



## Teen pregnancy rate drops by half when Planned Parenthood leaves town

WASHINGTON, January 14, 2013 —by Paul Rondeau, Exec. Director, American Life League

A study across the Texas Panhandle, using government statistics from 16 counties, found that the teen pregnancy rates among 13-17-year olds from 1994 through 2010 showed dramatic declines even as Planned Parenthood Federation of America facilities in the region shut down—dwindling from 19 family planning facilities to zero.

For decades, PPFA has publically maintained that it serves a key healthcare role for the American public by educating teens on “safe sex,” providing contraceptives, and reducing pregnancies. The breakthrough study titled “A Longitudinal Analysis of PPFA and Teen Pregnancy in the Texas Panhandle” refutes that claim. Found within a **meta-analysis of Planned Parenthood**, the report states that the teen pregnancy rate “reached its lowest point in recorded history two years after disaffiliation of the last two remaining facilities.”

The study analyzed data obtained from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Vital Statistics Annual Report, Table 14B, for the years 1994 through 2010: “In 1996, the year before opposition to Planned Parenthood began, the average teen pregnancy rate in the 16 counties where Planned Parenthood operated facilities was 43.6 per 1,000 girls aged 13 to 17. By 2002, the rate had dropped to 28.6. In 2008, the year the last two Planned Parenthood facilities disaffiliated from PPFA, the teen pregnancy rate was 27.2. And in 2010, two years after the Texas Panhandle became Planned Parenthood-free, the teen pregnancy rate had fallen to 24.1.”

The raw data gleaned from government files shows that with a teen population stable at about 13,000, the actual number of teen pregnancies fell from an average of 544 per year in the five years before Planned Parenthood started closing its doors to an average of 373 in the last five years.

PPFA’s fact sheet, *Reducing Teen Pregnancy*, proposes to reduce the quantity of teen pregnancies through a number of initiatives. To that end, it calls for initiatives that:

- Incorporate responsible, medically accurate sexuality education and information in the schools and in the media.
- Incorporate improvements in funding for and access to family planning services.
- Incorporate youth development programs to improve the life options of impoverished teens.

PPFA scorns abstinence-based education and praises the Obama administration for effectively defunding it: “In 2009, recognizing that evidence-based sex education programs were effective in promoting sexual health among teenagers, the Obama administration transferred funds from the community-based Abstinence Education Program and budgeted \$114.5 million to support evidence-based sex education programs across the country.”

The report does not specifically claim that PPFA presence in a community actually drives up teen pregnancy. The report simply states “The Texas Panhandle statistics show conclusively that neither access to Planned Parenthood ‘reproductive healthcare’ clinics nor PPFA ‘evidence-based, comprehensive sex education’ is a necessary component in reducing the teen pregnancy rate.”

However, when pressed on this point, Jim Sedlak, a recognized expert on PPFA and vice president of American Life League—the organization that underwrote the five-part meta-study in which the Panhandle report is contained—did point to Planned Parenthood’s business model.

“Based on the retention rates that Planned Parenthood published routinely until the mid-1990s, it consistently lost 43 percent of its customers annually. Today, PPFA is a \$1 billion business,” said Sedlak. “The only demographic big enough to furnish that many new customers every year is teens and young adults who engage in frequent sex. Planned Parenthood can make millions on preaching safe sex. It goes broke on abstinence.”

Under Obamacare, Planned Parenthood was first in line to start receiving funds for the comprehensive sex education program—funds totaling \$375 million.

The PPFA fact sheet also claims that “influential minorities promote unrealistic, abstinence-only programs and parental consent requirements . . . an unrealistic emphasis is placed on preventing adolescent sexual behavior which overlooks the fact that sexual expression is an essential component of healthy human development for individuals of all ages.”

Planned Parenthood argues that comprehensive sex education, including an introduction to homosexuality and all its variations, must start in kindergarten. From kindergarten through college, Planned Parenthood promotes sexual rights, sexual freedom, and even dangerous sexual acts such as anal sex and fisting.

To see where this philosophy leads, one need only look at International Planned Parenthood Federation. It promotes “sexual rights” for people under 18 years of age, even as young 10.

While PPFA decries the spread of HIV/AIDS it simultaneously fights for laws protecting homosexuality and against laws requiring people who are HIV positive to disclose that information to sex partners.

IPPF argues that laws requiring disclosure of the potentially lethal infection to a new sexual partner violates of the sexual rights of the HIV infected person.

So, does PPFA promote “reproductive health” or just peddle sex?

One thing for sure: to Planned Parenthood, sexual pleasure is more important than life itself.

Notes:

1 - We do know that the Panhandle dropped more than Texas where PP was still in operation in a similar but not same period.

**Percent change in the teen birth rate, 1991-2011 and 2010-2011 RH1·RH3·RH4**

<b>Total</b>	<b>Texas</b>	<b>United States</b>
Change in rate to females aged 15-19 (1991 to 2011)	-40%	-49%
Change in rate to females aged 15-19 (2010 to 2011)	-10%	-8%

2 - PP had 19 clinics in the Panhandle. Of them, 17 closed down completely as PP lost credibility ... and customers. The final 2 disaffiliated, but that was because they, too, had lost most of their influence. **One of those facilities has since closed.** Jim Sedlak, Director, Stop Planned Parenthood