

## TOP FIVE ABORTION MYTHS

### **Myth # 5: Legalized Abortion gives women the right to control their own bodies.**

Legalized abortion gives a woman the right to control someone else's body, whose DNA, fingerprints, facial features and often blood type and gender differ from her own.

“Human life begins at fertilization... A zygote is the beginning of a new human being (i.e., an embryo).”<sup>1</sup>

Legalized abortion gives one human being the right to treat another human being as property and to take the life of an innocent child who is not to blame for their mother's pregnancy or for the problems she is facing.

### **Myth # 4: If Planned Parenthood loses federal funds, poor women will not be able to get needed health care.**

If Planned Parenthood loses its 553.7 million dollars of taxpayer funding, that money will go to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), which provide broad services to women, including family planning, STD tests, and prenatal care at more than 9,800 centers, (15 times the number of clinics operated by Planned Parenthood.)<sup>2</sup>

PP's approximately 650 clinics provide less than 1% of pap smears, less than 1.8% of non-mammogram breast exams, and no mammograms.<sup>3</sup>

A survey of 97 PP clinics found only five that offered prenatal care. Since 2010, the number of PP's breast cancer screenings are down 51.3%, pap tests down 64.7%, prenatal care down 44%, and HPV treatments down 37%.

### **Myth # 3: Abortions are an essential part of reproductive health.**

Studies by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center of Seattle<sup>4</sup> along with 15 recent studies from South Asia<sup>5</sup>, and an analysis of 36 studies from China<sup>6</sup>, show that women who have an induced abortion before a full term pregnancy have a 50% increased risk of breast cancer.

In 2009 BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology stated that a growing body of large studies show that the use of dilators to force the cervix open in first and second trimester abortions increases the risk of premature delivery in later pregnancies along with the complications that often accompany such births.<sup>7</sup>

A review of 21 studies by Swingle and colleagues found that women with prior induced abortions have 64% higher risk of a very preterm delivery.<sup>8</sup>

### **Myth # 2: Women have the right to choose.**

Every human being deserves the right to choose – provided their choices do not violate another human being's fundamental rights – especially the right to life. Many people who claim to support the right to choose oppose laws that offer women information they need to make an informed choice. They oppose pregnancy resource centers that allow pregnant women to choose life for their babies, and they force taxpayers to pay for abortions they find morally abhorrent.

### **Myth # 1: Only Three percent of Planned Parenthood's services are abortion.**

Planned Parenthood performs over 320,000 abortions, - one every 97 seconds – and 30.6% of all U.S. abortions. One out of eight, or 12.5%, of its clients get abortions and 80% of its revenue is from abortions.

So how does Planned Parenthood arrive at the 3% number that has been debunked by the Washington Post and Slate Magazine? Planned Parenthood gets the 3% number by treating each contact with a client, from a \$10 pregnancy test to a \$390 or \$1500 abortion, the same.

A woman coming to Planned Parenthood for an abortion who receives a pregnancy test, an STD test and some contraceptives gets four services of which only one, or 25%, are abortion.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Footnotes**

1 Keith L. Moore, The Developing Human: Clinically Oriented Embryology, 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Philadelphia, PA: Saunders, 2003. pp.16, 2.

2 Planned Parenthood Annual Report 2014 -15: p.33

3 Planned Parenthood Annual Report 2014 -15: p.5

4 Janet Daling, Risk of breast cancer among women: relationship to induced abortion, Journal of National Cancer Institute, Nov. 2, 1994

5 Steve Mosher. Twelve out of twelve recent studies show abortion linked to breast cancer. LifeNews.com, Sept. 22, 2014

6. Yubei Huang. A meta-analysis of the association between induced abortion and breast cancer risk among Chinese females. Cancer Causes & Control Feb. 2014;pp 227-236

7 Shah PS, Zao J. Induced termination of pregnancy and low birth weight and preterm birth: a systematic review and meta-analysis. BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology May 2009;116(11):1425-42, p. 1439

8 Swingle HM, Colaizy TT, Zimmerman MB, Morriss FH. Abortion and the risk of subsequent preterm birth. Journal of Reproductive Medicine February 2009;54(2): pp. 95-108

9 Michelle Ye Hee Lee. For Planned Parenthood abortion stats, '3 percent' and '94 percent' are both misleading. Washington Post August 12, 2015; fact checker