

Florencia i have
various friends who
directly receive

[Life](#), [Friendship](#)



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Planned Parenthood
Planned Parenthood is a non profit organization that provides reproductive health care in the US and globally which is funded by the government. The first birth control clinic was opened by Margaret Sanger in 1916, she was then the founder of the American Birth Control League in 1921. In 1942, the name was changed to Planned Parenthood. Today Planned Parenthood provides with one hundred fifty nine medical and non medical affiliates which are located in over six hundred fifty clinics just in the United States. They are currently partnered with organizations in twelve countries internationally. Planned Parenthood's main line of care is to provide people with reproductive health services, sexual education. Contraception is Planned Parenthood's most used health care service. Since Planned Parenthood is funded by tax money.

Some citizens believe that they are spending money on a cause that violates their morals - such as abortions and birth control. Many believe that it should be funded by private donations. President Trump himself, has stated that because he is "Pro-Life" therefore he is an advocate for defunding Planned Parenthood. This has been an ongoing battle for many years, however it is a fact that if Planned Parenthood is defunded it would affect millions of US citizens.

Planned Parenthood is an important source to women's health. Many feminists believe that defunding Planned Parenthood is an attack on women's rights. If Planned Parenthood were to be defunded by the government, not

only would it be harder for women to get abortions, but it will diminish numerous access to health care services for women.

Today, Planned Parenthood provide " health services to at least 2.5 million people, the vast majority of whom live at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty line." (Klasing) Government funds are not used for abortion services in Planned Parenthood and they only make up three percent of the wide range of services they provide. Furthermore, Planned Parenthood gives essential health care for women in rural areas where they are not able to access hospitals, doctors, or clinics. Millions of women receive birth control from Planned Parenthood and " 360,000 women received breast exams and 270,000 received pap smear tests." (Klasing) These tests help women detect early signs of cancer, which increases the patient's odds in survival.

Personally, I have gone to Planned Parenthood countless times for my health, and I have various friends who directly receive birth control from Planned Parenthood for free. Planned Parenthood helps women who can not afford health care. They give out their own insurance for low income people, and most procedures are free and easily accessed for them. For example, a woman who has a very low income does not want to get pregnant and is currently sexually active. She can utilize Planned Parenthood to receive free contraception like Birth Control pills or Plan B pills. Without Planned Parenthood so many women would not be able to afford contraceptions, causing unwanted pregnancies.

This organization caters to help women in so many different ways and women deserve the choice to their own health care. Moreover, not only does Planned Parenthood provide women's health care services but they also provide health care services to any age or gender. Anyone can receive STD screenings and treatments, immunizations, pediatric care, behavioral-health care, general care, and even LGBT services. Planned Parenthood also provides "responsible sex education and family planning services for hundreds of thousands of American teenagers every day." (Feldt) It is imperative that teens are given the proper sex education as they are growing up and Planned Parenthood aids to teens daily. In 2013, "Planned Parenthood reported seeing 2.7 million patients in 4.

6 million clinical visits. Roughly 16% of its clients were teenagers" (wikipedia) Planned Parenthood helps teens with bullying, puberty, relationships, preventing pregnancy and STDs, and more. This organization does more than provide health care. They help young teens with their mental health and anything with their own personal life. Men are also able to receive STD treatments and screening, vasectomy procedures, and erectile dysfunction services. Planned Parenthood also gives men education regarding male birth control and lowering the risk of STDs.

Many people support Planned Parenthood, however there are large groups of people who oppose it and demand the government to stop funding it. The republican party intensely opposes the government funding Planned Parenthood. Mainly because they believe they should not be paying taxes to support an organization that contradicts their morals and ideas. In 2011

the organization " Americans United for Life released a report pointing to ' systemic financial irregularities and other abuses' apparent in its investigation of over twenty years of Planned Parenthood records.

The report called for a federal investigation claiming Planned Parenthood misused more than 300 million per year of tax payer money."

(Watt) House republicans then launched a full blown investigation into Planned Parenthood's finances, especially at how the organization was abstaining from keeping government funds to abortion services.

This investigation caused anger from the National Organization for Women and added fuel to the " War on Women".

Meanwhile, Komen, a major funder of Planned Parenthood hired Karen Handel, an opposer of Planned Parenthood, as the senior vice president of public policy. Two months after the federal investigation had begun (Spring), " Komen's board voted to eliminate funding of Planned Parenthood...two weeks later Komen's president, Elizabeth Thompson informed Planned Parenthood of the board's decision." (Watts) The public reaction was very big, many people used social media outlets to voice their opinions. Many people were not happy with Komen's decision, people like the New York Mayor Michael R.

Bloomberg donated 250, 000 to Planned Parenthood to help continue their care for women's health. This decision caused a huge controversy within the public and to this day the debate has not been settled. Republicans have been advocating the defunding of Planned Parenthood for years, now

that President Trump has come into office, a new health care bill has been pushed by the house. Trump has clearly stated that he is pro-life, therefore wanting to defund Planned Parenthood. A bill was signed by Trump that would allow “ states to withhold federal money from organizations that provide abortion services.” (Merica) Planned Parenthood falls directly under this category.

Furthermore, despite the claims that defunding Planned Parenthood were to cause havoc, there is factual information that shows it will not. Since, 1995 there has been a 20% decline in Planned Parenthood clinics. If Planned Parenthood were to close the availability of abortions will not diminish, the “ 1, 058, 490 abortions performed in 2011 were provided by 329 abortion clinics, 510 ‘ other’ clinics, 595 hospitals, and 286 physician’s offices.” There are over two thousand pregnancy care centers in the United States to help women with unplanned pregnancies.

Clearly there would still be sufficient options for abortion services. Defunding Planned Parenthood would enable over half a billion dollars a year that could go to other “ health care service providers, community health centers, primary care physicians, hospitals, and others—that provide a broader range of health services than Planned Parenthood ever has.” (Grossu) Women in poverty would be able to use Medicaid for health care services at these centers. From 2009 to 2013, cancer screening, prevention programs, prenatal services, breast exams all dropped by at least half at Planned Parenthood. (Grossu). Evidently, Planned Parenthood’s health care services has been declining while abortions are increasing every year. Planned Parenthood has

been around for over a hundred years, this organization provides health care services for all ages and gender. Throughout the years Planned Parenthood has helped countless low income citizens with contraceptions, STD screening and treatment, cancer screenings, sex education, immunizations and more.

Planned Parenthood is believed to be an essential part for women's health. Millions of women receive aid from Planned Parenthood per year with breast exams, pap smears, abortions, birth control, and more. Because of abortion services that Planned Parenthood provides republicans or conservatives push for the defunding of Planned Parenthood. In a Federal Investigation Planned Parenthood was discovered to misuse millions of tax payer money. Furthermore, the current president elect, President Donald Trump, has pushed a bill that allows states to withhold funding to organizations that provide abortion services—like Planned Parenthood. Furthermore, it has been factually shown that without Planned Parenthood the availability of abortions is still viable. Also there has been a steady decline of health service from Planned Parenthood since 2009.

This debate on defunding Planned Parenthood has fueled much uproar from the public, and it is clear that if the government were to stop funding Planned Parenthood altogether millions of lives would be affected.