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President
Family Research Council

Planned Parenthood
What Every Parent, Teacher, Woman, Community Leader and Elected Official Needs to Know

BY JEANNE MONAHAN

Introduction

To many Americans, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) is a benign or even benevolent healthcare agency that is advocating for patient “reproductive rights.” Others know that Planned Parenthood is connected with abortions, but do not know much beyond this information. Even those who are aware of the negative impact of PPFA on communities and individuals are often unsure of how to work proactively to defund the local chapters.

There are many aspects of Planned Parenthood that you will not find by searching its website or reading through its annual reports. For example, you will not find that the current Planned Parenthood CEO, Cecile Richards, formerly worked as Assistant Chief of Staff to Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. You will also have to look hard – and read the small print in PPFA’s Internal Revenue Service 990 tax return form from 2008 – to find that, though the organization is non-profit, it had revenue of approximately $106,000,000 in the economically-constrained environment from July,
2008–July, 2009.¹ You certainly will not find the fact that the founder of Planned Parenthood, Margaret Sanger, was once the guest lecturer at a Ku Klux Klan (KKK) meeting in Silver Lake, New Jersey, and that her eugenics message was so well received that she was immediately invited to speak at 12 additional KKK chapter meetings.²

Planned Parenthood claims that it does “more than any other organization in America to prevent unplanned pregnancies and to protect women’s health and safety.”³ The organization’s literature primarily discusses family planning, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and sexual education. It is critical to know that PPFA is the nation’s largest abortion provider. This pamphlet will provide the truth about Planned Parenthood, its dangerous and deadly impact on women and culture, and your role in defunding Planned Parenthood.

The Early Days: Margaret Sanger, Eugenics and the “Negro Project”

Any successful organization begins with a good mission statement. Over time, most organizations and mission statements evolve, but the roots and original goals remain the foundation upon which it strategizes, grows and flourishes.

The founding of Planned Parenthood is directly tied to the eugenics movement, which had as its ultimate goal the elimination of certain groups of “unfit” or “feeble-minded” people.

According to the Encyclopedia Brittanica, eugenics is:

…the selection of desired heritable characteristics in order to improve future generations, typically in reference to humans. The term eugenics was coined in 1883 by the British explorer and natural scientist Francis Galton, who, influenced by Charles Darwin’s theory of natural selection, advocated a system that would allow ‘the more suitable races or strains of blood a better chance of prevailing speedily over the less suitable.’ Social Darwinism, the popular theory in the late 19th century that life for humans in society was ruled by ‘survival of the fittest,’ helped advance eugenics into serious scientific study in the early 1900s. By World War I, many scientific authorities and political leaders supported eugenics. However, it ultimately failed as a science in the 1930s and 1940s, when the assumptions of eugenicists became heavily criticized and the Nazis used eugenics to support the extermination of entire races.⁴
The founder of Planned Parenthood, Margaret Sanger, wrote in 1921:

*As an advocate of Birth Control, I wish to take advantage of the present opportunity to point out that the unbalance between the birth rate of the ‘unfit’ and the ‘fit,’ admittedly the greatest present menace to civilization, can never be rectified by the inauguration of a cradle competition between these two classes. In this matter, the example of the inferior classes, the fertility of the feeble-minded, the mentally defective, the poverty-stricken classes, should not be held up for emulation to the mentally and physically fit though less fertile parents of the educated and well-to-do classes. On the contrary, the most urgent problem today is how to limit and discourage the over-fertility of the mentally and physically defective.*

Margaret Sanger was born in 1879 in New York, and was raised in a large, Catholic family. Margaret was number six out of eleven children. Perhaps as a response to her upbringing, Sanger developed strong ideas about family size and in 1916, she opened the first family planning clinic in the United States, in Brooklyn, New York. She went on to found the predecessor to PPFA and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), the American Birth Control League (ABCL), in 1921. The ABCL changed its name to Planned Parenthood Federation of America in 1942.


The American Birth Control League worked pointedly and actively to eliminate black Americans through the “Negro Project.” Manipulating black leaders (including religious leaders) to help with this endeavor, Margaret Sanger once said, “We do not want the word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population, and the minister is the man who can straighten that idea out if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members.”
There are numerous other quotations showing Sanger’s strong affinity for eugenics. Other Planned Parenthood eugenic links include Dr. Alan Guttmacher, who served as vice president of the American Eugenics Society, and was also president of PPFA for twelve years, from 1962-1974. In addition, “the first office of the IPPF in London was given free of charge by the Eugenics Education Society, the foremost eugenics group in England.” Lastly, a merger between the ABCL and the American Eugenics Society was attempted in 1933, but did not succeed.

Planned Parenthood has distanced itself from its eugenics roots, and a search of the word “eugenics” on its website will not provide information about the group’s early days and goals. While the leadership does not openly embrace the noxious views of its founding, the eugenic heart of Planned Parenthood still beats.

Today, Planned Parenthood is the nation’s largest abortion provider. Most of Planned Parenthood’s clinics are located in low-income areas. According to its own research arm, the Guttmacher Institute, by far, black Americans are the ethnic group who are having the greatest number of abortions. In early 2010, The Radiance Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia began a media campaign, “Black Americans are an endangered species,” to drive home the radical and shocking reality that almost half of black children are aborted.

With this information, it is no surprise that Lila Rose, a recent college graduate who, over the last few years, has organized other young people to call and visit Planned Parenthood, recently learned that the organization was willing to earmark abortion money according to race. In her words, describing a call placed to Planned Parenthood by one of her team members:

He then asked to donate money specifically for the abortions of African-American babies in order to ‘lower the number of blacks in America.’ Despite his bigoted requests, no Planned Parenthood employee (or director of development, in one case) declined the tainted money. Some even asked to speak with other employees to get permission. In the first day of calling seven clinics, not a single Planned Parenthood representative expressed outrage or concern at the racism behind donations specifically ‘to reduce the number of blacks.’ In fact, some even went as far as agreeing with the anti-black agenda.

Largest Abortion Provider in the United States

“The Most Dangerous Place in America: Your Mother’s Womb,” is the clever cover of one pro-life organization’s magazine. Abortion kills over a million American children every year, and Planned Parenthood is abortion’s greatest promoter and advocate, as well as the abortion industry’s leader.
According to their annual report in 2007, Planned Parenthood Federation of America performed 305,310 abortions. In 2006, the number of abortions was 289,750 and in 2005, the number was 264,943. The Guttmacher Institute reports in their latest statistics that the total number of abortions in the United States in 2005 was 1,210,000. That would mean that in 2005, PPFA provided approximately 22% of abortions in the United States.

The U.S. has the highest abortion rate in the western world. Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*, over 50,000,000 children have been aborted in the United States. To put this number in context, this is twice the population of Texas in 2009 and is approximately 84 times the population of the District of Columbia in 2009. While PPFA has not released information on the total number of abortions it has performed since *Roe v. Wade* (1973), the number performed in its centers since 1977 is 4,837,674.

**Abortion: A Lucrative Business**

In the fall of 2009, Abby Johnson, a woman who worked for Planned Parenthood of Bryan, Texas for ten years, including two years as director, had a change of heart after watching an abortion on a sonogram. After seeing the young child go through the violent procedure, she knew she could no longer align herself with this organization that promoted the destruction of the unborn.

Abby explained in numerous media interviews that she was encouraged by her supervisors at Planned Parenthood to aggressively advocate abortion to women because that was where the real money was to be made. In her words, “Every meeting that we had was ‘We don’t have enough money, we don’t have enough money — we’ve got to keep these abortions coming.’” “Definitely the most lucrative part of their business was abortions,” she said. “One of the things that kept coming up was how family planning services were really dragging down the budget, and family planning services include education about contraceptives. It was a drain on the budget, but abortion services were really running up the budget and that was keeping the center afloat.” In another interview, Abby said, “The money wasn’t in family planning, the money wasn’t in prevention, the money was in abortion and so I had a problem with that.”

Most abortions cost approximately $550. From the annual report, Planned Parenthood claims to have performed 305,310 abortions in 2007, yielding approximately $168,000,000 in revenue in 2007 from performing abortions. By comparison, in 2007, Planned Parenthood made 4,912 adoption referrals.

While PPFA holds non-profit status, they are able to pull in a nice profit each year. In the latest annual report, the organization claimed total revenue of $1,038,100,000, and total expenses at $953,100,000. This means that PPFA had a net income of approximately $85,000,000 from July, 2007-July, 2008, a time of economic recession. In the most recent tax form, PPFA reported revenue of over $106,000,000 from July, 2008-2009.
Government Funding

In addition to the financially profitable practice of performing abortions, PPFA receives over 1/3 of its income from federal, state and local government grants and contracts. In other words, taxpayer dollars support approximately 33% of PPFA’s budget. In 2007, $349,600,000 was paid to PPFA in government funding.24 Another $244,000,000 of PPFA’s budget came from contributions and gifts.25

Not Reporting Statutory Rape

Over the course of the last few years, Lila Rose has developed evidence that suggests that Planned Parenthood has not been reporting statutory rape in at least eight of its affiliates, including those in California, Arizona, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Indiana and Alabama.26 As a result of Rose’s sting operations, one employee in Bloomington, Indiana was fired, another employee in Indianapolis, Indiana resigned, and the Planned Parenthood clinic in Birmingham was placed on probation by the state of Alabama.

In addition to probable violations of statutory rape reporting laws, Planned Parenthood has been accused of failure to follow parental consent laws, providing medically inaccurate information and as stated previously, accepting donations earmarked specifically to abort black children.27

Clinics Decreasing

In 2009, the total number of Planned Parenthood clinics in the U.S. was 817, down from 855 in 2007. Of these, in 2009, 173 performed surgical abortion, a decrease from 2007, when 179 performed surgical abortion.

Abortion industry advocates continue to claim that there are too few clinics and too many obstacles to women being able to have an abortion performed.28 Additionally, less medical students choose to enter into this line of profession.29

RU-486: On the Rise

However, while the number of clinics performing surgical abortion is decreasing, the use of chemical abortion, RU-486, has increased, and accordingly, the number of facilities providing the RU-486 regimen has risen in the last few years.30
In 2007, 108 facilities administered the RU-486 regimen. In 2009, that number increased to 131. Mifepristone, popularly known as RU-486, was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2000 to be used as an abortion pill. To date, it remains the only FDA approved drug for the purpose of abortion. Mifepristone (RU-486) is categorized as a selected progesterone receptor modulator (SPRM), and works in a way that blocks progesterone. By blocking progesterone, a developing baby is “starved” of necessary proteins to survive its first ten weeks of development. SPRMs also suppress a woman’s immune system, making her more prone to infection and bleeding.

The FDA approval process of RU-486 was rushed, flawed, and politicized. Approval was conducted in a manner that deviated from the FDA’s norms in various ways, including the use of inferior clinical trials to gain the approval. By the spring of 2006, six years after the abortifacient was made available in the United States, the FDA acknowledged six deaths, nine life-threatening incidents, 232 hospitalizations, 116 cases involving the need for blood transfusions, and 88 cases of infections - a total of 1,070 adverse events reports.

The abortion industry has the long-term goal of making abortion easier to access and more mainstream, and approval of an abortion pill was central to this strategy.

In March 2010, a Planned Parenthood clinic in Iowa reportedly began to prescribe RU-486 over Skype, rather then through an in-person doctor visit. In May, 2010, PPFA further announced its five-year plan to begin “telemed” abortions nationally.

PPFA also administers the RU-486 regimen in an off-label fashion, for example, by administering the regimen after the FDA approved gestation cut-off date (49 days) or at a lower dose than approved by the FDA.

Planned Parenthood claims to be one of the greatest advocates of women’s health, yet is willing to administer chemical abortions, with their many dangerous complications, with minimal medical attention or supervision.

Planned Parenthood, Your Children and Sex


Sex education for children has remained critical to Planned Parenthood over the years. Prominent on their current website is the adolescent sexuality education program, “Teen Talk” (http://www.plannedparenthood.org/teen-talk/). Suffice
it to say, the website is not neutral; it has an absolute bias against heterosexual, monogamous, lifelong, marital happiness. Major subheadings on this site include: Dating, Family and Friends, Body and Mind, Sex and Masturbation, Birth Control, Safer Sex and STDs, Teen Pregnancy, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Questioning.

The site includes a “word of the day” component. A recent visit to the site revealed “Bisexual” as the word of the day; on another day the word was “fellatio.” One of the first pictures one encounters is a man with his arm around another man and the caption, “How to talk to your partner about herpes.”

We have kept information on this site minimal in this booklet, but strongly suggest that any parent of an adolescent become aware of this material so that you know what your son or daughter could be subjected to. One last note: on the section regarding Family and Friends, Planned Parenthood promises to help young people “keep things cool at home.”

Since January of 2010, International Planned Parenthood Federation has published two written pieces on sexual education. The first report, “Stand and Deliver: Sex, Health and Young People in the 21st Century,” advocates policies that dangerously over-sexualize children as young as ten. The recommendations are developmentally inappropriate, downplaying the role of parents in transmitting values to their children and accusing religious groups of “deny[ing]ing young people] the pleasurable and positive aspects of sex.” The report advocates for an international “human right” to unlimited contraception and mandatory “comprehensive” sex education for children as young as ten. To see this report, go to the following website: http://www.ippf.org/en/Resources/Reports-reviews/Stand+and+deliver+-+sex+health+and+young+people+now.htm.

Additionally, Planned Parenthood has released a sex education guide for HIV-positive youth, entitled, “Happy, Healthy, Hot: A Young Person’s Guide to Their Rights, Sexuality, and Living with HIV.” Some quotations from this guide include: “Many people think sex is just about vaginal or anal intercourse... But, there are lots of different ways to have sex and lots of different types of sex. There is no right or wrong way to have sex. Just have fun, explore and be yourself!” “Improve your sex life by getting to know your own body. Play with yourself! Masturbation is a great way to find out more about your body and what you find sexually stimulating. Mix things up by using different kinds of touch from very soft to hard. Talk about or act out your fantasies. Talk dirty to them.”

Alarmingly, the sex guide for adolescents advocates against national laws that HIV-positive people must reveal their life-threatening status to their sex partner. The guide claims that
these laws “violate the rights of people living with HIV.” They explain, “There are many reasons that people do not share their HIV status. They may worry that people will find out something else they have kept secret, like they are using injecting drugs, having sex outside of a marriage or having sex with people of the same gender.” To see this report, please visit this website: http://www.ippf.org/NR/rdonlyres/B4462DDE-487D-4194-B0E0-193A04095819/0/HappyHealthyHot.pdf

What You Can Do

It is very likely that your local Planned Parenthood receives federal, state and/or local government funding. We are frequently asked by people who want to protect their children and the unborn what they can do to combat the Planned Parenthood message in their community. While every situation is unique, we would suggest the following steps:

**Information Gathering.** Do you have a local affiliate? A simple internet search will reveal any local Planned Parenthood affiliate. Find out its name and the leaders of the organization so that you are more aware of their local influence and if they are on the local school board, hold public office, own businesses, etc. Not all Planned Parenthood affiliates perform abortions. Some offer only medical abortion (RU-486). Others might also perform suction aspiration abortions and dilation and evacuation (D & E) abortions. Some might refer patients to abortion clinics in the area. If they don’t perform abortions, find out where they refer patients. Ask if they perform abortions every day of the week. In some instances, doctors fly in from out of state and abortions are performed only once a week. The more information you can find out, the better. It is not difficult to obtain this information.

Planned Parenthood’s Financial Allies

Planned Parenthood is well supported by major corporations, nationally and internationally. A group in Virginia prepares an annual list of businesses that donate to the organization. The list is informative, and it may surprise you to learn what organizations actively support Planned Parenthood. You may view the list at: http://www.fightpp.org/.
Funding. You have many options to learn more about your local affiliate’s funding. Knowledge is power. The more you know, the more you can do something to protect life. A good place to start is with your state’s health department. You can look on their website to see what family planning services and groups are funded through the state, and to find out which perform abortions.

- As previously indicated, we suggest looking at federal funding streams to learn more about Planned Parenthood finances, as well. One good source is the previously listed site for HHS grants. You can also look through the HHS Family Planning Database to find out who is a recipient of Title X (family planning project) funding in your state or local area; http://www.opaclearinghouse.org/db_search.asp.

- IRS 990 tax forms are public information and can be relatively easy to access. Request your local affiliate’s 990 form to see how much money they have made, where it is coming from, how much they invest, etc. Another way of accessing this information is through Guidestar; http://www2.guidestar.org/.

- Check city, county and state budgets. In situations where grant or contract recipients are not listed, we strongly encourage you to ask and keep asking until you obtain a listing of the actual names of the groups who are providing the services mentioned in this booklet.

Contacts. Familiarize yourself with and befriend city council members and state legislators to identify pro-life champions. Be active in your community. Networking, being knowledgeable about the groups in your local area, and having relationships with leaders in your community is critical in this process. One citizen was actively involved in a local coalition of health organizations of which Planned Parenthood was a part. She knew that the coalition received significant county funding, but was unable to ascertain if Planned Parenthood was receiving part of that money. After seeing the annual report and finding that the recipients were not listed, she began asking more questions of her local elected officials. At this point, having a friend who was equally concerned and who had a relationship with a local elected official was important and helpful. In the end, she learned that Planned Parenthood was receiving a significant amount of county funding and helped to ensure that it was ultimately de-funded.

Legislation. Call on your state and local elected officials to pass legislation that will protect life and force transparency for Planned Parenthood. Americans United for Life has a variety of draft legislation at: http://www.aul.org/auls-2010-model-legislation-policy-guides/.
Sonogram. Offering free sonograms across the street from abortion clinics has sometimes led to their eventual closing. Sonograms are a wonderful tool in promoting the truth about the dignity of the unborn. See the following website for more information: http://www.icumobile.org/. The provision of sonograms constitutes the practice of medicine and should always be used under the direction and supervision of a licensed physician. For more information on the provision of sonograms, go to: http://www.nifla.org/nurses.asp.

Pray and peacefully protest. In the words of former Planned Parenthood director, Abby Johnson, “Having a vigil outside an abortion clinic is vital...having people out there...praying, pricks the conscience of everyone walking in. Any time you brought a member of the clergy that was particularly effective.”

Conclusion

While Planned Parenthood promotes itself as the premier organization for women’s health nationally and internationally, in reality, based on the evidence, we have concluded that it is not a benevolent or even a benign organization regarding women, minorities, and children. From its eugenic foundations to the national telemed dissemination of the dangerous RU-486 abortion regimen, Planned Parenthood appears to exploit its clients and destroys countless unborn boys and girls. You can help protect life by educating parents, teachers, women, community leaders, elected officials and other leaders about the reality behind this profit-making organization. The truth about Planned Parenthood needs to be told so that its leadership will be hit where it hurts the most: their wallets.
Endnotes

8. Letter from Margaret Sanger to Clarence Gamble, Dec 10, 1939.
12. In her biography of Margaret Sanger, Woman of Valor, Ellen Chesler tries to give a forgiving context to the racist and eugenic associations by stating that Sanger had “little choice but to engage with eugenic discourse,” but also admits that the “record is mixed” with regard to Sanger’s application of eugenics to certain groups. (Chesler, Ellen, Woman of Valor: Margaret Sanger and the Birth Control Movement in America, Simon and Schuster, NY, New York, page 486.) By contrast, author of the scholarly Margaret Sanger’s Eugenic Legacy, Angela Franks argues presents evidence that “Sanger had a genuine commitment to the eugenic ideology.” (Franks, Angela, Margaret Sanger’s Eugenic Legacy: The Control of Female Fertility, MacFarland and Company, Jefferson, North Carolina, page 1.)
17. http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.html#2
To order these resources or to see more FRC publications, visit our website at www.frc.org or call 800-225-4008.