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**Legal Abortion Death: Jane Doe, 20**Posted on [August 29, 2012](#) by [Tech](#)

A 20-year-old Newark college student, identified in prolife sources as “Jane Doe of Newark,” underwent a safe and legal abortion by Dr. Steven Berkman at Metropolitan Medical Associates on June 16, 1993. She was in the second trimester of pregnancy.

Jane reportedly felt dizzy in recovery. Berkman examined her, noted that she had a perforated uterus, and had her taken to a hospital by ambulance. She died in surgery, leaving her four-year-old son motherless.

“We are intensely investigating this matter,” said an attorney for Jane’s family. “We know something occurred that shouldn’t have. We had a healthy 20-year-old go into that clinic and not come out. And I think a delay had something to do with it.” Her medical chart showed the injury occurring at 10 a.m., but the ambulance wasn’t summoned until two hours later.

Berkman said that there was no delay in transporting Jane to the hospital. He also said he did not believe she died from blood loss. The Bergen County Medical Examiner found that Jane had died from hemorrhage from a perforated uterus. He ruled the death accidental.

Sources: “Jane Doe, 1973-1993,” *The American Feminist*, Fall 1999; “Family Mulls Suit in Abortion Death,” *Bergen County Record*, 07/16/1993

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