While the specter of abortion has permeated all levels of American society, perhaps no group has been as devastated by abortion as minorities.

Since 1973, the year the Supreme Court made abortion legal in the United States, at least 13.8 million black, Hispanic, and other minority babies have been aborted in the U.S. Because Hispanic abortions were not considered as a separate category in government statistics until 1990, and because these figures do not include abortions performed after 2000, that number is probably far higher.

The loss to these communities is more than just numbers or population. Abortion means the loss of black and Hispanic athletes, artists, political leaders, scientists, teachers, engineers, businessmen and businesswomen.

In 1997, minority-owned businesses were one of the faster growing segments of the U.S. economy, generating $495 billion dollars in revenues and employing nearly 4 million workers. More black and Hispanic entrepreneurs would easily translate into not only more minority-owned businesses, but also more jobs and higher tax revenues. Abortion affects not only the labor pool, but also minority entrepreneurship.

In the history of America, immigrants, minorities and the poor have often been treated as social outcasts and blamed for all sorts of social ills. Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood, argued that “all our problems are the result of overbreeding among the working class.”

Today Planned Parenthood, America’s leading abortion promoter and provider, identifies its “core clients” as “young women, low-income women, and women of color.”

While representing only a quarter of the U.S. population of women of child-bearing age, African American and Hispanic American women account for over half of all abortions performed each year in the United States.

Population data from 2000 U.S. Census

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Abortion data from Alan Guttmacher Institute