

Defunding Planned Parenthood

Core Message

As the nation's largest abortion chain with a long record of unethical activity, Planned Parenthood does not deserve our tax dollars.

Key Points

1. Planned Parenthood is the nation's largest abortion chain.

- Planned Parenthood performs over 320,000 abortions a year.
- 34% of all U.S. abortions are done by Planned Parenthood.
- 1 out of 8 women visiting Planned Parenthood each year will get an abortion there.
- Planned Parenthood takes in an estimated \$191 million on abortion alone every year, accounting for three fifths of their clinic income.
- Planned Parenthood is cornering the market on abortion: even as the national abortion rate declines, Planned Parenthood's abortion numbers continue to rise.

2. Planned Parenthood is a bad actor and a lightning rod of controversy.

- Planned Parenthood has been caught shielding child predators, lying about what services they provide, deceiving government officials, defying state and federal laws, submitting fraudulent Medicaid claims, and harvesting and selling fetal tissue.
- Because of their huge abortion business, unethical activity and partisan political involvement, Planned Parenthood is one of the most divisive organizations in the country.

3. Planned Parenthood exaggerates their role in providing healthcare to women.

- Planned Parenthood provides less than 2% of manual breast exams, less than 1% of pap tests, and zero mammograms annually.
- Women cannot go to Planned Parenthood for such basic healthcare needs as treatment for back pain, colds and flus, bodily injury, and mental health issues.
- Despite their name, Planned Parenthood offers almost no prenatal care, which amounts to less than 0.2% of total annual services.
- Planned Parenthood offers no pediatric care, a primary concern of millions of women, and even instructs women not to bring children with them to their centers.
- 4 out of 5 women will never visit a Planned Parenthood facility.

4. Defunding Planned Parenthood would not reduce funding for women's health.

- Every dollar taken from Planned Parenthood would be redirected to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that don't provide abortions.
- Nationwide, there are 13 times more FQHCs than Planned Parenthood centers, serving 8 times more clients.
- FQHCs offer families a far wider range of services and a higher standard of care than Planned Parenthood.

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Questions and Answers

How much taxpayer funding does Planned Parenthood receive from the federal government?

Planned Parenthood receives \$553 million annually from taxpayers, 43% of their annual budget, of which \$430 million comes from the federal government. The balance of their taxpayer funding comes from state and local governments.

Isn't abortion only a very small part of what Planned Parenthood does?

Planned Parenthood claims abortion is only 3% of their services, a figure so misleading that Slate magazine called it “the most meaningless abortion statistic ever.” Out of the 9.5 million individual services Planned Parenthood provided in 2014, 323,999 were abortions—roughly 3%. But this figure fails to account for the fact that a woman visiting Planned Parenthood for an abortion will receive several services—from a pregnancy test to some manner of counseling to the abortion itself—each of which is counted separately. Also, abortion accounts for more than 60% of their total clinic income.

Don't you know Planned Parenthood doesn't receive funding directly for abortion?

Even if Planned Parenthood does not receive federal funding directly for abortion, the \$430 million they receive from the federal government helps them to keep the lights on, staff their call centers, and market their business. Moreover, offering taxpayer funded services also provides Planned Parenthood with a large population to market their abortion services to. Taxpayer funding is propping up the nation's largest abortion chain.

Why do you want to take healthcare away from poor women?

Nobody is trying to reduce poor women's access to healthcare. Every dollar taken from Planned Parenthood would be redirected to Federally Qualified Health Centers that provide a far wider range of services and a higher standard of care than Planned Parenthood.

Doesn't Planned Parenthood reduce abortion by providing contraception?

Defunding Planned Parenthood would not reduce federal funding for contraception or any healthcare service. It should also be noted that more than half of women getting abortions were using contraception during the month they became pregnant.

Sources

Planned Parenthood 2014-15 Annual Report. <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/about-us/annual-report>.

Charlotte Lozier Institute. <http://lozierinstitute.org>.

STOP Planned Parenthood International. <http://stopp.org>.

Get Your Care. <http://getyourcare.org>.

Pro-Life Q & A: Planned Parenthood. https://prolifeaction.org/fact_type/planned-parenthood/