

# DeBunking Planned Parenthood Myths

## Claim 1:

**Planned Parenthood is a committed provider of 'convenient, affordable prevention services to women, men and teens'**

## Claim 1 Rebuttal:

**Planned Parenthood is not the only provider of affordable health care.**

In Michigan, there are 147 Federal Qualified Health Centers and 53 Free Clinics of Michigan which provide affordable comprehensive medical services to women, men and children.

In 2009, Planned Parenthood Performed 278,000 FEWER Pap Tests than it did in 2004. **Planned Parenthood does NO mammograms.**

The only service Planned Parenthood offers to most pregnant women is abortion (prenatal services were only provided to 7,021 women, compare with over 332,000 abortions).<sup>1</sup>

**Planned Parenthood's prevention services have failed to prevent the problems they claim to solve.**

**Sexually transmitted diseases are pandemic**, especially among teens and young adults.

One in four teenage girls is now infected with one or more STDs (19 million new STD infections each year, costing the U.S. Healthcare system \$16.4 billion annually, not to mention the impact on individuals).

**Rates of unintended pregnancies remain high** after over 40 years of Title X funding.

About 34% of women using chemical contraception (the Pill, Depo-Provera, the Patch) have discontinued using it.

Reasons for discontinuing: Side effects, concern about side effects, did not like changes to menstrual cycle, the method failed (became pregnant)<sup>2</sup>

Many women also experience "birth control sabotage" by partners trying to impregnate them.

One study found that over half of the women seeking services at "family planning" clinics like Planned Parenthood, were victims of Intimate Partner Violence and a third had partners who intentionally tried to impregnate them.<sup>3</sup>

1 Planned Parenthood Annual Report 2008-2009 compared to Annual Report 2004-2005

2 2006-2008 National Survey of Family Growth – Series 23, No.29, U-M Institute for Social Research

3 "Screening young women for IPV in a family planning setting by B.V. Davidson et al, Contraception 72 (2005) 229-; 43

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## Claim 2:

### **Planned Parenthood helps save the state money in welfare costs**

“For every public dollar invested in family planning, \$6.47 is saved in Medicaid-related costs in the State of Michigan.”

## Claim 2 Rebuttal:

### **Cost-Benefit analysis based on human lives is a perfect example of why the government should get out of the healthcare insurance business.**

**Children represent 19% of Medicaid costs**<sup>4</sup>

(compared to 26% for the elderly and 40% for the disabled).

Over **45% of single parent-headed households** are on Medicaid or other Public assistance.

A stronger argument to reduce child-related Medicaid costs is to **encourage marriage**

(less than **15% of married-couples with children** receive Medicaid or other Public assistance)<sup>5</sup>

## Claim 3:

### **Planned Parenthood's family planning services reduces the need for abortion.**

“Reducing-and eventually ending-the need for abortion is a goal that we all can support. At the same time, Title X services prevent nearly one million unintended pregnancies each year, almost half of which would otherwise end in abortion.”

## Claim 3 Rebuttal:

### **Planned Parenthood is the #1 abortion provider – with year over year increases in its share of the abortion market.**

Abortion generates revenue for abortion providers.

Over 40% of Planned Parenthood clinic revenue comes from the abortion services provided to 10% of its clients.

In 2009, Planned Parenthood Performed 77,000 MORE abortions than it did in 2004. Each Planned Parenthood affiliate will be required to have at least one clinic that offers abortions by 2013.

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<sup>4</sup> The Urban Institute and Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured estimates based on data from Medicaid Statistical Information System (MSIS) and CMS-64 reports from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), 2010.

<sup>5</sup> The Uninsured in Michigan: A Profile Michigan Dept of Community Health Health Policy and Regulation Administration, rev Aug 16, 2010. Appendix A

# DeFund Planned Parenthood

## Reason # 1: Planned Parenthood Protects Pedophiles

Planned Parenthood has consistently failed to comply with mandatory reporting requirements concerning potential sex abuse of underage girls (documented cases in CA, KA, AL, OH and VT).<sup>6</sup>

## Reason #2: Planned Parenthood is all about abortion

Parenthood's business model is abortion-centered.

If the goal is to reduce the number of abortions in the United States, Planned Parenthood fails miserably. Abortion providers cannot be trusted to reduce the number of abortions – obvious conflict of interest.

## Reason #3: PP's promotion of “safer” sex has contributed to a pandemic of sexually transmitted diseases.

Lifestyle changes - not testing or condoms - will reduce the STD pandemic. Fewer partners, delayed sexual activity, preferably until marriage, would reduce number of STDs and unintended pregnancies.

## Reason #4: Planned Parenthood lacks accountability for funds entrusted to it.

GAO found that PP failed to account for \$1.3 billion in government funds from 2002-2008. Also, Planned Parenthood has overcharged the government in New Jersey (\$3 million), California (\$180 million), New York City (\$1.48 million) and Washington State (\$600K)<sup>7</sup>

## Reason #5: Planned Parenthood does not need federal money.

It has been profitable since at least 1987 with NET ASSETS of \$994,700,000.

6 **California:** The People v Cross 134 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 500; 2005 Cal. App. LEXIS 1844 (13 year old girl impregnated by stepfather – PP did not report sex abuse).

**Vermont:** Admission by Planned Parenthood official to report sex abuse in testimony before Vermont legislature as reported in Parental Notification of Abortion: Hearings on H.218 Before the House Judiciary Comm., 2001-2002 Legis. Sess. (Vt. 2001) (testimony of Nancy Mosher, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England on April 16, 2001. Same hearing found twelve girls under age 16 receiving abortions by Planned Parenthood which did not report any of them to authorities.

**Kansas:** Tom Williams, chief investigator for AG Phill Kline provided documentation of 164 cases of girls under 14 years receiving abortions by either Planned Parenthood or Dr. George Tiller which were not reported to authorities

**Ohio:** Soccer coach impregnated 13 year old – PP did not report sex abuse or tell parents Doe v. Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Ohio Court of Appeals – First Appellate District of Ohio (Hamilton County, Ohio

**Alabama:** Dept of Health found PP failure to report sex abuse of 13 year old who came in for two abortions 4 months apart - Anna Velasco – the Birmingham News, “Birmingham Planned Parenthood clinic placed on probation”, Feb. 11, 2010

**One possible reason:** [the Planned Parenthood employee] stated that *once the juvenile is pregnant, the juvenile is emancipated*, and further stated the father had no right to be present if the patient did not want him there.” Kennewick (WA) Police Report by Cpl JD Jackson OCA 08-33629, dated Sept. 16, 2008.

7 Auditors found that Planned Parenthood does one or more of the following: Overbill for professional services, unbundle charges, bill for services that do not qualify as family planning and overinflating the costs of contraception and medications. California paid PP a 38% premium to dispense birth control pills compared to what was paid other non-profit providers.