



WHAT LIES BENEATH

Understanding Planned Parenthood

What Lies Beneath is a PowerPoint presentation developed by Right to Life of Michigan to educate about the abortion agenda of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. For more information about Right to Life of Michigan, or other materials available, please visit www.RTL.org



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Slide 1 - Today we're going to uncover some truths about Planned Parenthood. It would be misleading to say these truths were hidden, because all of the information I'm about to give you is available publicly or from Planned Parenthood itself. However, many Americans, including prolife volunteers, know very little about this organization that has broadly affected society in matters of life and death. For most, Planned Parenthood enjoys a reputation of being a leader in women's health services, but that reputation does not have a solid foundation.

CLICK



Slide 2 - Let's begin with a brief look at the history of Planned Parenthood. They began as a single birth control facility in Brooklyn founded by Margaret Sanger.

CLICK They were originally known as the American Birth Control League and promoting birth control was their primary focus. **CLICK** During their early years they had several different leaders, although Sanger had the largest influence on their direction. **CLICK**

Over the years there was division in the organization over what level of support they would give to abortion, but they eventually jumped fully on board the abortion bandwagon. **CLICK** Planned Parenthood opened its first abortion facility in 1970 after New York legalized abortion. On January 22, 1973, the *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion in all 50 states, through all nine months of pregnancy. **CLICK**



Slide 3 - Planned Parenthood has continued their unwavering support for abortion-on-demand since that time and is now the number one provider and promoter of abortion in the United States. **CLICK**



Slide 4 - To understand the foundation of their history and beliefs, it's important to know Margaret Sanger. **CLICK**

Sanger was perhaps the most important figure of the early birth control movement in America. She was born in 1879 in New York, one of eleven children. She married twice and had three children of her own. [CLICK](#)

Her father and her first husband were both members of radical political movements. A nurse by training, Sanger credits her entry into social politics to an experience of encountering a woman who died after an illegal abortion in 1912. [CLICK](#)

Sanger's major cause was promoting birth control and sexual liberation. [CLICK](#) For Sanger, eugenics was a major factor for promoting birth control. Sanger talked about the need to limit the breeding of the "unfit" for the betterment of the human race. She wrote that charity only reinforces poverty because it allows the unfit to continue breeding. She wrote in her book *Pivot of Civilization* that, quote, "Every single case of inherited defect, every malformed child, every congenitally tainted human being brought into this world is of infinite importance to that poor individual; but it is of scarcely less importance to the rest of us and to all of our children who must pay in one way or another for these biological and racial mistakes." [CLICK](#)

It's a common belief that Sanger was explicitly racist, though author Angela Franks has said that is based on quotes incorrectly attributed to Sanger. Franks notes however that many racists associated with Sanger and racist articles were published in her journal *Birth Control Review*. It's important to examine the effect of Sanger's ideas on minorities, who were more likely to be considered "unfit" because of their higher levels of poverty. While Sanger publicly said she was not racist, it's clear her legacy has led to tragic consequences for minorities, which I will discuss in a few minutes. [CLICK](#) Despite Sanger's views and books readily available online for any person to read for decades, Planned Parenthood continued to celebrate her, even handing out an award in her name. They continue their commitment to her missions in eugenics and population control to this day. [CLICK](#)



Slide 5 - Let's now turn to Planned Parenthood itself. **CLICK** As you can see, Planned Parenthood Federation of America is firmly committed to abortion, ending more than 374,155 unborn lives in 2021-2022. **CLICK** They are not so firmly committed to offering adoption as an option, offering fewer adoptions every year. **CLICK** While Planned Parenthood claims that abortion makes up only 4 percent of their "services," we can see when it comes to actual decisions for planning parenthood, they abort a staggering 207 children for every adoption referral they make. **CLICK**

Planned Parenthood has fewer than 600 facilities in the United States. Planned Parenthood is everywhere, and their influence is felt, from small towns to inside the U.S. Capitol. **CLICK**



Slide 6 - While abortions have been decreasing overall in America since 1990, Planned Parenthood has more than doubled its abortion business since 1997, and make no mistake, Planned Parenthood is definitely a business, making more than one and a half billion dollars every year. **CLICK**



Slide 7 - Of that billion-plus dollar revenue, 35 percent came from taxpayers. **CLICK** Despite receiving government aid, Planned Parenthood routinely makes a profit. **CLICK** In their 2021-2022 fiscal year, that profit totaled \$204.7 million. **CLICK** Planned Parenthood spent \$38.6 million on lobbying government and elected officials, and that doesn't include their other political activities. **CLICK**

Though Planned Parenthood keeps finances separate for accounting purposes, our tax dollars are directly supporting a political organization that is the largest provider and promoter of abortion in the country. Your tax dollars allow Planned Parenthood to free up other money to be spent on providing abortions and promoting pro-abortion policies. **CLICK**



Slide 8 - Planned Parenthood lobbies heavily against common-sense prolife laws at the state and federal level that have saved the lives of countless unborn children. **CLICK** Here's a sample of the prolife laws they oppose, **CLICK** including bans on partial-birth abortion, sex-selection abortions and parental consent laws for minor children seeking abortions. **CLICK**

Contrary to the idea that abortion is about "choice," they oppose giving health care workers the right to object on moral and religious grounds to performing or referring for abortions, and they vigorously support taxpayer funding of abortion.

CLICK



Slide 9 - Planned Parenthood is active in many different communities and has had a profoundly negative impact on them. **CLICK** As we discussed earlier, many early supporters of Planned Parenthood were committed to birth control for eugenic reasons. While Planned Parenthood refuses to address their foundation and has moved towards a "woman's rights" basis for public support, they've had a profoundly negative impact on minorities. **CLICK** Minorities make up about a third of the population, yet minority women have almost two thirds of the abortions. That shocking statistic is from the Guttmacher Institute, a research organization that Planned Parenthood often cites. An interesting side note is that the institute is named after Alan Guttmacher, former Planned Parenthood president and vice president of the American Eugenics Society. **CLICK**



Slide 10 - Here's Planned Parenthood in their own words describing their client base and target demographic. While their arguments may have changed, the reality is their commitment to abortion in minority communities is strong. **CLICK**



Slide 11 - Planned Parenthood places a strong emphasis on reaching out to teens. **CLICK** They have a website dedicated to teen outreach, and you can visit the website for a look at what they are teaching Michigan youth. Be forewarned, you may find information there to be vulgar and irresponsible. **CLICK** They also reach out to teens through trusted public institutions and private organizations, for example the YWCA and some Girl Scout councils. **CLICK** Scandals have rocked Planned Parenthood after undercover operations from a group called Live Action that uncovered facilities willingly violating mandatory reporting laws for statutory rape, and other questionable activities as well. If you want to see the actual videos, you can go to www.liveaction.org. **CLICK**



Slide 12 - Planned Parenthood also actively seeks support in religious communities. **CLICK** Their own Clergy for Choice network consists of ordained ministers and religious leaders. **CLICK** Their Clergy Advocacy Board wrote a pastoral letter on abortion to distribute to abortion facility waiting rooms. **CLICK** Their fall 2008 newsletter highlighted the work of Yale Divinity School students who perform counseling in abortion facilities and the story of a blessing of an abortion facility in New York as "sacred ground." **CLICK** The Board issued many pro-abortion statements, including opposition to parental notification for minors seeking abortions and an attack on prolife crisis pregnancy centers. **CLICK**



Slide 13 - Planned Parenthood has engaged in human organ trafficking. **CLICK** In 2015 undercover videos revealed that several Planned Parenthood affiliates were selling the organs and tissues of babies aborted in their facilities. Despite a common argument that unborn children are just clumps of tissue, these facilities were willing to sell developed and functioning livers, thymus glands, eyeballs, brains, and more. **CLICK** The videos also showed the callous attitude of their staff. They joked about this and treated it like a business transaction, haggling over price in one video. They admitted they would change abortion procedures just to harvest more intact body parts. Women who went to their facilities were not adequately informed of this and left to wonder if they were treated differently solely so that the facility could make more money. **CLICK** The issue was summed up well with this quote from Michael Wear, a former Obama Administration staff member: "It should bother us as a society that we have use for aborted human organs, but not the baby that provides them." Planned Parenthood would rather use an ultrasound machine during the abortion to ensure more intact organs are available for sale than to educate women in their facilities before the decision they are about to make. **CLICK**



Slide 14 - Planned Parenthood has a strong presence in Michigan. **CLICK** While more and more abortion facilities around the state close, Planned Parenthood has quickly expanded its abortion business here. There are currently 15 Planned Parenthood facilities in Michigan. **CLICK**

The centers used to be managed by two affiliates in the state, **CLICK** Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan, **CLICK** and Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. **CLICK** They have since joined together and are Planned Parenthood of Michigan. They also have a lobbying group, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan. **CLICK** Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan made more than \$15 million in revenue a year and performed 4,520 abortions in 2013. With their rapid expansion and affiliate merger, those numbers are no doubt much larger. In 2007, Planned Parenthood operated 34 offices in the state, only three of which performed abortions. Fifteen years later, it's 15 offices, all of which offer abortions in some form. It's beyond debate that abortion is their central mission. **CLICK**



Slide 15 - I've thrown a lot of information at you, and now I'd like to give you some options to put this information to work. **CLICK** The most important thing you can do is educate friends and family about Planned Parenthood. Many still don't know that Planned Parenthood is the number one provider of abortion in America, or that they receive hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars every year. **CLICK**

You can decide to not support businesses and organizations that support Planned Parenthood. Some organizations like Susan G. Komen and local United Way chapters contribute money to Planned Parenthood. United Way's individual chapters have different policies about which organizations can receive funding. Several years ago Jackson Right to Life convinced their local United Way chapter to end a grant to Planned Parenthood by simply educating them with basic facts about Planned Parenthood and using their teen website as an example. **CLICK**

Right to Life of Michigan affiliates across the state work on projects that educate the public about prolife issues. Please consider volunteering some of your time to get engaged on this and other important life issues. **CLICK**



Slide 16 - We can have a profound impact on the world in our daily lives. When you add up the efforts of all the people working to defend the sanctity of human life, it can lead to big changes in the world. You can educate people about the abortion advocacy of Planned Parenthood, save lives and help end the influence Planned Parenthood has in our communities and with our children. **CLICK** You can contact Right to Life of Michigan for a handout that's available for their affiliates and other groups wanting to begin this crucial work in their local area. **CLICK** Another great resource is their flyer on Planned Parenthood, "Providing and Promoting Abortion," which is a summary of this presentation. **CLICK**

More educational brochures and flyers about Planned Parenthood are available from their educational resource centers, as well as books available for free library loan. You can find news and information about other important prolife issues there as well. **CLICK** All of this is available on Right to Life of Michigan's website at www.RTL.org, including the locations of their educational resource centers around the state. **CLICK**



Slide 17 - Much of the information in this presentation came from Planned Parenthood's annual report. Other sources used in this presentation are excellent reading for more detailed information on Planned Parenthood and their history. Dr. Angela Franks' book on Margaret Sanger is a great resource for more background about Margaret Sanger and the eugenic legacy she helped create. [*wait a few seconds for people to copy or offer this information after the presentation to anyone who is interested*] **CLICK**



Slide 18 - Change starts when we decide something is worth our time and energy. I hope you will join with me and help people understand what lies beneath the public image of Planned Parenthood, and the tragic affect they've had on the lives of millions of women, men and unborn children. You can make a difference!