

STOPP International's

RYAN REPORT

Behold the Lord, Jesus Christ, who tries so hard to get our attention

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New PP clinic in Twin Falls targets kids

Planned Parenthood Association of Idaho (PPAI) opened a new clinic in Twin Falls, Idaho, on June 3. PPAI's president, Rebecca Poedy, wasted no time in declaring that PP would be targeting kids. She said, "The ultimate answer is to educate our youth," referring to the problem of teen pregnancy (*The Times-News*, June 14, 2002). The truth is that it is precisely the Planned Parenthood philosophy that encourages sex outside of marriage that has led to increased teen pregnancy. Turning to Planned Parenthood for help in preventing teen pregnancy is like throwing gas on a burning fire. Planned Parenthood is the problem, not the solution.

PPAI will be targeting pre-teens with its "All About Puberty" classes and will be targeting teenagers with a class called "Sex and Responsibility." These classes will, of course, provide customers for Planned Parenthood's new clinic. Kids will be given a message that encourages promiscuity and will be told that Planned Parenthood will provide them with contraceptives. Of course, this will be done confidentially, so their parents need not be informed. It's a simple, yet effective business scheme.

Even a local church has been hoodwinked into buying PP's big lie. The First United Methodist Church of Twin Falls recently invited PP to talk with its youth group about sex. Poedy has used the local media to inform the public that PP welcomes invitations from schools, churches and other community organizations to speak (*ibid.*).

Peody also claimed that PP refers many women to doctors for prenatal care and to adoption agencies. "We are not an abortion mill," she said. Planned Parenthood's own annual reports tell a different story. For the fourth straight year, PP's adoption referrals have declined while abortions have increased. In 2000, PP had only 2,486 adoption referrals to an outside agency, yet it performed 197,070 abortion procedures. That year PP aborted 79 babies for every one adoption referral. And that doesn't even take into account the countless other children who have died because of the pre-implantation abortifacient effects that often occur with the use of many so-called contraceptives such as the pill, the IUD, injections and implants that PP provides.

Pro-lifers in the region have been active in opposing the new clinic. In March 2002, Idaho Chooses Life (ICL) reported that it joined with about 125 pro-lifers to protest at the clinic site. Laura Mulberry, head of Magic Valley Rock For Life, organized the protest. Immediately following the protest at the clinic, the group walked over to protest at the offices of two local attorneys, John Lezamiz and John Hepworth. These

attorneys own a building that they agreed to lease to Planned Parenthood to house the new clinic.

ICL's director, David Ripley, addressed the protestors and called upon the pastors in Magic Valley to show greater leadership in the fight against PP. ICL later reported the sad news that that one Episcopalian minister, Brian Thom, became "so enamored of Planned Parenthood's mission of death that he has joined their Board of Directors" (ICL press release, June 6, 2002).

After the March protest, pro-lifers found out that U.S. Senator Larry Craig would be holding a fundraiser at the home of John Lezamiz, who rents to PP. ICL wrote to Senator Craig, a Republican, and asked him to cancel the fundraiser in light of Lezamiz's connection with PP. Up to that point, Craig had, according to Ripley, a strong pro-life record.

Craig rejected the appeal and went ahead with the fundraiser. ICL has proposed that PP name its new clinic the "Larry Craig Abortion Mill." According to ICL, the event raised an estimated \$2,600 for Craig. ICL said, "All in all, it seems that Craig earned precious little silver for his betrayal of the pro-life movement and the values he claims while on the campaign trail. While we have lost this round, the battle is not over. Victory belongs to the Lord and those willing to faithfully labor in the rocky fields" (*ibid.*).

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STOPP commends ICL, Magic Valley Rock For Life, and the other pro-lifers in the area for their efforts against PP and their willingness to continue the fight. Especially noteworthy is their willingness to expose those in the community who are supporting Planned Parenthood. The tactic of putting pressure on "middle men" who are providing a building for Planned Parenthood has proven effective elsewhere in the past. Such "middle men" are often not able to sustain the public pressure and the stigma of carrying the banner for Planned Parenthood.

STOPP supporters are urged to keep this battle in their prayers with a special request to the Lord that He will stir the hearts of pastors in Twin Falls and surrounding counties to become strong voices against the evil of Planned Parenthood now present in their region. For more information, see www.idahochooseslife.org.

PP director gives birth, loses position, sues PP

Kelli Wulfekuhle, the former director of a Des Moines, Iowa, Planned Parenthood clinic is suing Planned Parenthood according to a May 18, 2002, article in the *Des Moines Register*. Wulfekuhle's lawsuit says Planned

Parenthood terminated her as Central Clinic manager after she gave birth in August 2000. When she was preparing to return to work in October 2000, Planned Parenthood told her that her position as clinic manager had been eliminated. Wulfekuhle returned to work as the "acting" clinic manager at a different PP clinic. In February 2001, another employee filled her old "eliminated" position at the Central Clinic.

The lawsuit says that Planned Parenthood "terminated the plaintiff's employment because she sought and received leave related to her pregnancy to which she was entitled under the Family and Medical Leave Act" and that the termination was "willful and wanton and done in malice or reckless disregard of the rights of the plaintiff." Wulfekuhle is seeking reimbursement for lost earnings, job-hunting expenses, mental anguish and emotional distress.

Longtime Planned Parenthood observers will not be shocked at what happened to Wulfekuhle. After all, they know Planned Parenthood is not a child or mother-friendly organization. What can you expect from an organization that willfully and wantonly disregards the right to life of the 540 babies aborted every day at its clinics throughout the U.S.?



STOPP's Ed Szymkowiak and Adam Redmon from ALL's Crossroads (center, holding shirts) gave a set of talks to members of St. Jerome Catholic Church in Newport News, Va., on June 2, 2002.

What if ...

Marty Leenhouts sent the following article to STOPP. Thanks, Marty!

What if . . . the leader of an international child pornography organization opened a center for abused children? Kids abused by pornographers were helped to see that the trauma they had experienced would eventually go away if they just realized that this was a normal part of growing up. Charging for medical and psychological professionals to work with abused children, this porn organization profited greatly by offering these services.

What if . . . the head pimp from an organized prostitution ring received government funding to begin nationwide homes for battered and oppressed women? Many women, being charged \$300 per day for counseling services and group therapy, received needed help from years of coercion and abuse by their pimps and customers. After these services, most of these women regained enough of their self-esteem to return to their jobs as prostitutes.

What if . . . Coors, Budweiser and Michelob opened pay-per-visit clinics across the country for people struggling with alcoholism? For a modest charge, these individuals could receive help and

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advice from current alcoholics that would enable them to keep drinking, and yet not totally destroy their family or harm any innocent people.

What if . . . R.J. Reynolds and Philip Morris began offering courses on how to quit smoking? For only \$269.95, smokers are provided with a six-step program guaranteed to help them kick the habit. Once smoking is stopped, they are shown how easy it was to stop, so starting smoking again really isn't a problem after all. Upon completion of the course, graduates are provided with a free carton of cigarettes of their choice.

What if . . . drug pushers across the country opened drug rehabilitation centers? Addiction problems could be taken care of so that normal drug use could continue without destroying the user's economic and social life. Discount pricing is offered if addicts had attended a drug rehab center before.

Absurd you say? Not really...

For the past couple of months, I've been spending a few hours each week outside the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Mankato, Minn., with a sign that reads "Planned Parenthood LIES." When people stop to talk to me, I often ask them what they know about Planned Parenthood. Some will respond, "They do good things like treat people for STDs and keep people from getting pregnant." Who could be against treating people with STDs, right?

This is my point exactly in the above "What if's"—it's absurd to think that a drug pusher would profit from curing people from drug addiction. It's absurd to think that a cigarette company would profit from helping people temporarily quit smoking. It's absurd to think of pimps helping abused women regain their self-esteem so they can continue prostituting themselves once again.

The connection is identical with Planned Parenthood. PP led the charge to break down all sexual "barriers" and encouraged and promoted young people to experiment with and practice sex whenever they felt like it. They were taught that they could do this "safely" and without guilt, because it was normal and "everyone was doing it." They did this from within the schools, social organizations, and churches, while infiltrating the homes and minds of families across the U.S. and around the world. Along with this came an increase in sexual activity, STDs, pregnancies outside of marriage, and untold mental, emotional, spiritual and psychological problems.

PP helped create these problems, but now they will help solve them—for another fee. Go back to PP and get your STDs treated, have a "morning-after" chemical abortion with a high dose of contraceptives, or have a surgical or chemical abortion if your pregnancy test comes back positive. And for sure, come back for more birth control once this "problem" is taken care of. The very organization that helped to proliferate these "problems" now is seen as being helpful when it treats the problems it has created.

How absurd is that?

And remember this, all of these services are fee-based. Even if they are "free" to the customer, PP receives taxpayer funding (30 percent of their funding is from taxpayers) and will bill the government (you and I) instead. PP profits from higher sexual activity by selling so-called contraceptives (many of which act as chemical abortifacients), doing pregnancy tests, STD tests, and checkups. Then when "problems" come up from sexual activity, PP is there to charge for STD treatment, chemical abortions and surgical abortions as "back-up" birth control (197,070 surgical abortions in the year 2000 alone). All this results in

generated profits of over \$38,000,000 in FY 2001, and total profits of \$454,000,000 in the last 15 years. This is **profit** generated by this "non-profit" machine. The cycle is endless when the PP way is followed: promote sexual activity as normal and safe, sell contraception, sell testing, sell treatment for associated problems, go out and keep doing what you're doing, "See you next time!" Ka-ching! Ka-ching!

Enough is enough. Don't let anyone confuse you by saying that PP is such a good organization to provide the "services" they do! It's a **big lie!**

Just as a footnote regarding the time I've been able to spend in front of Planned Parenthood in Mankato: the response has been fantastic. It's evident that God has opened the way at this time. In a normal two-hour time period, I have had the chance to talk to 16–18 people. Men and women passing by will pull over; workers and customers at Hardee's next door will come over to talk; and young women going into and coming out of PP will often talk openly with me. I'd say that 80–85 percent of the time the response has been positive when they hear the truth about this deceitful organization. Pray with me that this PP clinic will close and a crisis pregnancy center will take its place.

Pennsylvania effort to defund PP contains exceptions

Pro-Life Union Inc. of South Eastern Pennsylvania informed STOPP on June 7, 2002, that legislative efforts to restrict family planning funds in that state were still in doubt as of that date. However, a review of the battle thus far may be of use to others across the country.

One phase of the battle involved an effort by State Representative Daryl Metcalfe (R-Cranberry) to remove "family planning" from the budget entirely. Metcalfe made no bones about the fact that Planned Parenthood was his main target. He said, "Planned Parenthood is benefiting from these funds...It is a powerful lobbying arm for abortion advocates. This is a divisive beast, Planned Parenthood. We need to stop funding the abortion advocate Planned Parenthood. It is a radical group" (*Post-Gazette*, May 1, 2002).

Unfortunately, Metcalfe's proposal to eliminate all "family planning" funds (\$4.3 million) from the state budget was defeated. The *Post-Gazette* said, "Most members of the House's anti-abortion caucus were aghast, calling Metcalfe's measure 'extreme.'" Metcalfe's amendment was defeated (31-165). Metcalfe tried a similar amendment that would have shifted all the family planning money to Maternal and Child Health Care. This too was defeated (50-145).

Well, first of all, Metcalfe is to be congratulated for going to the root of the problem. This is exactly what STOPP advocates to be the best course of action. Family planning programs need to be completely eliminated. Not only do these programs provide sometimes-abortifacient contraception, but even the non-abortifacient contraception these programs provide is offensive. Contraception is a grave moral evil, and the state should not be promoting and funding it. Apparently, most of Metcalfe's colleagues just don't get it.

The Pennsylvania legislature did, however, pass amendments that would restrict family planning money from going to organizations that counsel for or perform abortions. The house passed the Birmelin Amendment (138-59) and the senate passed a similar Helfrick Amendment (33-16) to the Pennsylvania budget.

The May 8 version of the proposed Pennsylvania budget (Senate Bill 5) for fiscal year starting in July of 2002, contained the following language:

\$4,343,000 shall be used for grants for women's medical services, including contraception supplies. As a condition for receiving funds for women's medical services, including contraceptive supplies, a project shall not promote, perform or refer for abortions or engage in abortion counseling and shall be physically and financially separate from any facility engaging in such activities as verified by an audit and inspection conducted by the Department of Public Welfare and evidence of such physical and financial separation shall be supplied by such documentation as the Department of Public Welfare shall request. The physical and financial separation requirement shall not apply to any abortion or to any abortion referral or any abortion counseling in connection therewith, which:

(1) on the basis of the physician's good faith clinical judgment, is necessary to prevent the death of the mother or to prevent the serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function; or

(2) is performed in the case of a pregnancy caused by rape or incest.

The above would force Planned Parenthood to separate its abortion business or face state defunding. Unfortunately, it contains exceptions that, quite frankly, seem to indicate that the Pennsylvania legislature thinks that certain abortions are acceptable. STOPP would advocate that any legislation to restrict family planning funding not carry exceptions such as (1) and (2) above. In cases such as those described in (1), we must

remember that there are two patients involved. Every possible effort must be made to save both.

Also, faced with a similar provision in Colorado, Planned Parenthood did create a separate entity for its abortion business; thus, PP may well do the same in Pennsylvania to continue getting state funds. That is another reason why STOPP prefers Metcalfe's proposal to completely eliminate the state family planning program.

Wisconsin effort to defund PP

A recent unsuccessful effort to restrict family planning funds from going to Planned Parenthood occurred in Wisconsin and is worth reviewing in detail, for it illustrates some of the pitfalls those attempting to do the same in other states might face.

Pro-life Wisconsin (PLW) printed the following summary in the March/April 2002 issue of its newsletter, *The Banner*, regarding Assembly Bill 546:

AB 546—PLW supported Rep. Mark Gundrum's (R-New Berlin) bill that would have defunded organizations that promote or perform abortion. There was tremendous support at a public hearing in February, but the bill died when Rep. Gundrum refused to compromise the lives of some babies because of exceptions. It was replaced by a bill that included the exceptions of rape, incest and life of the mother, which Pro-Life Wisconsin could not support.

Wisconsin Right to Life also supported the bill. Introduced on October 10, 2001, AB 546 had 36 sponsors in the Assembly and seven in the Senate. The language

of AB 546 was far more complex than the Pennsylvania budget amendment quoted in the previous story. AB 546 was designed to carefully close any loopholes Planned Parenthood might try to exploit by trying to circumvent the law by creating a phony separation between its abortion business and the rest of its business.

AB 546 contained language that would have been added to an existing part of the Wisconsin statutes that already prohibited the subsidy of abortion (20.927) and prohibited the funding of abortion-related activities (20.9275). Section 20.927 does, however, contain exceptions for rape, incest, life of the mother, and health of the mother. AB 546 sought to go further by not allowing state family planning funds from going to organizations that perform or promote abortions.

The interesting thing about AB 546 is that it said it would apply “notwithstanding” (despite) the provisions of section 20.927, which allowed exceptions for the subsidy of abortion itself.

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) created the fiscal impact estimate for the bill dated February 8, 2002. It said, “The fiscal impact of this bill is not possible to quantify, but there could be significant increased costs to the state’s family planning services and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programs.” It went on to say that under AB 546, at least one provider [presumably PP], which currently serves about one-third of the state’s family planning clients, would become ineligible to receive state funds, unless it reorganized to fit the requirements of the bill. If it didn’t reorganize, and there were no other cost-effective providers in an area, it would “cost the state more to maintain the current level of service.” If the state didn’t maintain this level, it would risk “violating the federal maintenance of effort provisions associated with MCH and family plan-

ning grants that could trigger the loss of all federal funds for these programs.” The federal funds in question amounted to \$1.8 million for family planning and \$11.7 million for MCH (FY '02).

In addition, the DHFS analysis claimed that since “AB 546 would apply the restrictions on pregnancy programs or services to all public programs, including MA [medical assistance], there is a **potential that it might** impact federal funding under MA. Federal rules require that abortions be supported in certain cases while the restrictions on pregnancy programs prohibit the provision of abortion services.” [STOPP’s emphasis.] Of course, the federal rules are those of the Hyde Amendment, which allows federal funding of rape, incest, and “life of the mother” abortions.

The rather iffy language, used by a department that no doubt would suffer financially under AB 546, was enough to scare most everyone away from AB 546. After all, who wants to jeopardize one’s entire federal funding for medical assistance?

By February 20, a new Assembly bill (831) had been crafted that contained language that acknowledged the same exceptions listed under section 20.927 of the Wisconsin statutes. In other words, AB 831 would prohibit state funds to an organization that engages in abortion-related activities, except for abortions performed to save the life of the mother, in cases of rape or incest, or to prevent health damage to the mother.

On principle, Pro-Life Wisconsin could not support AB 831, but Wisconsin Right to Life did. The February 20, 2002, DHFS fiscal analysis of AB 831 indicated that federal funds for MA would not be at risk since the bill exempts that program from the prohibitions. However, DHFS did claim that AB 831 could trigger the loss of all fed-

eral funds for MCH and family planning for the very same reasons given for AB 546 (see above).

AB 831 eventually stalled, but similar language was added to the Assembly version of the budget as an amendment that was approved 67-32 on March 14. In the Senate, Democrat leader Chuck Chvala wouldn’t even permit a vote on such a provision.

In the meantime, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin CEO and president, James Stewart, has been beating the drum against any effort to restrict the state’s family planning program. In an editorial in the *Capital Times* on May 9, he reiterated the same theme that the DHFS fiscal analysis stressed, that the Assembly effort could cost the state \$13.5 million in federal grants for Maternal and Child Health and family planning.

On June 26, PLW informed STOPP that the Senate and Assembly conference committee decided to drop all language regarding this matter from the proposed budget.

Now, what is important to note in this battle is that the DHFS fiscal impact analysis uses language that is very weak regarding the contention that efforts to restrict state family planning funds will jeopardize federal programs. Words such as “might” or “could” beg the question of why DHFS could not be more sure of itself. Furthermore, if such were the case, one would think that DHFS would have cited a definitive federal statement or regulation supporting what appears to be speculation on the part of DHFS.

On June 14, in an effort to clarify this critical point, STOPP contacted Richard Megna, the Wisconsin DHFS Budget and Policy Supervisor whose name was printed on the fiscal impact analysis of AB 546. Megna said that DHFS used such uncertain language because such things are “not always crystal clear.”

Megna said DHFS contacted the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid and was given "very tentative" answers from the federal program to such questions. Megna pointed out that there was no clear precedent in such cases and that the matter hinges upon how the Bush administration might react. In other words, some state will just have to try restricting its family planning dollars in a way such as called for by AB 546, and then we will be able to see for sure whether any federal programs are put in jeopardy. The matter could also end up in court.

Let's assume for a moment that such efforts to restrict family planning programs similar to AB 546 would actually threaten some federal programs. This, of course, would be a concern for pro-lifers in all states working on similar bills, because their legislators might also reject such a bill based solely upon its impact on other federal programs. What should they do? Well, one option is that the state could petition the federal government for a waiver regarding any potential conflict. So, for example, if Wisconsin had enacted AB 546 into law, and then it was told by the federal government that such a law would, in fact, cause the loss of some federal programs, then Wisconsin could request a waiver. Whether such a waiver would be granted in such a case is, again, something that wouldn't be known until it is tried.

Another option for pro-lifers would be to ask federal representatives to introduce legislation that would amend federal law to make it clear that if a state decides to restrict its family planning program, without exceptions, it could do so without the risk of losing non-family planning dollars from the federal government. Notice we should only be concerned about losing non-family planning dollars from the federal government. If a state's restrictions on its family planning dollars result in the loss of federal fami-

ly planning dollars for the state, that's actually a very good thing, since such dollars fund abortifacient contraceptives and other contraceptives whose use is morally wrong.



Michigan enacts priority-funding law for family planning

The state of Michigan passed legislation that will give priority funding to groups that do not engage in abortion-related activities. Governor John Engler signed this legislation into law on May 23, 2002, as Public Act #360. It pertains to grants or contracts for family planning and reproductive health services. In other words, a group such as Planned Parenthood would be last in line to receive such funds. Thus, if no other groups used up the money in a particular area of the state, it is still possible that Planned Parenthood could be funded.

It is not clear how much money Planned Parenthood would actually lose, but the new law will likely lead to a major redistribution of state and federal funds. According to a Michigan House Fiscal Agency analysis (December 21, 2001) in FY 2000-01, PP got \$3.5 million of a total of \$15.8 million in funds for Michigan family planning and pregnancy prevention programs. Of this \$3.5 million, \$1.2 million came from the

federal Title X program, \$490,000 came from other federal programs, and \$1.8 million came from state funds. The other big player in this arena in Michigan is the local health departments that accounted for \$9.3 million of the \$15.6 million total.

The new law takes aim at entities that perform or refer for "elective" abortion. Elective abortion is defined in the law as not including the use of drugs or devices intended as contraceptives, and it also does not include life of the mother abortions. The law also penalizes any organization that has a written policy that abortion is considered part of family planning or reproductive health. The original bill also contained language that would have penalized clinics that publicly advocate abortion, but lawmakers removed this part because of concerns over constitutionality.

The Department of Community Health, which is responsible for family planning in the state, originally voiced concerns that the proposed legislation would jeopardize about \$5 million in federal funds, because it conflicted with federal rules that clinics must inform pregnant women of all their options, including abortion, and must make referrals upon request (*Booth Newspapers*, May 3, 2002). Presumably, this news report was referring to federal Title X funds that totaled just a bit above \$5 million for FY 2000-01.

In order to address such concerns, the lawmakers added a clause to the final law that says that in establishing the priority funding system, the Department of Community Health shall not take into consideration any activity that is "required under federal law as a qualification for receiving federal funding."

Thus, just as in the Wisconsin case in the previous article, we see that Michigan lawmakers were hesitant to pass a law that might result in the loss

of federal funds. That's too bad, for if the law didn't have the above clause, it might have ended the Title X program totally in Michigan. That would have been great news. The clause may also allow an entity to not be penalized if it does rape, incest or "health of the mother" abortions that are funded under the federal Medicaid program. See the previous article for a more detailed explanation of this matter.

LDI study update— PP facilitates child abuse

Last month we told you about the Life Dynamics, Inc. (LDI) research that shows that Planned Parenthood is routinely violating state laws that require the reporting of child sexual abuse and statutory rape. Here's an update of how some pro-lifers are putting the LDI study to use.

According to a June 6, 2002, article in the *Lincoln Journal Star*, Nebraska Attorney General Don Stenberg has asked the Health and Human Services System to evaluate a complaint by Nebraskans United for Life (NUL) to see if there is sufficient reason to launch an investigation of abortion and family planning clinics. Bob Blank, president of NUL, had sent complaints based upon the LDI study to Stenberg and to the U.S. Attorney's office as well.

The nationwide LDI investigation of some 800 clinics included Planned Parenthood clinics in Lincoln and Omaha. In a letter to Health and Human Services, Stenberg pointed out that medical personnel must report child abuse, and in Nebraska that includes sexual contact between a child 14 or younger and a perpetrator 19 or older.

In Monrovia, Calif., John O'Neill, president of Monrovians against Planned Parenthood, sent complaints to the Health Facilities Division (HFD) and to Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich asking for an investigation of Planned Parenthood of Pasadena.

O'Neill asked the HFD doctor who did a re-certification visit to the Pasadena PP if his inspection looked for evidence that PP is following that part of the California penal code referred to as the "Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act." O'Neill also asked whether PP can show evidence that it is training its employees to be mandated reporters. He asked for the number of suspected child abuse reports that PP made in the last 2-4 years, and whether HFD verified that any such reports were sent to Child Protective Services.

In his letter to Supervisor Antonovich, John O'Neill requested that the supervisor's office do an "aggressive investigation" into the Pasadena PP with regard to reporting child abuse. O'Neill's letter included the following:

"Is Pasadena Planned Parenthood allowing sexual abusers to circumvent the law? **What objective evidence is there that the mandated reporting laws are being followed by Pasadena Planned Parenthood and all abortion facilities in Los Angeles County?** I believe that standards are so lax at Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, it is quite conceivable that sexual abusers are escorting victims to the facility."
[Emphasis in original.]

STOPP congratulates Bob Blank and John O'Neill for their efforts to have public officials launch investigations of Planned Parenthood's violation of laws regarding child abuse and statutory rape. STOPP supporters are urged to follow their example by doing the same in their own region. For more

information about the LDI study, visit www.childpredators.com.

One hundred protest Rhode Island PP teen health center

The Pawtucket Times (June 6, 2002) reported that on June 5 about 100 people showed up to protest a Planned Parenthood teen health center at 247 Roosevelt Avenue in Pawtucket, R.I. The clinic is open on Wednesdays and is run by Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island.

Protesters included several area priests, doctors, and members of Catholics for Life, the Knights of Columbus, and Rhode Island State Right to Life. George Bedford, who noted that the teen clinic was around the corner from Tolman High School, organized the protest.

Bedford predicted that the center would ultimately engage in abortion referrals, and he hit the nail right on the head when he stated, "It's an artificial contraceptive mentality that causes abortion." Demonstrators plan to return every Wednesday, which is when the center is open.

STOPP congratulates George Bedford and all the other pro-lifers that joined in this protest. For years STOPP has advocated regular peaceful, prayerful protesting as one of the best ways to counter Planned Parenthood's plans for a community. The mere presence of these protesters outside the teen clinic will be enough to keep many teens from even going for fear of being recognized and reported to their parents.

Obviously, some teens will go anyway, but protestors can try to talk to these teens and give them literature about the abortifacient effects of contraception and

the link between contraceptives and breast cancer. More importantly, the protesters can impress upon these kids that sex outside marriage is an offense against God, and that those who engage in such activity are putting the salvation of their immortal souls in serious peril.

Northern Kentucky almost ends Title X

After an intense effort that received national attention from both sides of the abortion debate, pro-lifers came up just one vote short of having the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Board vote in favor of rejecting federal Title X money. On June 19, a 13-13 tie vote was broken by Board Chairman Greg Kennedy, who favors keeping Title X.

Leading the pro-life effort was attorney Robert Cetrulo, president of Northern Kentucky Right to Life (NKRTL), who said, "Of course we are disappointed. It's not over. We'll be back" (*The Cincinnati Enquirer*, June 20, 2002). NKRTL is affiliated with American Life League.

NKRTL had taken out a full-page advertisement in *The Kentucky Post* on May 25, 2002, as part of its campaign.



STOPP's national director, Ed Szymkowiak, and Bob Cetrulo, president of Northern Kentucky Right to Life.

Here NKRTL made the point that many so-called "contraceptives" act as abortifacients some of the time, and they backed up this point with quotes from doctors and even Planned Parenthood's own president, Gloria Feldt, who testified in that regard on January 18, 2001, before the Senate Judiciary Committee (see *Ryan Report*, May 2001).

In addition, NKRTL rightly argued that tax money should not subsidize even non-abortifacient barrier contraceptives such as the condom, diaphragm and foam. They noted that contraceptives are distributed to teenagers, without the knowledge or consent of their parents. They also noted that such things "promote a promiscuous lifestyle which has disastrous medical consequences to the users, and societal consequences to the community."

The meeting, held just prior to the vote, lasted three hours and had 550 attendees, including representatives from Planned Parenthood and the American Civil

Liberties Union. At stake was \$170,000 in federal Title X funds. Had the pro-lifers succeeded in Northern Kentucky, the region would have joined McHenry County, Ill., as one of only two known areas that have rejected Title X. The debate in McHenry County was focused upon whether parents should be notified if their teenage daughters get contraception. That vote was prompted after a 14-year-old girl was continually abused by a 37-year-old teacher who brought the girl to a Title X-funded clinic for birth control so he could continue to abuse her without having to worry about her getting pregnant.

STOPP congratulates Bob Cetrulo and Northern Kentucky Right to Life for an excellent effort made to eliminate Title X and for their willingness to continue the battle. STOPP urges all supporters to follow NKRL's example and begin a campaign to have local governments vote to reject Title X funds from the federal government.

This month's action items

- ✓ To schedule Jim or Ed to give a talk in your community, call 540-659-4171.
- ✓ Start an effort in your state to defund Planned Parenthood—no exceptions!
- ✓ Visit www.childpredators.com, and ask your local district attorney to launch an investigation of PP for violating state laws that require the reporting of child abuse and statutory rape.
- ✓ Send a tax-deductible donation today to help us keep fighting PP and sex education.
- ✓ Pray that God will lead us in our work and that we will always have the courage to do His will.