

Planned Parenthood:

The real story behind the nation's premier "family planning" agency

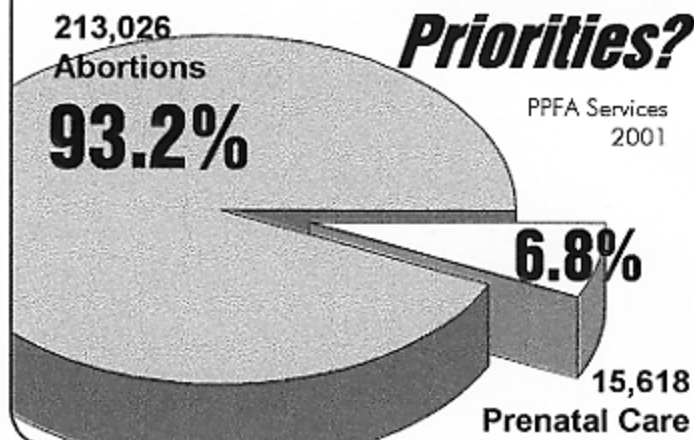
For millions of women, Planned Parenthood is supposed to be, in the words of President Gloria Feldt, "the name they trust."¹⁵² But what is Planned Parenthood's real agenda? And whose money are they using to pay for it?

Planned Parenthood is the nation's leading abortion performer and promoter.

In 2001, Planned Parenthood affiliated clinics performed 213,026 abortions,¹ about 16 percent of the estimated U.S. total.⁵³ A comparison of Planned Parenthood's services in the areas of abortion and prenatal care shows that whatever PPFA says about being "pro-choice" rather than "pro-abortion," Planned Parenthood's plans typically don't involve parenthood (see chart "Priorities").¹ Total annual abortions in the U.S. have declined over the past several years,⁵³ yet the nation's largest abortion provider is performing more abortions than it has ever recorded before.¹⁻¹¹

More than 1 out of every 7 abortions in the U.S. in 2000 was done at a Planned Parenthood clinic.

Planned Parenthood's Priorities?



An Active Abortion Agenda:

a sample of Planned Parenthood's recent activities

2000-2002^{1,2}

- Set up "Roe v. Bush" website to fight confirmation of pro-life attorney general John Ashcroft and put Bush administration "on notice about the strength of our movement and our determination to fight any anti-choice Supreme Court nomination to the end."
- Added RU486 chemical abortion services to 132 clinics.
- Went to court against pro-life laws in VA, NJ, WI, and MI.

1997-1999^{3,4,14}

- Helped obtain injunctions against partial birth abortion bans in AZ, FL, ID, IA, KY, MT, NJ, RI, VA and WI.
- Announced opposition to the Child Custody Protection Act, which would make it a crime for an adult other than a parent to transport a minor across state lines for an abortion to avoid parental notification or consent laws.
- Filed suit to stop parental notification laws from taking effect in Montana and Virginia.
- Set up a monitoring group to "prevent the loss of abortion and other reproductive health services" when secular and religious hospitals merge.
- Raised \$54,000 for the Balkan "relief effort," used some to fund the training of abortionists for Kosovo's refugees.

1995-1996^{5,16}

- "Worked closely with the Clinton administration and Congress to improve understanding of the so-called 'partial birth abortion ban'...to ensure a veto by President Clinton."

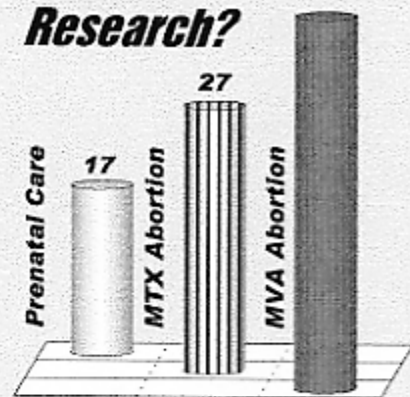
Despite recognizing, as late as 1963, that "abortion kills the life of a baby after it has begun,"¹² Planned Parenthood has, in the last thirty years, taken a leading role in advancing the abortion agenda and promoting the cause of "abortion rights." In 1996, PPFA affiliates replaced former president Pamela Maraldo, reportedly fearing her plans to broaden their clinics' medical offerings would "diminish their roles as advocates for abortion rights,"⁵⁴ despite a steady stream of abortions at affiliates during her tenure.^{5,6} Gloria Feldt, PPFA's current head, is a firm abortion advocate who once ran Planned Parenthood's Phoenix affiliate, one of the larger abortion providing affiliates.⁴⁷ Feldt assured PPFA supporters she is determined "to preserve, to protect, and defend the right to choose for you, for me, and for our children."¹³

What this "right to choose" means to Planned Parenthood is readily apparent from a glance at its political activity. Over the past several years Planned Parenthood has recruited Hollywood celebrities and invested a great deal of time and money promoting its agenda and opposing even the most common sense abortion legislation, such as parental notification, waiting periods, and bans on partial birth abortions.^{1-11, 13-16}

Planned Parenthood opposes laws requiring parental involvement in teen abortion decisions.

The PPFA Action Fund and its political action committee spent more than \$10 million in 2000 to try to elect politicians who would oppose limits on abortion.¹⁵ PPFA campaigns like "Keep the Choice Yours" and "Maggie's Millions" attempt to register and mobilize voters, such as women who visit their clinics, who are likely to favor abortion.^{14, 17}

"Responsible" Research? 38



Number of PPFA affiliates participating in given research projects

Despite the name, Planned Parenthood has demonstrated a greater commitment to abortion research than to research involving "parenthood." Among the "groundbreaking research" PPFA has featured most prominently is the early "manual vacuum aspiration" abortion invented at a Texas affiliate.⁴

PPFA has also been active in the development of chemical abortion methods. In 1994, PPFA said it was "excited" to participate in the testing of the dangerous chemical abortifacient mifepristone, popularly known as RU486.²³ In recent years, 27 Planned Parenthood affiliates have also tested and promoted another highly toxic drug, methotrexate (MTX), for abortions, believing "it will increase access" to abortion.²⁴ Half of PPFA's affiliates now offer RU486 abortions.¹

By contrast, only 17 of 133 PPFA affiliates participated in the Comprehensive Prenatal Care Network project, funded by the Pew Charitable Trust from 1995 to 1997, to develop a comprehensive delivery service model to reduce premature births and infant and maternal deaths.⁴

Though infertility has become a major issue for many couples desperately seeking to become parents, PPFA mentions no infertility research in its latest report. In 2001, PPFA saw less than one infertility client for every 3 clinics it operated.¹

While publicly condemning trafficking in fetal body parts in a 2000 ABC 20/20 exposé,⁴⁸ PPFA revealed to Congress that at least one of its clinics, in Overland Park, KS, supplied body parts from aborted babies to researchers,⁵⁰ and its 2000-01 annual report listed "fetal tissue donation" as one of the "new medical services" for its affiliates.²

...the nation's leading abortion performer and promoter... (continued)

Planned Parenthood continues to aggressively seek federal funding for "family planning" in the U.S. and for groups that support abortion overseas.^{1-3,15,18} PPFA belongs to the International Planned Parenthood

In 1993, Planned Parenthood of New York City established its "Clinician Training Initiative," to address what it saw

"The right to choose abortion makes all my other rights possible."

— Planned Parenthood advertisement, November, 1985

"Choice about...abortion must be more than legal rights....Choice must be recognized as a fundamental moral value."

PPFA Plan of Action, 1997

Federation and operates its own Family Planning International Assistance Program (FPIA).

In 2000-01, FPIA was responsible for "4,577 safe abortions" in Africa and helped develop an "abortion-provider support network" in Latin American and the Caribbean, where it reported involvement in 2,144 abortions.² PPFA's unwillingness to renounce its abortion advocacy in exchange for release of family planning funds is an indication of abortion's priority in the group's agenda.¹⁹

Despite 1.3 million abortions a year in the U.S. and the Supreme Court's 1973 decision legalizing abortion on demand for

as "the serious shortage of abortion providers in the United States." Each year

the affiliate plans to train as many as 35 doctors in first trimester abortion.²²

How such deep involvement in the abortion industry is supposed to be consistent with the "compassion for the vulnerable" trumpeted in PPFA's 1997-98 report is hard to fathom. Yet "to preserve—and expand" abortion access continued to be one of the primary goals of PPFA's 2000-01 annual report.² Planned Parenthood

A few "Choice" Quotes

"Babies are loud, smelly and expensive. Unless you want one."

Advertisement, October 16, 1996

Planned Parenthood of Minnesota/South Dakota

"Roe v. Wade was a defining moment in our nation's history...We will celebrate the wisdom and justice of this landmark decision and set a meaningful course for the future."

PPFA President Gloria Feldt

Press release on 25th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, January 1998

virtually any reason, PPFA still maintains that access to abortion is too limited and has even gone so far as to sue to place abortion facilities in communities that do not want them.²⁰

vulnerable in society — the young, the poor, and the disenfranchised, who are always the first targets of political attack,²⁴ ignoring the glaring contradiction of its own unrelenting efforts to destroy the youngest, poorest, most vulnerable of all of society's

members — the unborn.

And so, while Planned Parenthood employs the language of compassion and responsibility, its actions speak far louder than words.

PPFA spent over **\$36 million** for "public policy" in '01-'02

Planned Parenthood is a big business, and abortion is one of its biggest products.

Though technically a nonprofit, Planned Parenthood raked in \$692.5 million in revenue from 7/01-6/02.¹ Based on the current average cost of \$372 for a first trimester non-hospital abortion,²⁵ abortions alone would have accounted for at least one third of PPFA's total clinic income for fiscal 2000-01, or **about \$79 million.**¹

PPFA continually seeks to expand its abortion business to communities it deems "underserved," that is, those with no identified abortion provider. Efforts of Planned Parenthood to open an abortion clinic in Quad Cities, Iowa, to address the area's high "teen pregnancy" rate are but one example.²⁰ In addition to building new clinics, PPFA often tries to add abortion services to the offerings of its existing clinics. For example, in 1995, after 24 years of operation, Planned Parenthood of the Blue Ridge (Roanoke, Virginia area) decided to begin offering abortions, saying it no longer wanted to refer patients elsewhere.²⁶ Between 1983 and 1999, PPFA raised its total number of affiliates performing abortions from 41 to 74,^{3,22} so that over half of its affiliates now offer abortions. As of 2002, 126 affiliates operated 875 clinics in the U.S., doing business in Washington, D.C. and all states except Arkansas.^{1,15}

Trying to broaden its appeal, the "nonprofit" Planned Parenthood has released its *Women's Health Encyclopedia*, its "family resource" guide *All About Sex* (which calls abortion "the most dramatic advance in reproductive rights during the 1970s"),²⁷ and has begun marketing its own line of licensed merchandise, such as condoms, with other products such as tampons and even Planned Parenthood diapers in the works.³⁴

Abortion was the most often performed surgical procedure at Planned Parenthood clinics in 2001

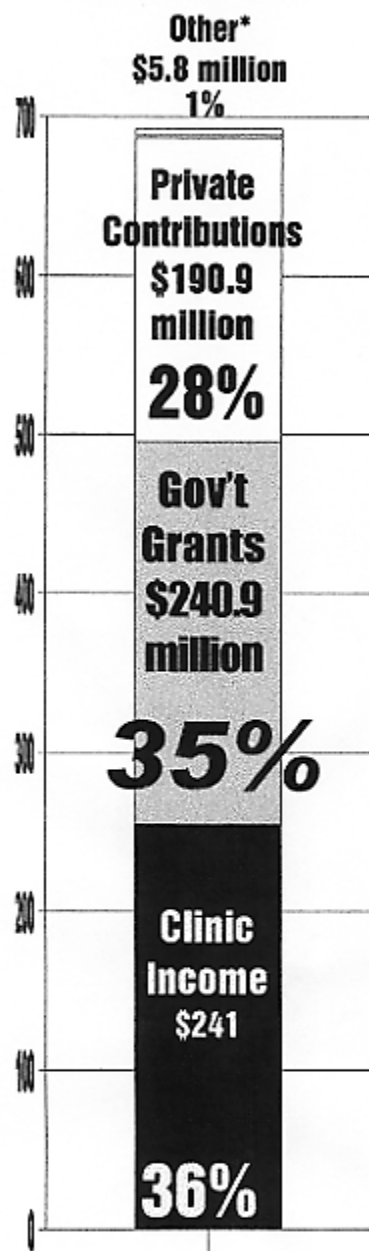
Planned Parenthood uses your tax dollars to carry out its agenda.

Over a third of Planned Parenthood's revenue comes from government grants and contracts.¹ PPFA affiliates receive money from federal, state and local governments, including Title X family planning funds, Medicaid, and social services block grants.^{28,29} Additionally, Planned Parenthood has lobbied for millions of dollars from the federal budget to be allocated for "international family planning."^{15,18} For groups like the International Planned Parenthood Federation and PPFA's Family Planning International Assistance, this "family planning" agenda often includes promoting and performing abortion.^{2,30}

Money that does not directly pay for abortions nevertheless finances their promotion by freeing up other resources for abortion advocacy through litigation, public policy, lobbying, and advertising.^{1-7,14,31} In fiscal 2001-02, PPFA spent over \$36 million for "Public Policy" in addition to \$19.5 million for "Services to Affiliates," \$22.4 million in "Services to the Field of Family Planning" and \$6.3 million for "International Family Planning Programs."¹ In the 2000 elections, the Planned Parenthood Federal Political Action Committee and Planned Parenthood Votes spent over \$10 million in radio and TV advertising and gave out \$283,000 in direct assistance to 115 "pro-choice" candidates.¹⁵

PPFA promotes abortion overseas through its FPFA program

'01-'02 PPFA REVENUES



* Alan Guttmacher Institute, Other Operating Revenue

Planned Parenthood's pro-abortion agenda can be exposed and checked.

With 35% of Planned Parenthood's funding coming from tax dollars, one of the most effective means of challenging PPFA's abortion agenda has been assaulting its pocketbook.

In 1997, Wisconsin Planned Parenthood cut seven of its forty facilities, citing "flat" funding from the federal government.³² Since 1987, the number of PPFA affiliates has fallen by 30 percent.^{1, 33}

The Missouri legislature repeatedly voted to ban Planned Parenthood from receiving its family planning funds "because it was wrong for a group that performs abortions to get state tax dollars."³⁴ Though funding was ultimately restored after the state's unsympathetic attorney general refused to defend the legislature's action, the delay tied up funding for years and publicity associated with the case helped draw attention to how deeply abortion was tied to Planned Parenthood's structure and mission.³⁵

Other strategies have proven effective as well. In 1990, AT&T withdrew its financial support from PPFA after receiving letters of complaints about Planned Parenthood's abortion advocacy.³⁶ Activists and City Councils, such as those in Bedford City, OH; Quad Cities, IA; and Lancaster, PA have also employed zoning and health regulations among their tools to delay Planned Parenthood from performing abortions in their cities.^{15, 20, 21, 51}

Planned Parenthood has also been dropped as a sponsor from events and television shows because of its controversial standing,³⁷⁻³⁹ showing that its "unassailable reputation"¹³ can be effectively challenged.

Factsheet prepared by Laura S. Antkowiak, NRL-ETF research assistant and Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D., NRL-ETF Director of Education & Research

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NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE
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Margaret Sanger, who founded the series of groups that would become PPFA when she opened the first birth control clinic in 1916,² declared in her book *Pivot of Civilization*,

"...we are paying for and even submitting to the dictates of an ever increasing, unceasingly spawning class of human beings who never should have been born at all...."⁴² Their reckless breeding, Sanger said, produced the "dead weight of human waste," which included those who were poor, blind, deaf, mute, epileptic, "feeble-minded," mentally ill, diseased, prisoners, prostitutes, or alcoholics.^{42, 41}

While the modern PPFA has abandoned some of Sanger's more offensive language, the group's current policies and activities do not present any obvious departure from its founder's original aims. Today, Planned Parenthood identifies its "core clients" as "young women, low-income women, and women of color."¹⁴ According to a PPFA fact sheet, poor women are approximately three times as likely as others to have an abortion,¹⁵ while the Alan Guttmacher Institute, PPFA's special research affiliate, found that black women's abortion rates are nearly triple those of white women.⁴³ It is not surprising, then, that Planned Parenthood specifically promotes federally funded family

planning services and abortion for the poor as cost-saving measures.^{13, 40}

eugenics?

idea that genetically inferior people ought not be born. While Sanger limited her means of "weeding out the unfit" and "preventing the birth of defectives,"⁴¹ to birth control, the modern PPFA specifically lists abortions for genetic disability as one of the "Health Benefits to American Society Since

At the heart of the eugenics agenda espoused by Sanger and her allies was the "Abortion was Legalized," asserting that "couples at risk for having children affected with severe and often fatal genetic disorders have been willing to conceive because of the availability of amniocentesis and safe, legal abortion."¹⁵

Sanger declared that "all our problems are the result of overbreeding among the working class."⁴⁴ In 1993, 61.5% of PPFA's abortion clients were below 150% of the poverty level, and 29.7% were registered for Medicaid.²² The Metropolitan Washington affiliate's "Justice Fund" helps to finance abortions for poor women.⁴⁵ Across the country, PPFA affiliates extend their programs to "hard-to-reach populations" like the homeless, the disabled, substance abusers, migrants, and prisoners, including juvenile offenders.⁴⁶

1922: Margaret Sanger
"All our problems are the result of
overbreeding among the working
class."

1997: PPFA
identifies its "core clients" as
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