The Vatican can help save souls from Planned Parenthood in 2015.
HERE’S HOW!

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Introduction

As I travel the world speaking of the evils of contraception and abortion, a number of parish priests and bishops have expressed the same sentiment: “We are reaching the kids on abortion, but we’re losing them to Planned Parenthood when it comes to sex.”

The International Planned Parenthood Federation has long been a force in the international community. Its United States affiliate was begun by Margaret Sanger in 1916. Sanger brought its formal international operations into being in 1952—with a headquarters in London, England.

IPPF has always focused its efforts on uninhibited sex, birth control, and abortion. In doing so, it has found itself at odds with many religions of the world. The purpose of this short paper is simply to document some examples of the underlying philosophies of Planned Parenthood, the actions it has taken to force its world view on the rest of society, and what the Vatican can do immediately to impede its attack on our young people.

As TIME magazine¹ noted in 1993, futurist and historian H.G. Wells predicted in 1931: “When the history of our civilization is written, it will be a biological history, and Margaret Sanger will be its heroine. . . . The movement she started will grow to be, a hundred years from now, the most influential of all time.”

The purpose of this short paper is to call attention to the tremendous influence Planned Parenthood has gained, and continues to gain, throughout the world, and to call for the Catholic Church to formally stand against the evil, by name.

To document all the evidence of Planned Parenthood’s satanic operations would fill volumes of books. Our intent is not to get mired in every detail.

Rather, we will briefly describe the anti-God roots of the organization; how Planned Parenthood singles out the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church as its greatest enemy; its devastating effects on our society and our Church; how numerous bishops around the world have publicly condemned the organization; and how, despite the condemnation by individual bishops, Catholic laity still thinks Planned Parenthood is a good organization.

As Archbishop John Vlazny of Portland, Oregon said a few years ago: “Frankly, too many of our people, including Catholics, fail to understand the disingenuous approach of PPFA (Planned Parenthood Federation of America) in promoting its cause. I fear that many of our Catholic people have been taken in by the propaganda.”

Today, the Vatican has an opportunity to end the confusion.

¹ http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,988152,00.html
Planned Parenthood and the Catholic Church
OVERVIEW OF THE ATTACHED PRESENTATION

1 | Denies God’s involvement with the lives of human beings ....................... page 5
First, Planned Parenthood denies the basic belief of the Catholic faith. Planned Parenthood insists that God, if there is one, has no effect on earth. Man is in charge.

2 | Early conflict with the Catholic Church ............................................... page 6
From its beginnings, Planned Parenthood has always identified the Catholic Church as its primary enemy. Throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, Planned Parenthood has been publicly fighting the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, while wooing its laity.

3 | Planned Parenthood targets young people with vile programs ............... page 8
Planned Parenthood has identified its success story. That success, according to Planned Parenthood’s own document, depends on getting our children involved in lives of sexual sin. The predictable result is the destruction of the Catholic Church (and other denominations) by driving young people away from God and His Church.

4 | Evidence that Planned Parenthood actively plots against the Catholic Church ................................................................. page 10
There are numerous current examples of how the International Planned Parenthood Federation and its country affiliates are taking direct aim at the Catholic Church today. Planned Parenthood is a master of deception. As the bishop of the Diocese of Belize City and Belmopan points out, “BFLA (Belize Family Life Association), the operational arm in Belize of International Planned Parenthood, is an instrument of the most serious crimes against life and our Christian morality. . . . BFLA’s entreaties are sometimes made in such a way to confuse us, fooling some to believe that their work is endorsed by the Church.”

5 | Some statements of Catholic bishops about Planned Parenthood ............. page 12
Many bishops, from a variety of countries, have spoken out against Planned Parenthood, by name. All see the great threat Planned Parenthood poses to the Catholic Church. But, without a proclamation from Rome, they are voices crying in the wilderness.

6 | Precedent from bishops penalizing Planned Parenthood membership ...... page 13
Some bishops have already imposed penalties within their dioceses on specific people who are involved with Planned Parenthood.

7 | Call to declare Planned Parenthood an official “enemy of the Church” ...... page 13
The Catholic Church has a history of identifying major worldwide threats posed by certain organizations and movements and issuing instructions prohibiting the faithful from any involvement with those groups. It is time that the Catholic Church declares that the International Planned Parenthood Federation, and all of its country affiliates, are an enemy of the Church and that participation with the organization is prohibited.

Appendixes ................................................................................................................ page 15
Planned Parenthood and the Catholic Church

The purpose of this paper is to look at the relationship between the organization generally known as Planned Parenthood and the Roman Catholic Church.

Denies God’s involvement with the lives of human beings

The first thing to know is that Planned Parenthood specifically rejects the idea of God as it is recognized by the Catholic Church and most other religions in the world. Planned Parenthood specifically believes that

- traditional theism, especially faith in the prayer-hearing God, assumed to love and care for persons, to hear and understand their prayers, and to be able to do something about them, is an unproved and outmoded faith.
- We find insufficient evidence for belief in the existence of a supernatural; it is either meaningless or irrelevant to the question of the survival and fulfillment of the human race.
- We can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species. While there is much we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.
- Promises of immortal salvation or fear of eternal damnation are both illusory and harmful.
- In the area of sexuality, we believe that intolerant attitudes, often cultivated by orthodox religions . . . unduly repress sexual conduct . . . short of harming others or compelling them to do likewise, individuals should be permitted to express sexual proclivities and pursue their life-styles as they desire.

All of these statements, and many more expressing the same philosophy, can be found in Humanist Manifesto II—a document published in 1973 by the American Humanist Association and signed by 114 people, including Dr. Alan Guttmacher who was, at the time he signed it, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

The link between Planned Parenthood and Secular Humanism is much more than just having its president sign this one document. Over the years, Planned Parenthood people, including all its major presidents, have received awards for spreading the religion of Humanism.

- Margaret Sanger (founder and first president of PPFA) — Humanist of the Year 1957
- Albert Ellis (member PP leadership committee) — Humanist of the Year 1971
- Alan Guttmacher (president of PP) — Signer of Humanist Manifesto II 1973
- Mary Calderone (medical director of PP) — Humanist of the Year 1974
- Betty Friedan (member PP leadership committee) — Humanist of the Year 1975

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2 Known formally as the International Planned Parenthood Federation. In the United States it is the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and it goes by different names in 196 countries across the globe. In this paper, we will refer to it simply as Planned Parenthood.
• Isaac Asimov (member PP leadership committee) — Humanist of the Year 1984
• Faye Wattleton (president of PP) — Humanist of the Year 1986
• Lloyd Morain (member Board of Directors of PPFA) — Humanist of the Year 1994
• Gloria Feldt (president of PP) — Distinguished Service to Humanism 2003

In the book, *Sacred Work: Planned Parenthood and Its Clergy Alliances*, author Tom Davis, who was then head of Planned Parenthood’s National Clergy Committee, specifically includes a statement about “the secular humanism expressed in its statement of beliefs.”

So, you have an organization, Planned Parenthood, that basically says there may or may not be a God, but it makes no difference. God has no effect here on earth. There is no Heaven. There is no Hell. This is it. Our existence right here, right now, is all we have.

Clearly this is in direct opposition to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Thus, from its most basic philosophical beliefs, Planned Parenthood has established itself as the enemy of the Catholic Church.

2 | Early conflict with the Catholic Church

From its beginning, Planned Parenthood, and its founder, Margaret Sanger, had major conflicts with the Catholic Church. Sanger lived in New York City and most of her public opposition came from Archbishop Patrick Joseph Hayes. The intensity of that conflict is noted in the following exchange which took place in 1921.

Excerpt from Pastoral Letter of Archbishop Hayes prompted in large part by Sanger’s efforts to promote contraception (emphasis added):

Let us first consider the Child. Christ, the Son of God, coming into the world as a babe has given to human birth a sacredness that compels the Angels to reverence. In Heaven He had His Eternal Father but no mother; on earth He would have a mother but no father in the flesh. The Christ Child did not stay His own entrance into this mortal life, because His mother was poor, roofless, and without provision for the morrow. He knew that His Heavenly Father, who cared for the lilies of the fields and the birds of the air, loved the children of men more than these. Children troop down from Heaven because God wills it. He alone has the right to stay their coming while he blesses at will some homes with many, others with but a few or with none at all. They come in the one way ordained by His wisdom. Woe to those who degrade, pervert, or do violence to the law of nature as fixed by the eternal decree of God Himself! Even though some little angels in the flesh, through the moral, mental or physical deformity of parents, may appear to human eyes hideous, misshapen, a blot on civilized society, we must not lose sight of this Christian thought that under and within such visible malformation there lives an immortal soul to be saved and glorified for all eternity among the Blessed of Heaven. Heinous is the sin committed against the creative act of God, Who through the marriage contract invites man and woman to cooperate with Him in the propagation of the human family. To take life after its inception is a horrible crime; but to prevent human life that the Creator is about to bring into being, is satanic. In the first instance, the body is killed,
while the soul lives on; in the latter, not only a body but an immortal soul is denied existence in time and in eternity. It has been reserved to our day to see advocated shamelessly the legalizing of such a diabolical thing. In the name of the Babe of Bethlehem, Whose law you Christian fathers and mothers love and obey, stop your ears to that pagan philosophy, worthy of a Herod, which ignoring revelation and even human wisdom sets itself above the law and the prophets of the Old and the New Dispensation, of which the Christ Child is the beginning, the bond and end. Keep far from the sanctuary of your Christian homes, as you would an evil spirit, the literature of this unclean abomination.³

Margaret Sanger then issued her own statement in response to Archbishop Hayes (emphasis added):

I am glad to learn from Archbishop Hayes' Christmas pastoral that the church has a clear understanding of Birth Control separating it definitely from taking life after conception has occurred.

Many people have been of the opinion that the church confused the two ideas and denied vigorously that the church opposed prevention of conception as distinct from interfering with life after conception has occurred. From Archbishop Hayes’ statement we at last realize that there is a perfect understanding by the church of what the Birth Control Movement stands for. For this I am grateful.

I do not care to answer the Archbishop's theological statement concerning the will of the Almighty. His arguments are purely those based on assumption and he knows no more about the facts of the immortality of the soul than the rest of us human beings. What he believes concerning the soul after life, is based upon theory and he has a perfect right to that belief; but we, who are trying to better humanity fundamentally, believe that a healthy, happy human race is more in keeping with the laws of God than disease, misery and poverty perpetuating itself generation after generation.

There is no objection to the Catholic Church inculcating the theories and doctrines in its own church and to its own people; but when they attempt to make these ideas legislative acts and force their opinions and code of morals upon the Protestant members of this country, then we do consider this an interference with the principles of this Democracy and we have a right to protest.⁴

Please understand that I cite this conflict between Archbishop Hayes and Margaret Sanger not to say that Planned Parenthood's founder was the only PP official conducting a war against the Church, but to illustrate that this conflict stems from the very beginning of the organization.⁵

Indeed, in a statement made in 2000, Very Rev. Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, California said: “From its inception, in philosophy and actions, Planned Parenthood has been contrary to Catholic teaching about the sanctity of life and its origin in the heart and mind of God.”

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⁵ When PP was founded in 1916, it was called the American Birth Control League. It changed its name to the Birth Control Federation of America in the late 1930s and to Planned Parenthood Federation of America in 1942.
It was also noted in a 2001 statement by Most Reverend James H. Garland, Bishop of Marquette, Michigan, where he pointed out (among other things): “Planned Parenthood proclaims a view of human life and sexuality that flies in the face of the law God has written in our hearts and in the face of Jesus’ teaching in the Gospel.”

Planned Parenthood’s identification of the Church as its biggest enemy can be seen in the following interview:

Partial transcript of Margaret Sanger interview with Mike Wallace, September 21, 1957

WALLACE: You say that originally the opposition was in all law and you had to fight against that. Today your opposition stems mainly from where, from what source?

SANGER: Well, I think that the opposition is mainly from the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

WALLACE: Of the church

SANGER: The hierarchy . . .

WALLACE: Of the hierarchy of the church. You feel that the parishioners themselves, the lay people of the church are not against it.

SANGER: They come to all of our clinics just the same as the non-Catholics do. Exactly the same.

Planned Parenthood targets young people with vile programs

Planned Parenthood wants everyone, especially young people, to have sex. The Catholic Church wants everyone to get to Heaven. The two goals are not compatible.

Internationally, Planned Parenthood has a success story. PP considers the continent of Europe, specifically Western Europe, as one where it has been very successful. It is so happy with what is going on there that, in 2002, it sent people to Europe to determine what it did right. The group came back and wrote the 71-page Oregon Team Report on Western Europe’s Successful Approaches to Adolescent Sexuality.

Although there was much data in the report, the “reason for PP’s success” was identified as follows (emphasis added):

Unfortunately, there is no single, ‘silver bullet’ solution. The mass media campaigns, the public health systems, and public health policies have their part in the Dutch, German, and French successes. Yet success doesn’t really rest on programs and services alone. It is the societal thinking—the norms—that make the Dutch, German and French successes possible. It is the openness and the acceptance that young people will have intimate sexual relationships without being married and that these relationships are natural and

6 http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/multimedia/video/2008/wallace/sanger_margaret_t.html
contribute to maturing into a sexually healthy adult. It is the refusal to brand the expression of sexuality as deviant behavior or to cast it solely in a negative light.

In the report, the team members were happy to point out what happened because of all this societal acceptance of uncontrolled sexual activity. They wrote:

The Dutch Reformed Church in the Netherlands, which is the nation’s largest Protestant denomination, has consistently viewed sex as a normal part of life and not something to be ashamed of. This attitude helped the church endorse the idea of ready access to birth control information and contraceptives. The Dutch Catholic Church has also been quite liberal. Its bishops refused to take a stand against the use of contraception as early as 1968.

The level of participation of youth ages 15–19 has steadily declined in both churches in the last 30 years from 60% in 1965 to 9% in 1993. Thus the role of the church has been significantly diminished in terms of its impact on young people. The Dutch Reformed Church promotes safer sex practices, especially to prevent HIV/AIDS. While the Catholic Church in the Netherlands has seen its liberal bishops replaced with more conservative ones, this has had little effect on public attitudes and behaviors related to sexuality, and virtually no impact on policy.

In Germany, the church is state supported, so people are encouraged to declare a religious preference. Eighty five percent of the population claimed a faith in 1985, about evenly divided between Protestants and Catholics. Most people do not, however, engage in any regular religious activity.

Both Protestants and Catholics tend to be conservative on the subject of abortion—in fact it was the strong desire to avoid abortions that drove most people of faith to support making contraceptives available to all sexually active youth. We see the effects of the Reformation and the Age of Enlightenment in Germany, where the majority of people believe it is a woman’s right to choose personal control over her sexuality and pregnancy.

Even when the Pope demanded that Catholic family planning centers stop issuing certificates authorizing abortions, those centers operated by the Catholic lay community continued to issue them.

France is about 90% Catholic, but like Germany and the Netherlands, church participation has drastically declined from a high of 80% in the 1960’s to between 4% and 7% post-1980. Although France is culturally a Catholic nation, there has been a definite separation between church and state since 1905. This has made it possible for the government to address sexual health concerns free of church interference. The Catholic leadership, in recognizing the loss of members, has acknowledged that it cannot and should not dictate its members’ decisions over sexuality-related matters. The leadership views individual conscience as more important than church doctrine, and it readily acknowledges that France is a pluralistic society in which one faith should not set public policy.

Planned Parenthood essentially concluded that when society ignores the Sixth Commandment, forgets about the Virtues (including purity, chastity, and modesty), and violates the Sacrament of Marriage, Planned Parenthood wins and the Church loses.
It must be understood that when Planned Parenthood reports on what happened in Western Europe, it is not just noting historical facts. It is, rather, celebrating the results of its own work in the area and what it brought about.

Planned Parenthood confirmed this, as the entire thrust of the Oregon Team Report was how Planned Parenthood could work to achieve the same “success” in the United States. By extension, in the world envisioned by Planned Parenthood, membership in the Catholic Church and adherence to our teachings would be devastated. We have already lost Western Europe and most of North America. If Planned Parenthood continues as it is, the fall of South America, Africa, and the rest of the world is no longer a question of “if,” but of “when.”

4 | Evidence that Planned Parenthood actively plots against the Catholic Church

It is absolutely clear that, here in the 21st century, Planned Parenthood still understands that its biggest enemy is the Roman Catholic Church. It is desperate to reduce the Church’s presence and influence.

In 2011, IPPF issued a four-page pamphlet that was an all-out attack on Church teaching. It was titled, Contraceptive security in challenging contexts: opposition from the Catholic hierarchy, the cover of the pamphlet is shown here and the entire pamphlet can be seen in Appendix 2 on page 27 of this report.

In 2005, IPPF drafted a letter condemning the Church’s opposition, in Italy, to the abortion pill (RU-486) and saying in part, “We consider what is happening in Italy to be extremely worrying. We stress the substantial risk that the Italian policies on sexual and reproductive health will intrinsically follow the guidelines of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church and will become increasingly indifferent to women’s rights and liberties.”

In 2009, Planned Parenthood Federation of America president, Cecile Richards, wrote a public letter against the Catholic bishops’ stance on contraception and abortion.

In 1999, IPPF supported the “See Change” effort to get the Vatican thrown out of the United Nations. IPPF issued a statement urging “governmental, non-governmental, and other institutions to endorse existing appeals for a review of the Vatican’s status within the United Nations.” Archbishop Renato R. Martino, Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, said at the time, “IPPF, in effect, declared war on the Catholic Church last May on Ascension Thursday (which coincided with the feast of Our Lady of Fatima) by joining an effort by “Catholics for a Free Choice” (CFFC) to have the Holy See’s UN status reduced from Permanent Observer Mission to NGO.”

http://www.ephia.org/a/2063
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/cecile-richards/womens-health-is-universa_b_262370.html
http://www.seechange.org/what%27s%20new/IPPF%205%207%2099.htm
When that campaign resurfaced in 2013, Planned Parenthood again supported it.\(^\text{11}\)

In the Philippines, IPPF is currently bragging about how it won a 14-year battle with the Catholic Church and got a Reproductive Health bill passed and signed into law.\(^\text{12}\) The bill will, in addition to expanding birth control in the country, require Planned Parenthood-style sex instruction in the schools. To understand what Planned Parenthood thinks is good sex instruction in the schools, view American Life League’s special video report at www.STOPP.org.

Planned Parenthood’s obsession with sex can best be seen in its definition of Comprehensive Sexuality Education. In its 172-page booklet, Love, Sexual Rights and Young People,\(^\text{13}\) Planned Parenthood includes the following definition on page 5:

The IPPF Framework for Comprehensive Sexuality Education states: Comprehensive Sexuality Education seeks to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their sexuality—physically and emotionally, individually and in relationships.

It views ‘sexuality’ holistically and within the context of emotional and social development. It recognises that information alone is not enough. Young people need to be given the opportunity to acquire essential life skills and develop positive attitudes and values.

Planned Parenthood clearly states that giving young people information is not enough. The young people must, according to IPPF, be given the opportunity to physically experiment in sexual matters “individually and in relationships.”

One cannot read these statements without recalling the admonition of St. Paul: *Keep away from sexual immorality. All other sins that people may commit are done outside the body; but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not realise that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you and whom you received from God? You are not your own property, then; you have been bought at a price. So use your body for the glory of God.* (1 Corinthians: 18-20)

Planned Parenthood, as an organizational philosophy, intends to get our children involved in sexual immorality. It is part of the Planned Parenthood culture. It specifically sets out to lead our children into lives of sexual sin. If there were ever an organization worthy of the title: “The Number 1 enemy of the Catholic Church,” it is Planned Parenthood.

\(^{10}\)http://johnmallon.net/Site/Archbishop_Martino.html
\(^{13}\)http://www.ippf.org/sites/default/files/ippf_lsr-yp_full_020813.pdf
Some statements of Catholic bishops about Planned Parenthood

Many Catholic bishops around the world have recognized the evil of Planned Parenthood and have spoken clearly of the need to fight it. We have included full statements of many of these bishops in Appendix 1 of this document.

Listed below is just a brief sample of excerpts from the statements of the bishops:

Bishop Fred Henry, Bishop of Calgary, Alberta, Canada: “The whole Planned Parenthood agenda is not in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church.”

Bishop Fremiot Torres Oliver, Bishop of Ponce, Puerto Rico: “More than any other single organized group today, Planned Parenthood International represents the hedonism and moral relativism which are fueling that ‘culture of death’ which Pope John Paul II has warned against and denounced throughout his pontificate.”

Archbishop Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, California: From its inception, in philosophy and actions, Planned Parenthood has been contrary to Catholic teaching about the sanctity of life and its origin in the heart and mind of God.

Bishop Dorick McGowan Wright, Bishop of Belize: “BFLA (Belize Family Life Association), the operational arm in Belize of International Planned Parenthood, is an instrument of the most serious crimes against life and our Christian morality.”


Bishop James H. Garland, Bishop of Marquette, Michigan: “Planned Parenthood’s philosophy and actions are contrary to the law of nature and the consistent Catholic teaching about the sanctity of life.”

Archbishop Thomas Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow, Scotland: “Because Comic Relief supports IPPF, we ask people to send their money to CAFOD or its sister agency in Scotland, SCIAF, rather than to the Comic Relief appeal.”

The bishops of the three Catholic dioceses of the state of Colorado, USA issued a joint statement saying: “We, the Catholic bishops of Colorado, deplore the negative impact of the actions and philosophy of PPRM (Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains). We urge the Catholic community and all people of good will to defend themselves and their beliefs against Planned Parenthood.”

Archbishop Renato R. Martino, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations: “At a breakneck pace proposals from organizations of staggering wealth and power such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and its allies, who hold an ideological stance inimical to 4,000 years of Judeo-Christian tradition, are practically forcing positions and policies that call evil good, and good evil through the medium of these UN Conferences.”
Archbishop John G. Vlazny, Archbishop of Portland, Oregon: “Frankly, too many of our people, including Catholics, fail to understand the disingenuous approach of PPFA (Planned Parenthood Federation of America) in promoting its cause. I fear that many of our Catholic people have been taken in by the propaganda.”

6 | Precedent from bishops penalizing Planned Parenthood membership

Recognizing the threat of Planned Parenthood, a few bishops have taken action within their own dioceses in an effort to make it clear to the laity that Planned Parenthood is the enemy of the Church. Some of the specific actions include:

In 1986, Bishop Louis E. Gelineau, Bishop of Rhode Island, announced the excommunication of the local executive director of Planned Parenthood. He cited her involvement in the “sinful termination of life.”

In 1996, Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz announced excommunication of all members of Planned Parenthood in the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, saying that “[M]embership in [Planned Parenthood] . . . is totally incompatible with the Catholic Faith.”

In 2000, the Diocese of Buffalo, New York, canceled a contract with a builder because he had begun a building project for Planned Parenthood. The diocesan statement read, in part, “We’re not proceeding, because of the contractor’s involvement with Planned Parenthood.”

In 2002, Bishop Fred Henry, Bishop of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, announced, “I stand by the priest’s decision not to marry a southern Alberta woman employed by Planned Parenthood.” He continued: “The whole Planned Parenthood agenda is not in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church.”

In 2004, Bishop Gregory Aymond of Austin, Texas, announced, “Scouting troops associated with the diocesan entities will not support, encourage, or in any way endorse the activities and programs of Planned Parenthood. . . . Any scouting unit or troop not embracing the above directives shall not be permitted use of parish or school facilities . . . or indicate association with the Catholic Diocese of Austin.

7 | Call to declare Planned Parenthood an official “enemy of the Church”

There is precedence for the Roman Catholic Church to declare an organization as an enemy of the Church and to forbid the faithful from having any association with that group. In fact, Canon 1374 specifically states that: “A person who joins an association which plots against the Church is to be punished with a just penalty; however, a person who promotes or directs an association of this kind is to be punished with an interdict.”

14 http://www.angelusonline.org/index.php?section=articles&subsection=show_article&article_id=1108
15 http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=2863
In 1738, Pope Clement XII issued a decree that banned Catholics from having anything to do with Free Masonry. Any membership in it or promotion of it resulted in excommunication.

In 1949, Pope Pius XII issued a decree that announced the excommunication of all Catholics who support, in any way, Communism or Communist materialism.

We respectfully submit that the time has come to issue a similar decree with respect to any Catholics who give support in any way to the International Planned Parenthood Federation or any of its affiliates in all countries.

As Archbishop Martino observed in 1999, Planned Parenthood has already “declared war on the Catholic Church.” Yet there is much confusion among the ranks of the Catholic faithful.

We have witnessed Planned Parenthood’s slick propaganda machine that literally tries to convince our young people that evil is good and good is evil.

Make no mistake; it is our young people who are the target of Planned Parenthood. It spends millions of dollars every year to get its message to the hearts and minds of our most vulnerable teens. Here in the United States, Planned Parenthood is now specifically targeting what we call “Middle Schools.” These are schools attended by children who are between the ages of 11 and 14. Planned Parenthood wants their souls.

We know that issuing the decree we ask will not stop Planned Parenthood. But, it will place in the hands of bishops and priests a formidable weapon to protect our children. With such a decree, teachers, coaches, lay ministers, and others who have associations with Planned Parenthood will be denied access to our children.

We pray that you will see the real threat to the Church that is Planned Parenthood, and that you will take the action needed to help save souls from Planned Parenthood beginning in 2014.
APPENDIX 1

STATEMENTS FROM BISHOPS CONCERNING THE THREAT OF INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION AND ITS COUNTRY AFFILIATES
APPENDIX 1
STATEMENTS ON PLANNED PARENTHOOD BY NUMEROUS CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Most Reverend Dorick McGowan Wright, D.D.
Bishop of Diocese of Belize City and Belmopan
March 2014

Organizations whose activities and positions are actively opposed to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church, and which endanger the souls of the People of God, cannot be welcomed under any circumstances in our schools. . . . These organizations often present themselves as champions of some apparent good, whether it be to educate on sexuality and reproductive rights, AIDS, or to administer certain medical treatments or shots to our children, but despite some apparent good, you must, nevertheless, respectfully decline any and all invitation or association with any such organizations. I make this directive to all local managers of Catholic Schools, assistant local managers, all administrators, principals and teachers.

BFLA (Belize Family Life Association), the operational arm in Belize of International Planned Parenthood, is an instrument of the most serious crimes against life and our Christian morality. . . . BFLA’s entreaties are sometimes made in such a way to confuse us, fooling some to believe that their work is endorsed by the Church. . . . Besides whatever good they might do, they nevertheless promote ‘sexual rights’ for children as young as 10 years of age, including a supposed ‘right to privacy’ from even their own parents and guardians, and in particular, their right to abortion without parental notification. . . . This agenda of sodomy, abortion, and sexual gender redefinition is seeking to radically change Belize’s Christian character. I call on all of you to be vigilant with me against this threat to Belize’s moral foundations and family values.

Most Reverend Fred Henry
Bishop of Calgary, Alberta, Canada
28 August 2002

A Catholic can be forgiven for having an abortion but cannot be publicly pro-choice and work for an organization that presents abortion as an alternative. . . .

There is no “wiggle room” when it comes to the abortion issue in the Roman Catholic Church. . . .

I stand by the priest’s decision not to marry a southern Alberta woman employed by Planned Parenthood. . . .

No Catholic can responsibly take a pro-choice stand when the choice in question involves the taking of innocent human life. . . .

The whole Planned Parenthood agenda is not in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church. And consequently if a Roman Catholic is going to work for them, then they have to be prepared to accept the consequences of that decision.
Most Reverend Fremiot Torres Oliver
Bishop of Ponce, Puerto Rico  
18 February 2000

Planned Parenthood’s record over the years leaves no room for any doubt whatsoever regarding its ideological stance on human life and family issues. It is a stance diametrically opposed to Christian truth regarding the sanctity of each human life from the moment of conception onward, the unbreakable God-given bond between the unitive and procreative purposes of sexual activity, and the unique role of monogamous, heterosexual marriage as the only legitimate context of genital expression.

More than any other single organized group today, Planned Parenthood International represents the hedonism and moral relativism which are fueling that “culture of death” which Pope John Paul II has warned against and denounced throughout his pontificate. I warmly endorse and support the efforts of STOPP to counteract the influence and activity of this evil organization.

Very Reverend Roger Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles, California  
23 February 2000

From its inception, in philosophy and actions, Planned Parenthood has been contrary to Catholic teaching about the sanctity of life and its origin in the heart and mind of God.

Most Reverend Gregory Aymond
Bishop of Austin, Texas  
20 April 2004

Scouting troops associated with the diocesan entities will not support, encourage or in any way endorse the activities and programs of Planned Parenthood or any other organization espousing similar beliefs and practices . . . Any scouting unit or troop not embracing the above directives shall not be permitted use of parish or school facilities . . . or indicate association with the Catholic Diocese of Austin.

Most Reverend Leonard Blair
Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Michigan  
8 October 2000

Last week, for “Respect Life” Sunday, I wrote about my experience of a prayer march on behalf of life. A march of this kind is a positive action to counter the practice of abortion. Today, sadly, I must share with you some negative information. As your pastor I have been greatly troubled to hear that sometimes Catholics are misled into supporting the organization known as “Planned Parenthood.” For that reason I feel compelled to provide you with the following facts:

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America is the single largest abortion provider in the United States. During 1998, Planned Parenthood clinics performed 167,928 surgical abortions. At an average
cost of $350 per abortion, the organization grossed $58,554,300 in abortion income (Planned Parenthood 1998–1999 Annual Report, page 9).

Despite Planned Parenthood’s “choice” rhetoric, it provided adoption referrals to only 4,892 women and prenatal care to 16,065. Planned Parenthood provides 34 times more abortions than adoption referrals. It provides 10 times more abortions than prenatal services (Planned Parenthood 1998–1999 Annual Report, page 9).

Planned Parenthood opposes the right of conscience—the right of Catholics and Catholic hospitals to abide by church teaching on health care issues. In an October 1999 speech outlining Planned Parenthood’s four-part agenda for the millennium, Gloria Feldt, the group’s current president, exhorted the audience to “get religious people out of medicine” (Gloria Feldt in a speech delivered at the Commonwealth Club of California, San Francisco, October 19, 1999).

Planned Parenthood operates “Teenwire,” a provocative website aimed at adolescents, which through the use of coarse and vulgar language, educates on, among other things, sex, masturbation, oral sex, contraception and abortion.

In September of 2000, Planned Parenthood introduced a “Joe Sperm” costume character to children parade-goers who were attending a Eugene, Oregon city parade. Planned Parenthood admitted that the target of its campaigning featuring “Joe Sperm” is lower income people (Randi Bjornstad, “Birth Control Gets a Lighthearted Boost,” The Register-Guard, September 19, 2000).

Planned Parenthood’s activity generates enormous revenue each year. During its 1999 fiscal year, the group reported a $125.8 million excess of revenue over expenses. (Planned Parenthood 1998–1999 Annual Report, pages 18-19).

Planned Parenthood remains a significant beneficiary of federal money. In 1998, Congress gave Planned Parenthood and its affiliated organizations, the International Planned Parenthood Federation and the Alan Guttmacher Institute, $142,976,618 to support its domestic and international “family planning” agenda (Government Accounting Office, July 18, 2000 memo to members of Congress).

Most Reverend Fabian W. Bruskewitz
Bishop of Lincoln, Nebraska
1 January 1998

The faithful are prohibited from maintaining membership in any condemned, prohibited or disapproved societies or organizations. These include . . . Planned Parenthood. . . . Any members of the Diocese of Lincoln who retain membership in [Planned Parenthood] after having learned of [its] forbidden nature, are bound by an automatic interdict after the passage of one month. If after the passage of a second month, they have likewise failed to dissociate themselves from membership, they are bound by an automatic excommunication. This means they may not participate in the sacramental life of the Church, and, if their membership is public and well known, then other ecclesiastical rites may likewise be denied to them.
Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Indianapolis, Indiana
22 April 2004

Planned Parenthood is not about families, and it's really not about choice. As the largest abortion provider in our country, Planned Parenthood is one of the primary contributors to the culture of death which is truly threatening family life and true freedom.

Most Reverend Robert Carlson
Bishop of Sioux Falls, South Dakota
3 January 2000
(commenting on relocation of PP abortion facility)

The move of Planned Parenthood near a high school, day care and church is abhorrent and disturbing . . . [We must educate people on] what Planned Parenthood is, what it is about, what the effects of abortion are.

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Denver, Colorado
16 March 2000

In 1991, as bishop of Rapid City, South Dakota, I had personal experience with Planned Parenthood seeking to intrude itself into western South Dakota. I spoke at a STOPP national convention in Rapid City. In my talk, I noted that Planned Parenthood is “not a friend of the family” . . . It is a pro-abortion organization with a set of values vastly different from the values of Jesus Christ. I would certainly reaffirm that conviction today.

Planned Parenthood is an organization based on falsehoods about the human person, the family and community life.

Planned Parenthood calls itself pro-child. When a minor comes to Planned Parenthood, she is provided information on contraception and abortion without parental notification. A minor is given materials on sexuality with an implicit message that fertility is a disease and pregnancy is to be attacked. Planned Parenthood opposes any restriction on abortion of the unborn child through nine months of pregnancy. Planned Parenthood opposes a Partial Birth Abortion Ban. In light of this, how can Planned Parenthood justify calling itself pro-child?

Planned Parenthood calls itself pro-woman. Yet Planned Parenthood vigorously opposes any legislation to provide advance medical information pertaining to an abortion procedure. Planned Parenthood vigorously opposes any legislation to provide a woman seeking an abortion knowledge of her unborn child’s development. Planned Parenthood vigorously opposes any legislation to require a 24-hour waiting period before a woman has an abortion. How can Planned Parenthood justify keeping vital information on abortion away from a woman and yet call itself pro-woman? How can an organization which helps to facilitate the killing of unborn children in huge numbers call itself pro-woman?
Planned Parenthood calls itself pro-family. Yet it simultaneously provides counsel for contraception and abortion under the guise of “freedom of choice.” The two questions to ask are: “choice for what and choice for whom?” Planned Parenthood vigorously opposes any law that would inform parents before a minor child receives contraception or an abortion. How can Planned Parenthood justify calling itself pro-family when it intrudes itself between a child and parent?

I would urge any community today, as I did in 1991, to defend itself against Planned Parenthood by every legal and ethical means at its disposal.

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Denver, Colorado

Most Reverend Arthur N. Tafoya, D.D.
Bishop of Pueblo, Colorado

Most Reverend Michael J. Sheridan, S.T.D.
Bishop of Colorado Springs, Colorado
8 November 2007

In early November, Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (PPRM) broke ground on a new headquarters and clinic in northeast Denver. Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains purchased this property secretly under the guise of Fuller 38 LLC.

Planned Parenthood told The Denver Post that PPRM planned to complete the entire project in secrecy to avoid protests and delays that other Planned Parenthood buildings have encountered around the country. The new PPRM location is 7155 E. 38th Ave. in Denver. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2008 and the general contractor for the project is the Weitz Company LLC.

The public deserves to know the facts about Planned Parenthood. The national organization is among the leading abortion providers, performing across the nation 264,943 abortion procedures in 2005 alone, a 29 percent increase since 2000. Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains has stated that it served 125,000 patients in five states, including Colorado, last year and of those 8,800 received abortions.

Teens and young people are the primary customers for their services and information, which include the distribution of contraception, emergency contraception and chemical and surgical abortions. Nationally 70 percent of Planned Parenthood’s customers are under age 25 and 27 percent are under age 19. Furthermore, Planned Parenthood is a supplier of graphic and explicit sex educational materials. These materials are being used in some of Colorado’s public schools.

Planned Parenthood calls itself pro-child, pro-woman, and pro-family. Yet it is an organization based on falsehoods about the human person, the family and community life.

When a minor comes to Planned Parenthood, she is provided information on contraception, sex education and treatment of STDs without parental notification. How can Planned Parenthood justify calling itself pro-family or pro-child when it intrudes itself between a child and parent?

Planned Parenthood vigorously opposes any legislation that would provide advance medical information pertaining to an abortion procedure, and opposes any legislation that would provide a woman, who is seeking an abortion, knowledge of her unborn child’s development or information
regarding alternatives to abortion. Considering the psychological and physical effects of abortion on a woman, how can Planned Parenthood call itself pro-woman and oppose widespread access to advanced information?

We, the Catholic bishops of Colorado, deplore the negative impact of the actions and philosophy of PPRM. We urge the Catholic community and all people of good will to defend themselves and their beliefs against Planned Parenthood by every legal and ethical means at their disposal. We ask all Catholics to pray, within their families and parish communities, that the dignity and sanctity of every human life will be upheld at all stages of development.

Most Reverend William E. Franklin  
Bishop of Davenport, Iowa  
October 1999  

Planned Parenthood will soon be opening its clinic and performing abortions in Bettendorf. This is, indeed, sad news for all of us who proclaim to be pro-life Catholics.

During this time of trial, as the Planned Parenthood clinic prepares to open in Bettendorf, please join me in prayer and action for an end to abortion.

Most Reverend James H. Garland  
Bishop of Marquette, Michigan  
17 August 2001  

I am saddened to learn that Planned Parenthood is attempting to open an office in Houghton. This is bad news because the anti-life values promoted by this organization will harm the youth and families of the western Upper Peninsula.

The support for abortion, contraception and sexual expressions outside of marriage contributes to a society that is dangerous to children. One-third of the children who are conceived in our society today will be aborted. Another third of our children will be born into single-parent families with fathers and mothers who do not love each other enough to marry.

Of the remaining one-third, 40 percent will experience a divorce of their parents before reaching adulthood. That means only one-fifth of the children conceived in this country today reach adulthood in an intact family, with a father and a mother.

This is a massive rejection of children. Ours is a society that is dangerous for children.

A culture of death permeates our society. It is the result of the promotion of values opposed to life, values that choose abortion as a good. This dangerous environment for children results from a contraceptive mentality that separates sexual pleasure from procreation and chooses convenience or material gain over a self-sacrificing love for the child of one's womb who can be the joy of one's life.

What is more unnatural and evil than a mother killing the baby of her womb? When people seek to eliminate or remove children from their lives they are confusing evil with what is actually good.

It was not very long ago that all Christian churches considered contraception immoral and beneath the dignity of the human person. . . .
The Catholic Church continues to hold that reason rightly understands that marriage should be open to children while contraception is beneath the dignity of the human person and abortion an assault on innocent human life in the womb.

Planned Parenthood’s philosophy and actions are contrary to the law of nature and the consistent Catholic teaching about the sanctity of life. God who creates life alone has dominion over human life. The freedom of choice Planned Parenthood promotes is a choice to kill an innocent baby.

The freedom of human reproduction it espouses is largely responsible for the disintegration of respect for traditional marriage. In its place we see “partnerships” and “sexual self-expression” with an aftermath of children, who are denied the nurture of a two-parent family.

Planned Parenthood proclaims a view of human life and sexuality that flies in the face of the law God has written in our hearts and in the face of Jesus’ teaching in the Gospel.

For the future good of our children and families I hope that people in the Houghton community will defend themselves against Planned Parenthood’s philosophy and values by every legal and ethical means at their disposal.

* From a column in the UP Catholic, the newspaper of the Diocese of Marquette. Portions of this commentary were also published as a letter to the editor of the Houghton, Michigan, Daily Mining Gazette.

Most Reverend Charles V. Grahmann, DD
Bishop of Dallas, Texas
8 August 1997

Anyone who supports, belongs to, [or] sits on Boards of Directors of Planned Parenthood are promoting the legacy of Margaret Sanger which is the outline for Nazi Germany’s “human weeds and genetically inferior races.”

. . . I hope you will raise an indignant cry against this cancer in our society.

Most Reverend John F. Kinney
Bishop of St. Cloud, Minnesota
23 March 2001

It is wonderful to see so many of you gathered here today as a visible statement of how we in St. Cloud feel about Planned Parenthood opening a clinic in our midst. If you saw the articles in the St. Cloud Visitor and St. Cloud Times, you are aware of my displeasure over this clinic.

One of the basic principles of the Catholic Church is the sacredness of human life. We cannot sit still when there is even a hint of destruction of that life.

When Pope John Paul II visited the United States and spoke to the youth in Denver, he challenged them with the following: “America, you must come out of your comfortable lifestyles now and you must come out into the streets and into the public places and you must shout the Gospel of Life from the rooftop. Do not be afraid. Jesus Christ is with you.”

I echo that simple message of the pope’s here today.

We must come out into the streets, as you are doing this evening, and we must be a voice for those who have no voice. You are that voice. I hope you will continue to be that voice and will spread your
message to others in our community. I firmly believe that St. Cloud is a community that strongly supports the dignity of life at all stages, but we must always do so peacefully and non-violently. We cannot be afraid to make our voices heard. We cannot be afraid to shout the Gospel of Life.

Thank you for all you are doing. God bless you.

* From a statement made at a peaceful rally at the site of a new Planned Parenthood clinic in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

**Very Reverend William J. Levada**
Archbishop of San Francisco, California
1 March 2000

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America is the largest promoter of abortion in the United States. Through their extensive sex education programs and their teen website, teenwire.com, PPFA targets youth and young adults, educating them that any and all forms of sexual expression are not only valid but encouraged.

Not only is Planned Parenthood responsible for countless abortions, leaving so many women hurting after the loss of their children, the organization is largely responsible for our culture’s disintegrating respect for traditional marriage in exchange for “partnerships” and “sexual self-expression.” The goals of Planned Parenthood are made painfully clear in the statement of Gloria Feldt, as quoted in the *Washington Times*, January 22, 1997, “Reproductive choices (including abortion) are not just legal rights but are recognized as moral necessities without which there can be no liberty.”

**Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell**
Bishop of Buffalo, New York
13 August 2000

“We’re not proceeding, because of the contractor’s involvement with Planned Parenthood,” said Monsignor Henry J. Gugino, head of housing development for the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, New York. The comment was made as the diocese, at the direction of its bishop, halted construction on a $4.6 million dollar home for seniors in Wheatfield, N.Y., when it found out the contractor was also building offices for Planned Parenthood. Bishop Henry J. Mansell’s spokesman, Monsignor David M. Lee, said the bishop and other diocesan officials decided to put the project on hold because of “moral concerns.”

**Most Reverend Joseph F. Martino**
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
18 September 2000

In my work as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia, I am particularly charged with the Archdiocese’s outreach to other Christians and to members of other religious faiths. Some of the differences within the religious family are not completely surprising, but I find particularly sad the division over the need to uphold the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. In addition, it is very painful to discover that self-professed men and women of faith sit on Planned Parenthood Boards or raise funds for Planned Parenthood’s assault on God’s plan for humanity. In my ecumenical and interreligious work, the division among religious
people over something as seemingly self-evident as the sanctity of life often makes it hard to motivate Catholics to imitate Pope John Paul II’s brilliant efforts to fulfill Jesus’ prayer: “That all may be one.” (John 17)

Father Paul B. Marx, OSB
Founder, Human Life International
Letter to STOPP
4 December 2000

Having traveled in more than 90 countries of the world and seen Planned Parenthood’s vicious anti-life/anti-family/anti-God evil propaganda and destruction, I know of no more wicked organization, no more insidious one, no more destructive one.

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
Bishop of Worcester, Massachusetts
10 October 2007

The moral teaching of the Catholic Church on respect for life at all stages of its development is manifestly clear. Life is a fundamental good that must be protected and respected from the moment of fertilization to natural death. This teaching is so basic and important that it provides the foundation upon which much of the Church’s moral and social doctrine rests. It is beyond modification and compromise. Both Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice are notorious for their policies and practices that directly reject the Church’s teaching on artificial contraception and abortion.

Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek
Bishop of Gary, Indiana
6 March 2000

I wish to commend and encourage STOPP International for all that you do to promote the dignity of every human person, made in the image and likeness of God. I am also grateful for your efforts in promoting respect for marriage and a greater awareness of our destiny with God and each other in life eternal. These teachings on the value and dignity of human life and marriage are deeply rooted in the Scriptures and our Judaic-Christian tradition. You provide a great service to society in exposing the truth about the philosophy and practices of Planned Parenthood. In its promotion of abortions and artificial contraceptives, it is rejecting the culture of light and life and leading society down a path of darkness and death.

May God bless your work advocating respect for God-given life from conception until natural death and in encouraging people in our society to be open to God’s plan in the transmission and respect for our greatest natural gift: life itself.
**Very Reverend John J. O’Connor**
Archbishop of New York, New York
19 January 1995

Planned Parenthood has a history of distorting the truth. On October 3, 1980 it ran an advertisement in the *New York Times* with the headline: “There Is A Group That Would Sooner See You Dead Than Allow You An Abortion.” Another *Times* ad on October 5, 1980 was headlined: “There Is A Group That Would Force You To Bear Your Rapist’s Child.” And, on January 5 [1995] Planned Parenthood ran a full-page ad in the Times insinuating that pro-life people are terrorists and provocateurs. These claims are, of course, nonsense.

In addition to lies about pro-lifers, Planned Parenthood also distorts the truth about itself. It claims to be “pro-choice” while fighting against informed consent legislation that would ensure women are told the truth about abortion. I find it difficult to take any Planned Parenthood claim seriously.

**Most Reverend Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI, DD**
Bishop of San Angelo, Texas
31 March 2009

Planned Parenthood is a huge business, and a major part of this business is the killing of unborn children, aborting 290,000 babies in 2007. The Planned Parenthood Federation of America is the single largest abortion provider in the United States and does this with the help of more than $336 million in taxpayer funding.

Americans need to know that Planned Parenthood still bases its philosophy and principles on its founder, Margaret Sanger, who called Christianity “parasitic” and looked forward to the day when humanity would be freed from its tyranny.

**Father Robert J. Spitzer, S.J.**
President
Gonzaga University
14 April 2000

I denied Planned Parenthood access to this campus not because of what they say, but because of what they do. They are one of the largest abortion providers in the United States and have an aggressive political agenda to promote this. The Catholic Church interprets abortion as “the killing of an innocent.” According to this interpretation, I consider Planned Parenthood’s actions to be blatantly contrary to the Catholic and Jesuit character of the University and to its mission.

Our Guest Speakers Policy states, “The President reserves the right to deny usage of Gonzaga’s facilities to any person or groups of persons whose values are blatantly contrary to those of the University or whose presence would, for some reason, seriously embarrass or compromise the University.” In as much as Gonzaga is a Catholic and Jesuit University, and Planned Parenthood’s actions are blatantly contrary to this Catholic and Jesuit identity, I exercised my right as President to deny usage of Gonzaga’s facilities to them.
Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Archbishop of Portland, Oregon  
25 April 2008

Frankly, too many of our people, including Catholics, fail to understand the disingenuous approach of PPFA in promoting its cause. I fear that many of our Catholic people have been taken in by the propaganda.

Did you know, for example, that PPFA is the single largest abortion provider in the United States? . . . Even though PPFA representatives claim an interest in reducing abortions, at the same time they advocate unrestricted access to abortion. . . . “Freedom of choice” apparently is not worth supporting when people disagree with PPFA. The right of conscience for doctors and nurses morally opposed to abortion is skirted by PPFA. When the government states it will not force health professionals to violate their medical and moral judgment on abortion, PPFA objects with the bizarre claim that such a policy “intrudes on private, personal medical decision-making.”

When tragedies occur, PPFA is quite selective in its efforts to help victims. For example, when many people lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attack, the January 2006 SEGO Mine disaster, and Hurricane Katrina, PPFA offered relief to the survivors in the form of free birth control and abortions. That’s a rather restricted agenda, to say the least.

Do we really want to welcome such activities in our community? PPFA supporters are not comfortable when conversations are focused on the culture of death in today’s society. PPFA is a major contributor to the spread of that culture. If we keep silent and stand on the sidelines, this dark force will continue to spread and eventually destroy not only the lives of the unborn but even the moral fiber of our nation.

I urge all our Catholic people and friends to express their opposition to our city leaders about the proposed PPFA project on MLK Jr. Boulevard in Portland. The so-called “health and education services” to be provided in that facility would only destroy more human lives and promote promiscuous behavior on the part of young people. The time for saying “no” to PPFA in our community is now.

Most Reverend John W. Yanta  
Bishop of Amarillo, Texas  
1 October 1998

As your bishop and shepherd, I ask all Catholics not to use Planned Parenthood’s services, not to belong to any of their boards, not to serve as a volunteer and not to be employed there. In resigning your employment there, I will be happy to assist you in finding employment elsewhere so you will not be cooperating in these immoral practices and being a source of scandal both within and outside the Church and community. I make this plea, in love, as my duty to continue the mission of Jesus Christ: to teach, to sanctify and to govern.
APPENDIX 2

COPY OF AN INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION BROCHURE IDENTIFYING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AS ITS ADVERSARY
Contraceptive security in challenging contexts: opposition from the Catholic hierarchy

Key action points

- Policy makers should protect the separation between church and the State, ensuring that health policy reflects the needs and wishes of their constituents and that it guarantees the best health outcomes for women.
- Legislators should be aware that one faction within a religious group may not speak for all members of that faith.
- Policy makers should feel empowered to redirect those who would push debates on health policy into religious territory, focusing instead on outcomes and services that have a broad public health benefit.
- When conscience clauses are approved, law makers should ensure that adequate safeguards exist to ensure that women receive the care they need in a safe and timely manner.

Worldwide, religious opposition is one of the most significant obstacles to securing long-standing political support for contraception. Catholic leaders are at the centre of this opposition, anxious to defend a rigid and often negative attitude towards sex and sexuality.
Contraceptive security and opposition from the Catholic hierarchy

Worldwide, religious opposition is one of the most significant obstacles to securing long-standing political support for contraception. Catholic leaders are at the centre of this opposition, anxious to defend a rigid and often negative attitude towards sex and sexuality. Having failed to convince the Catholic faithful of their own narrow views, the bishops try to legislate their beliefs into public policies around the world.

While the Vatican and its representatives around the world are among the loudest objectors to modern methods of family planning, policy makers are rarely well informed about what the majority of Catholics believe. While their leaders are seemingly unconcerned about the improvements in women’s health that result from universal access to modern contraceptive methods, Catholics across the globe use and support access to the entire range of family planning options.

Avoiding honest confrontation about sexuality

The Catholic hierarchy has its own politics. In a world where power is sought after and ordained for the long term, taking a reactionary stance on controversial issues can be rewarding – the old guard gets to preserve the status quo, while newcomers rise faster when not making waves. On a deeper level, however, the all-male, celibate hierarchy can avoid any honest confrontation about sexuality by insisting that sex is simply a function of procreation, and then only for married couples. The idea that a healthy sexuality can take place in many other contexts is something that many bishops have opposed for centuries. In the 1960s, all of this almost changed.

Despite Catholic teachings that sexuality should not take place ‘isolated’ from its procreative purpose, natural family planning has been practiced since the 1930s with no opposition from the Vatican. In the 1960s, a Pope-appointed Birth Control Commission that included clergy and married lay people decided that the church should overturn the ban on ‘artificial’ contraceptive methods. Pope Paul VI rejected this decision in the 1968 encyclical

Overcoming Catholic resistance to reproductive health legislation in the Philippines: case study

The Catholic hierarchy is influential in the Philippines, where approximately 85 per cent of the population is Catholic. Access to family planning has been extremely limited since 2002, when President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo suspended government funding for contraception in favour of Vatican-sanctioned natural family planning.1 In the same year, USAID started phasing out its programmes of subsidizing contraception in the Philippines.2

In a country where an estimated 33 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line,3 women increasingly cite lack of funds as their reason for not using contraception.4 Condoms cost US$1 a package, putting protection against HIV/AIDS out of reach of the many who live on US$2 a day.5 Even for those who can afford contraception, information and referrals are often scarce and misleading.6

Today, unmet need for family planning in the Philippines is 22 per cent. Extending modern contraceptive methods to all women at risk of unintended pregnancy would prevent 2,100 maternal deaths each year, according to Guttmacher Institute estimates.7

Beginning in 1995, the Philippine parliament began debating a Reproductive Health Bill which would provide universal access to no-cost family planning methods such as birth control pills, IUDs and condoms. After many delays – often influenced by the bishops8 – the Bill is close to being put to a vote.

Though polls have shown that 82 per cent of Filipinos support the Reproductive Health Bill,9 the Catholic hierarchy has stepped up its opposition, meeting frequently with law makers and inciting a media storm to exhort Catholics to reject the Bill. Bishops have touted the alleged dangers of ‘artificial’ contraceptives and threatened politicians who are in favour of the Bill. Law makers in favour of the Reproductive Health Bill – many of them Catholic – have been steadfast in their stance that improving public health serves the best interests of all citizens.
Humanae Vitae. He decided that if the hierarchy admitted it was wrong on this issue, its authority would be questioned on every other issue as well. To this day, Catholics struggle to reconcile the realities of their own sexual lives with the bishops’ version of what they should (or shouldn’t) be.

**Policy makers lack political will**

In the secular world, a lack of political will on the part of policy makers – liberal and conservative alike – has allowed the hierarchy to turn the right to choose whether or when to have children into a doctrinal issue debated on the bishops’ home turf of religious freedom. Legislators are loath to interfere with what they assume are accurate representations of the beliefs of the faithful. Where the hierarchy has the ear of political leaders, however, they can pass off their version of a Catholic church united against contraception as the truth. As shown by birth rates in heavily Catholic countries and among Catholics in other countries, few Catholics listen to their bishops when it comes to using family planning.

The Holy See’s presence at the United Nations gives the Vatican a unique level of international influence because it is the only entity holding non-member state Permanent Observer status. The Vatican’s UN representative attempts to enforce its complete opposition to contraception by proposing language that restricts women’s role to childbearing and objecting to family planning on the grounds that it is dangerous and violates human rights. The Holy See has also said that condoms promote the spread of HIV/AIDS and opposes emergency contraception by incorrectly labelling it as an “abortifacient.”

The Catholic hierarchy’s involvement, however, does not spell defeat for all legislation that would improve access to contraception. In the Philippines, for example, the bishops’ resistance to family planning is being seriously challenged.

**Contraception must not divide loyalties among policy makers**

Contraception is an issue that has deeply divided the Catholic hierarchy from the majority of the faithful, but it shouldn’t be a reason for divided loyalties among policy makers. Legislators should feel secure that they are serving the best interests of their constituents when they sidestep doctrinal traps set by the bishops in favour of policies that further comprehensive family planning as a matter of public health.

When it comes to contraception – or any policy issue – opposition from religious leaders should not be confused with opposition by religious people. Religious leaders may use their lobby to further their own agenda, but legislators and policy makers should be aware that people of faith, including the vast majority of Catholics, use and support a full range of reproductive health choices.

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**Catholics deprive women of contraception cover under insurance plans in the USA: case study**

In the United States, the Catholic hierarchy is in a class by itself with its total rejection of modern contraception, as well as with its well-organized lobby and funding from the Catholic health care system.

An estimated one in six Americans is served by a Catholic health care institution each year; many are poor or live in rural areas and may not have another option. Catholic hospitals do not permit birth control methods other than natural family planning, forbid sterilization and allow for the provision of emergency contraception only in cases of rape. In practice, however, a woman who has been sexually assaulted is often given misinformation and may not receive treatment within the window in which emergency contraception would be effective.

The bishops have been pushing the same aversion to all forms of family planning in the political sphere, claiming to represent the views of all Catholics. In reality, approximately 98 per cent of sexually active American Catholic women have used a method of birth control forbidden by the Vatican. Yet the bishops objected that all Catholics’ consciences were infringed upon by the recent Institute of Medicine recommendation that contraception be covered under all insurance plans as a preventive measure. The proposal included a conscience clause that exempted religious organizations from providing this coverage. However, the bishops were not satisfied and lobbied for family planning to be struck completely from the list of covered medicines. This would, if accepted, allow any organization or business to opt out of offering insurance plans that cover contraception, depriving all women under those plans – Catholic and non-Catholic – of the services that other American women now enjoy.
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