Introduction

It is almost certain that many fertilized ova do perish before implantation and are never recognized even by biochemical detection of human chorionic gonadotrophin (Regan,1991).

The abnormal development may manifest as a blighted ovum which describes an empty sac in which the embryo has not developed beyond a small clump of cells (Regan, 1991). There may be a clearly recognizable fetal abnormality where as, in some other cases, the sac may have ruptured and the fetus is never identified. The cause of such abnormal development of the embryo may be a structural or chromosomal abnormality. Which can be identified accurately from examination of fetal tissues using chromosomal analysis or adequate structural examination ***(Huisjes and Lind, 1990).***

Abortion is defined as the termination of pregnancy by any means before the fetus is sufficiently developed to survive. In the united states, Abortion is defined as termination of pregnancy before 20 weeks gestation based on the date of first day from the last menstruation, or the delivery of a fetus that weighs less than 500 gm. In some European countries, this definition is limited to those less than one kilogram. ***(Huisjes, 1984).***

It is difficult to determine the incidence of abrotion as it is, there for, if a test that can detect minute amounts of human chorionic gonadotrophins are used, abortion will be detected much more than normal, reaching up to 20% of all pregnancies. 30% of abortions may pass unrecognized. However, a percentage of 3.2% of all pregnancies had been put by ***Simpson and associates, 1987.***

Products of conception represent one of the most commonly encountered specimens submitted for histopathological examination. These specimens are submitted to investigate whether the miscarriage was due to dysmorphic or disruptive causes, and to exclude the presence of trophoblastic disease or simply by identifying the presence of fetal or placental tissue microscopically, one can confirm that pregnancy has occured ***(Novak et al., 1990).***

The products of conception was histopathologically examined in order to provide base line data and to determine whether the histology of the products of spontaneous abortion could predict a normal or an abnormal conceptus. There had been many pathological findings obtained from spontaneous abortion. These data provided a base line for the study of the histopathology of abortion ***(Cotton & Stephenson, 1992).***