

# MAAFA 21: EUGENICS, PLANNED PARENTHOOD AND ABORTION'S IMPACT ON THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

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## Incidence of Abortion among African Americans

Many are not aware of it, but the leading cause of death among African Americans is abortion. In fact, in 2005 (the latest data available), over 445 thousand African American babies were aborted, which is more than twice the number of African Americans who died from the ten top causes of African American deaths combined (219,703) in that year.<sup>1</sup>

Not counting natural miscarriages, in 2005, Whites aborted 15.3% of their pregnancies, Hispanics aborted 21%, and Blacks aborted 43.5% of their pregnancies.<sup>2</sup>

More recent data indicate that although African Americans make up only about 12.3% of the U.S. population, they have some 38% of the abortions, or about 3.1 times more than their numbers in the population would lead one to expect. Similar statistics hold for Ohio and local counties, as we may see in Table 1 below.<sup>3</sup>

*Table 1. Percent of the Population African American and Percent of Abortions Obtained by African American Women in Ohio and Selected Counties, 2008*

Government Unit	Percent African American	Percent of Abortions	No. of Times Greater Than Expected
State of Ohio	11.7	39.0	3.3
Cuyahoga County	28.7	62.2	2.2
Medina County	1.5	3.8	2.5
Portage County	4.0	17.2	4.3
Stark County	7.0	16.2	2.3
Summit County	14.0	39.0	2.8

## Maafa 21: Black Genocide in 21<sup>st</sup> Century America

What accounts for this disproportionately large number of African American abortions? The DVD, "Maafa 21" maintains that when slavery ended in the U.S., eugenicists and population control advocates targeted African-Americans and that this program continues to the present day. We shall now view the first 17 minutes of this 2 hour and 20 minute DVD.

## Margaret Sanger

As the film indicates, Margaret Sanger, who founded the American Birth Control League in 1916, changing its name to Planned Parenthood in 1942, was both a eugenicist and a racist.

For example, she stated, "Birth control itself, often denounced as a violation of natural law, is nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defectives."<sup>4</sup>

In 1939, Dr. Clarence J. Gamble was working with Sanger on what they called “The Negro Project.” This was meant to promote contraception in the African American community. In a memo to her, he observed that Black leaders might regard birth control as an extermination plot, and that therefore, Black leaders should be placed in positions where it would appear that they were in charge of the project. Sanger answered Dr. Gamble on December 10, 1939, agreeing with his assessment, saying: “We do not want the word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population, and the minister is the man who can straighten that idea out if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members.”<sup>5</sup>

Unfortunately the type of eugenicist thinking reported in Maafa 21 appears to be alive and well even today. In an interview reported in the July 12, 2009 *New York Times Magazine*, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was asked if she was talking about the lack of Medicaid funding for abortion. She replied: “Frankly, I had thought that at the time Roe was decided, there was concern about population growth and particularly growth in populations that we don’t want to have too many of. So that Roe was going to be then set up for Medicaid funding for abortion. ... But when the court decided *McRae* [*Harris v. McRae*, 1980] the case came out the other way.”<sup>6</sup>

### **Planned Parenthood and Abortion**

As someone who has read Planned Parenthood’s literature over several decades, and followed their initiatives in the courts and legislatures of our land, I have come to realize that Planned Parenthood is not about planning families, but about population control. Indeed, they are probably the most effective promoter of abortion in the United States today.

Their latest annual report<sup>7</sup> (2007-2008) indicates that in 2007, they performed 305,310 abortions, or about one-fourth of the U.S. total. Although they like to present figures that suggest that abortion is just a small part of the “services” they offer, their report shows that in 2007,

- for every prenatal client served, they performed 28 abortions;
- for every adoption referral they made, they performed 62 abortions, and
- for every infertility client they served, they performed 960 abortions.<sup>8</sup>

Question: Should this organization really be named Planned ***Parent*hood**? Or, as some have suggested, should it be named Planned ***Barren*hood**?

Seeking to downplay the significance of abortion in its programs, Planned Parenthood counts each unit of service it provides and reports that abortion amounts to only three percent of its services. However, approximately one-third of its income comes from abortion.<sup>9</sup> Abby Johnson, who worked at a Texas Planned Parenthood clinic for eight years, serving as its director for her last two years there, said she began to feel uncomfortable with Planned Parenthood’s business philosophy. Experiencing a decline in business, she says the organization told her to bring more abortions in the door. Johnson noted, “The money wasn’t in family planning, the money wasn’t in prevention, the money was in abortion, and so I had a problem with that.”<sup>10</sup> Johnson resigned in October of 2009, after being asked to assist at a late-term abortion, and watching the unborn baby’s attempt to escape the abortionist’s instruments on an ultrasound screen.

Another third of Planned Parenthood’s income comes from our federal, state, and local tax dollars. The final third comes from donations from individuals, foundations and various corporations. As an example of foundation support, in the spring of 2009, some of the richest people in the United States met in New York City. Included in the meeting were Bill Gates, David Rockefeller, Ted Turner, Oprah Winfrey, Warren Buffett and George Soros. They adopted population control as their main cause. The

Gates Foundation has given U.S. and foreign Planned Parenthood organizations, as well as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, over \$36 million since 1998.<sup>11</sup>

Regarding corporate support, the last time we checked, the following companies were among those who supported Planned Parenthood: American Express, AT&T, Chase Manhattan, Disney, Harley-Davidson, Holiday Inn, Italian Gardens, Kraft, Inc., Levi Strauss, Lowes, Metropolitan Life, Microsoft, Nationwide Insurance, Nike, Pepsico, Pillsbury Corp., Prudential, Quaker Oats, Red Lobster, Reebok, State Farm Auto, Target, Time Warner, T.G.I. Friday's, and Viacom.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, Planned Parenthood Federation of America reported net assets of 1billion, 14.4 million dollars, with \$349.6 million coming from government grants and contracts. Its profit (excess of revenue over expenses) for that year was \$85 million dollars, and yet it keeps asking for more of our tax dollars.<sup>12</sup>

### **Protector of Women's Reproductive Health?**

Planned Parenthood likes to present itself as being concerned about women's reproductive health. While it does provide other health services to women, when it comes to reproductive issues, and particularly to abortion, this assertion is open to serious question. For example:

- Planned Parenthood lobbies against parental involvement laws when minor girls seek abortions. Yet it is the parents of a minor girl who generally are the most knowledgeable about their daughter's medical and psychological history, and how an abortion might impact her life.
- Planned Parenthood lobbies against women's right-to-know laws which seek to inform a woman of the medical benefits and risks of abortion and childbirth, or which seek to give her the option of seeing an ultrasound of her child before she has an abortion. Planned Parenthood maintains that such laws restrict a woman's right to choose an abortion. Would we say the same thing if the woman was buying a car? Would we say that a law requiring the car dealer to tell her the car's strong and weak points, and to allow her to inspect the car was interfering with her right to buy the car?
- Planned Parenthood objected to a proposed Michigan law which would require clinics to ask women whether they were being coerced or forced to have an abortion, and if so, to wait 24 hours. The clinic could then give a referral to agencies dealing with domestic violence.<sup>13</sup> Research has shown that up to 60% of women having abortions are coerced or pressured to do so.<sup>14</sup>
- Planned Parenthood seeks to cut corners on abortion procedures and safety regulations.
  - When RU 486 was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), it was to be prescribed by a physician and administered orally. Planned Parenthood, however, began telling women to take the second component of the drug vaginally, even though the FDA indicated oral use was safer. Research at the University of Michigan found that when given directly in the reproductive tract, the drug suppressed key immune responses, which could allow a normally non-threatening bacterium (clostridium sordellii) to cause deadly infection. It wasn't until four California women died that Planned Parenthood changed its policy to conform to the FDA protocol.<sup>15</sup>
  - Missouri passed a law requiring abortion clinics doing second and third trimester abortions, or more than five first trimester abortions a month to meet the same

standards as other ambulatory surgical centers. Planned Parenthood went to court, saying this would be too expensive, particularly for clinics which primarily dispense RU 486. However, this ignores the fact that when the “medical” abortion does not work, a surgical abortion is needed.<sup>16</sup>

- Planned Parenthood denies the medical and psychological evidence that abortion harms women. (See handout: Legal Abortion Harms Women). In spite of the fact that over 40 years of scientific research has demonstrated that legal abortion has negative medical and psychological effects on women, Planned Parenthood denies the validity of these studies. Accessing Planned Parenthood’s [www.teenwire.com](http://www.teenwire.com) site on March 20, 2009, we found the following statement in an article entitled, “Abortion Myths: Fact vs. Fiction.” “Safe, uncomplicated abortion should not affect a woman’s ability to have children in the future. It does not
  - cause birth defects
  - cause premature birth or low-birth weight
  - make ectopic (not in the uterus) pregnancy more likely
  - make miscarriage more likely
  - make the risk of infant death more likely.”

This website also denies the demonstrated link between abortion and breast cancer, and between abortion and subsequent psychological problems.

- Perhaps the most damning evidence that Planned Parenthood is focused on promoting abortion and does not really care about women’s reproductive health is their apparent protection of child sexual abusers and statutory rapists.

In 2002, Mark Crutcher of Life Dynamics conducted a three year phone survey of over 800 Planned Parenthood and National Abortion Federation clinics in the U.S. The caller posed as a minor impregnated by her adult boyfriend. Over 90% of the clinics advised her that she ought not repeat those facts because of statutory rape reporting requirements, and/or referred her to another clinic, advising her how to go about getting an abortion without having to have the report made. Hence, the common practice appears to be to give the young girl a secret abortion, and then return her to the statutory rapist.<sup>17</sup>

Since Crutcher’s study, many individual cases have come to light, including ten caught on video from 10 clinics in six different cities across the country.<sup>18</sup>

### **Planned Parenthood and African Americans**

Planned Parenthood also appears to be continuing the racist traditions of Margaret Sanger.<sup>19</sup>

One source notes that although its overall clientele could be expected to be 74% White and 26% minorities, its 1992 Service Report revealed that its abortion customers were 57% White and 43% minorities.<sup>20</sup> Two different studies found that between 60% and 62.5% of Planned Parenthood’s abortion clinics nationwide were located in areas with a high concentration of Blacks.<sup>21</sup>

In February, 2010, Planned Parenthood opened a 40,000 square foot Surgicenter in Portland, Oregon. It is located on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, in the heart of the African American community.<sup>22</sup> An even larger (78,000 square foot) six story abortion “Super Center” is being built in Houston, Texas. It is in the middle of four minority neighborhoods. Three of them combined have a population that is 85% Hispanic, and the fourth is 80% African American.<sup>23</sup>

During the summer of 2009, Lila Rose, the UCLA student who exposed the practice of various Planned Parenthood clinics of skirting the law requiring the reporting of statutory rape cases, had a caller phone Planned Parenthood clinics in Ohio, Idaho, New Mexico and Oklahoma. The caller indicated he wished to make a donation for the abortion of a Black baby in order to “lower the number of Blacks in America.” As reported in *The Advocate*, a student newspaper she edits, Rose notes:

*Despite his bigoted requests, no Planned Parenthood employee (or director of development in one case) declined the tainted money. Some even asked to speak with other employees to get permission. In the first day of calling seven clinics, not a single Planned Parenthood representative expressed outrage or concern at the racism behind donations specifically “to reduce the number of Blacks.” In fact, some even went as far as agreeing with the anti-Black agenda.<sup>24</sup>*

To listen to some of the transcripts, the reader may visit [www.LAadvocate.com/pp](http://www.LAadvocate.com/pp).

It has been noted that, “Between 1882 and 1968, 3,446 Blacks were lynched in the United States. Now, this many unborn Black babies are being aborted *every three days*.”<sup>25</sup> Fortunately, this tragedy is being increasingly recognized by the African-American community. To learn more, the reader may go to the following websites:

[www.kingforamerica.com](http://www.kingforamerica.com)      [www.nationalblackprolifeunion.com](http://www.nationalblackprolifeunion.com)      [www.blackgenocide.org](http://www.blackgenocide.org)  
[www.protectingblacklife.org](http://www.protectingblacklife.org)      [www.toomanyaborted.com](http://www.toomanyaborted.com)

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To borrow a copy of "Maafa 21: Black Genocide in 21<sup>st</sup> Century America," contact Right to Life of Northeast Ohio, (330) 762-2785