	p value
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD		
General knowledge about abortion	15.08±5.28	23.66±5.88	10.084	0.000**
Modern educational information on abortion	5.65±2.78	10.38±2.97	10.347	0.000**
Total general and Modern educational information on abortion	20.73±6.33	34.04±6.76	12.670	0.000**
Smoking & alcohol life style	8.35±1.26	11.17±0.96	16.932	0.000**
Nutritional life style	6.41±6.22	13.41±5.37	8.790	0.000**
Weight and exercise	1.85±2.11	5.49±2.30	10.7942	0.000**
Personal habits life style	11.08±8.01	20.59±5.85	8.935	0.000**
Sleeping life style	2.88±1.95	5.88±2.12	9.645	0.000**
Spiritual habits & relationships life style	3.26±1.884	5.76±1.78	10.452	0.000**
Sexual intercourse life style	4.35±2.75	8.52±2.17	11.636	0.000**
Total life style	38.17±10.99	68.33±10.38	19.951	0.000**
The total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion	8.15±3.05	14.69±3.25	14.031	0.000**

\* Statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$  \*\* High statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.01$

**Table 2. Relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and their total knowledge level regarding abortion during pretest and posttest**

Items	No.	Pretest				X <sup>2</sup>	p value	Posttest				X <sup>2</sup>	p value
		Unsatisfactory (n= 84)		Satisfactory (n= 8)				Unsatisfactory (n= 18)		Satisfactory (n= 74)			
		No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%		
Age													
< 20 years	6	6	6.5	0	0.0	1.955	0.582	0	0.0	6	6.5	2.708	0.439
20-30 years	61	54	58.7	7	7.6			11	12.0	50	54.3		
31-40 years	21	20	21.7	1	1.1			6	6.5	15	16.3		
≥ 40 years	4	4	4.4	0	0.0			1	1.1	3	3.3		
Marital Status						3.151	0.207					0.780	0.677
Married	80	73	79.3	7	7.6			16	17.4	64	69.5		
Divorced	9	9	9.8	0	0.0			2	2.2	7	7.6		
Widowed	3	2	2.2	1	1.1			0	0.0	3	3.3		
Education						1.881	0.758					3.536	0.472
Illiterate	16	15	16.3	1	1.1			1	1.1	15	16.3		
Read & write	29	25	27.2	4	4.3			6	6.5	23	25.0		
Intermediate	39	36	39.1	3	3.3			8	8.7	31	33.6		
University	5	5	5.4	0	0.0			2	2.2	3	3.3		
Postgraduate	3	3	3.3	0	0.0			1	1.1	2	2.2		
Job						1.986	0.159					1.285	0.257
Working	17	17	18.5	0	0.0			5	5.5	12	13.1		
Housewife	75	67	72.8	8	8.7			13	14.1	62	67.3		
Residence						2.999	0.083					0.054	0.816
Rural	54	47	51.1	7	7.6			11	12.0	43	46.7		
Urban	38	37	40.2	1	1.1			7	7.6	31	33.7		
Income						2.754	0.97					0.646	0.422
Sufficient	22	22	23.9	0	0.0			3	3.3	19	20.6		
Insufficient	70	62	67.4	8	8.7			15	16.3	55	59.8		
Family type						0.961	0.327					3.361	0.067
Nuclear	38	36	39.1	2	2.2			4	4.4	34	36.9		
Extended	54	48	52.2	6	6.5			14	15.2	40	43.5		

\* Statistically significant at p≤0.05 \*\* High statistically significant at p≤0.01

**Table 3. Relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and their total life style level after abortion during pretest and posttest**

Items	No.	Pretest				X <sup>2</sup>	p value	Posttest				X <sup>2</sup>	p value
		Unhealthy (n= 71)		Healthy (n= 21)				Unhealthy (n= 12)		Healthy (n= 80)			
		No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%		
Age													
< 20 years	6	3	3.3	3	3.3	6.209	0.102	1	1.1	5	5.4	1.794	0.616
20-30 years	61	45	48.9	16	17.3			6	6.5	55	59.8		
31-40 years	21	19	20.6	2	2.2			4	4.3	17	18.5		
≥ 40 years	4	4	4.4	0	0.0			1	1.1	3	3.3		
Marital Status						2.938	9.230					1.139	0.566
Married	80	64	69.6	16	17.3			10	10.8	70	76.1		
Divorced	9	5	5.4	4	4.4			1	1.1	8	8.7		
Widowed	3	2	2.2	1	1.1			1	1.1	2	2.2		
Education						0.612	0.962					1.675	0.795
Illiterate	16	13	14.1	3	3.3			3	3.3	13	14.1		
Read & write	29	23	25.0	6	6.5			4	4.3	25	27.2		
Intermediate	39	29	31.5	10	10.8			5	5.4	34	37.0		
University	5	4	4.4	1	1.1			0	0.0	5	5.4		
Postgraduate	3	2	2.2	1	1.1			0	0.0	3	3.3		
Job						0.006	0.939					0.943	0.332
Working	17	13	14.1	4	4.4			11	11.9	64	69.6		
Housewife	75	58	63.1	17	18.4			1	1.1	16	17.4		
Residence						1.820	0.177					0.362	0.548
Rural	54	39	42.4	15	16.3			8	8.7	46	50.0		
Urban	38	32	34.8	6	6.5			4	4.3	34	37.0		
Income						1.386	0.239					0.009	0.925
Sufficient	22	19	20.7	3	3.3			3	3.3	19	20.7		
Insufficient	70	52	56.5	18	19.5			9	9.7	61	66.3		
Family type						1.377	0.241					0.362	0.548
Nuclear	38	27	29.4	11	11.9			4	4.3	34	37.0		
Extended	54	44	47.8	10	10.9			8	8.7	46	50.0		

\* Statistically significant at p≤0.05 \*\* High statistically significant at p≤0.01

**Table 4. Relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and the total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during pretest and posttest**

Items	No.	Pretest						X <sup>2</sup>	p value	Posttest						X <sup>2</sup>	p value
		Poor (n= 65)		Moderate (n= 24)		Good (n=3)				Poor (n= 7)		Moderate (n= 15)		Good (n=70)			
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Age																	
< 20 years	6	3	3.3	3	3.2	0	0.0	4.704	0.582	2	2.2	1	1.1	3	3.3	10.676	0.099
20-30 years	61	43	46.7	16	17.4	2	2.2			4	4.3	13	14.1	44	47.8		
31-40 years	21	17	18.5	3	3.2	1	1.1			1	1.1	1	1.1	19	20.7		
≥ 40 years	4	2	2.2	2	2.2	0	0.0			0	0.0	0	0.0	4	4.3		
Marital Status																	
Married	80	55	59.8	22	23.8	3	3.3	1.817	0.769	6	6.5	14	15.2	60	65.2	4.245	0.374
Divorced	9	7	7.6	2	2.2	0	0.0			0	0.0	1	1.1	8	8.7		
Widowed	3	3	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0			1	1.1	0	0.0	2	2.2		
Education																	
Illiterate	16	10	10.9	5	5.4	1	1.1	7.984	0.435	1	1.1	4	4.3	11	12.0	8.337	0.401
Read & write	29	21	22.8	7	7.6	1	1.1			1	1.1	6	6.5	22	23.8		
Intermediate	39	28	30.4	11	11.9	0	0.0			5	5.4	3	3.3	31	33.7		
University	5	4	4.4	0	0.0	1	1.1			0	0.0	2	2.2	3	3.3		
Postgraduate	3	2	2.2	1	1.1	0	0.0			0	0.0	0	0.0	3	3.3		
Job																	
Working	17	12	13.1	4	4.3	1	1.1	0.492	0.782	2	2.2	3	3.3	12	13.0	0.579	0.749
Housewife	75	53	57.6	20	21.7	2	2.2			5	5.4	12	13.0	58	63.1		
Residence																	
Rural	54	38	41.3	15	16.2	1	1.1	0.941	0.625	4	4.3	6	6.5	44	47.8	2.670	0.263
Urban	38	27	29.4	9	9.8	2	2.2			3	3.3	9	9.8	26	28.3		
Income																	
Sufficient	22	17	18.5	5	5.4	0	0.0	1.247	0.536	2	2.2	5	5.4	15	16.3	1.053	0.591
Insufficient	70	48	52.2	19	20.6	3	3.3			5	5.4	10	10.9	55	59.8		
Family type																	
Nuclear	38	26	28.3	12	13.0	0	0.0	2.905	0.234	3	3.3	7	7.6	28	30.4	0.234	0.890
Extended	54	39	42.4	12	13.0	3	3.3			4	4.3	8	8.7	42	45.7		

\* Statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$  \*\* High statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.01$

**Table 5. Correlation between total score of knowledge, life style and total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during pretest and posttest**

Pretest		Knowledge	Lifestyle	Posttest		Knowledge	Lifestyle
Knowledge	R			Knowledge	r		
	P				p		
Life style	R	0.003		Life style	r	0.438	
	P	0.978			p	0.000**	
Impact level	R	0.220	0.045	Impact level	r	0.052	.698
	P	0.035*	0.670		p	0.619	0.000**

\* Statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.05$  \*\* High statistically significant at  $p \leq 0.01$

## 5. Discussion

Abortion is the termination of a pregnancy before the fetus can survive outside the uterus. It is a physically and emotionally challenging experience for a woman and can affect her life style for some time. A woman may experience feelings of sadness, anxiety, or guilt, along with physical changes such as hormonal imbalance or fatigue.

Maternity nurses play a crucial role in the quality of antenatal/postnatal care improvement, which provides woman education and support. [42-49]. So, nurses have a very important role in counseling woman after abortion, counseling helps with faster recovery, improve post abortion life style and providing psychological support to women after abortion and their families. The PLISSIT model provides a framework for health care providers to implement appropriate and effective strategies to address

post abortion life style [50].

Therefore, the current study was conducted to evaluate correlation between women's knowledge, life style and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion using counseling based on PLISSIT model. The study revealed a statistically significant improvement in women's knowledge regarding general and modern educational information on abortion following counseling sessions. The mean knowledge score increased from  $20.73 \pm 6.33$  pre-counseling to  $34.04 \pm 6.76$  post-counseling. This study's findings align with Turner et al. (2018), who observed the largest knowledge score increases in abortion among participants with the lowest initial knowledge levels following a workshop [51]. The current research also supports Ngo et al. (2023), who documented a statistically significant improvement in total abortion knowledge scores among women surveyed [52].

Concerning the comparison between the studied women

regarding their lifestyle sub-items after abortion, the present study revealed improvement across all lifestyle areas after counseling, including smoking, alcohol consumption, nutrition, sleep, weight, exercise, spirituality, and sexual intercourse. For total life style, the present study found that the mean total life style score during pre-counseling was  $38.17 \pm 10.99$ , which improved to  $68.33 \pm 10.38$  post-counseling. This result was similar to Zahmatkesh et al. (2024), who revealed a statistically significant improvement in the quality of life among studied women post-intervention compared to pre-intervention [53]. Likewise, this study was supported by Mirian et al. (2023), who reported that the mean score of women's personal habits improved from  $107.42 \pm 15.08$  pre-intervention to  $126.72 \pm 31.01$  post-intervention [54].

Regarding the total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion, the current study reported that the mean impact score during pre-counseling was  $8.15 \pm 3.05$ , which improved significantly to  $14.69 \pm 3.25$  post counseling. The study aligns with Hill et al. (2020), which found a statistically significant improvement in mobile phone use among women post-abortion in Cambodia as part of their support intervention [55].

There was a highly statistically significant improvement in the mean scores of all sub-items related to general, modern educational information, total knowledge, sub-items and total life style, and the total impact of social networking sites on women after abortion post-counseling. This may be attributed to the completeness, comprehensiveness, accuracy, and effectiveness of the counseling program based on the PLISSIT model.

This study found that women's overall knowledge, lifestyle, and the impact of social networking sites improved following counseling sessions, potentially due to session attendance, lectures, positive reinforcement, long-term knowledge retention, and diverse educational methods [56-58]. The Arabic booklets, characterized as brief, plain-language, and visually rich, also contributed significantly to knowledge acquisition and retention, aligning with Edgar Dale's Pyramid of Learning, which suggests higher retention rates from discussions and audiovisual methods compared to reading [59-64].

Regarding relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and their total knowledge about abortion during pre and post counseling, The study found no statistically significant relationship between the socio-demographic characteristics of women and their overall knowledge about abortion, both before and after counseling. Similar results were found in the study by Ahmed et al. (2020), where education positively influenced abortion-related knowledge [65]. However, other studies like that of Hassan (2021) found a stronger significance [66].

Concerning relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and their total life style level after abortion during pre-counseling and post counseling, the current study reported that, there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women' total life style level and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre-counseling and post implementation of counseling sessions program. This result was in accordance with Iwanowicz-Palus et al.,

(2021) who revealed that there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women's quality of life after abortion and their age, marital status, and educational level [67].

Contrariwise, this finding was in congruence with Kerns et al., (2022) who carried out a study entitled "Abortion stigma and its relationship with grief, post-traumatic stress, and mental health-related quality of life after abortion for fetal anomalies" and found that there was a statistically significant relation between the studied women's quality of life after abortion and their occupation, monthly income, residence place, and family type [68].

Regarding relation between socio-demographic characteristics of the studied women and the total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during pretest and posttest, the present study found that, there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women' total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre-counseling and post implementation of counseling sessions.

The study examining the impact of social networking sites on women post-abortion during pre- and post-counseling found a statistically significant positive correlation between knowledge scores and the total impact level in the pre-counseling phase. This suggests that women with higher knowledge perceived a greater impact from social networking sites. This study was in agreement with Aiken et al. (2023), who conducted a study entitled "Factors associated with knowledge and experience of self-managed abortion among patients seeking care at 49 US abortion clinics" and mentioned that there was a positive correlation between the studied women's level of knowledge and perception regarding abortion and their abortion perceptions/experiences and self-management behavior [69].

Additionally, this result was supported by Rezaee et al., (2022) who conducted a study entitled "Healthy lifestyle during pregnancy: Uncovering the role of online health information-seeking experience" and revealed that there was a positive correlation between online health information-seeking behavior and a healthy lifestyle among the studied women [70].

The PLISSIT-based counseling effectively strengthened the connection between knowledge and healthy lifestyles, though knowledge alone did not directly correlate with perceived post-intervention impact. The indirect effect through lifestyle is significant, highlighting the value of combining lifestyle counseling with educational information in post-abortion care.

## 6. Conclusion

Based on the results of the current study, it was observed that There was no statistically significant relation between the studied women's total knowledge level or total lifestyle level and their socio-demographic characteristics during pre- and post-tests. Moreover, there was no statistically significant relation between the studied women's total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion and their socio-

demographic characteristics during pre- and post-tests. Additionally, there was no correlation between total knowledge, lifestyle, and impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during the pretest. Also, there was a negative correlation between total knowledge and the impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion during the posttest. While there was a strong positive correlation between total knowledge and total lifestyle level and between total lifestyle level and total impact level of social networking sites on women after abortion.

## Recommendations

1. Developing strategies to facilitate women's understanding and support lifestyle adjustments after abortion by applying this study to a large sample in inpatient and outpatient departments.
2. Counseling for maternity nurses should focus on enhancing their decision-making confidence and implementation skills. Nurses are required to clearly communicate negative results, necessary evaluations, follow-up procedures, and the importance of patient engagement during screenings.

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