

# ENDING THE MYTH...

## SPREADING THE TRUTH

### *92% of U. S. Infants with Down Syndrome Are Aborted*

#### **This is a Myth.**

In the United States, 2% of expectant mothers receive amniocentesis or CVS testing for genetic conditions. Recent studies show that of this 2%, the infants diagnosed with Down syndrome are aborted in 75% of cases.

#### **Where did this myth begin?**

In the 1980's, a summary of data from U.S. studies and International figures was compiled.

#### **Why does it matter?**

The myth runs the risk of encouraging terminations by making the parents believe they will be alone, or at best part of a small minority. It also creates a culture of exclusion and discrimination.



### ***The Truth***

- Evidence shows that termination rates due to a Down Syndrome diagnosis have decreased in recent years
- Termination rates vary depending on the mother's age, ethnicity, and location.
- Children with Down Syndrome have the potential to lead happy, productive lives
- Expectant parents deserve accurate, up-to-date information
- There are support groups available that welcome new members, by providing them with resources and welcome baskets

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For More Information*



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