המוסד למען קדושת חיי אדם

Saving Jewish Lives

JEWISH PRO-LIFE FOUNDATION™

Healing Jewish Hearts

Dr. Rachel and Adam Berger
5435 Dunmoyle Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

July 21, 2017

Dear Dr. and Mr. Berger,

We were recently notified of the Planned Parenthood fundraising event at your home on June 3, 2017. Though your support of Planned Parenthood finds much endorsement in your circle of influence, we find it to be terribly disturbing. We most humbly ask you for your attention as we share our thoughts with you.

We are impressed by your lifelong dedication to caring for children in tragic, criminal, and devastating circumstances. This work can only be done by someone deeply caring and compassionate. We have great respect for your willingness and ability to advocate for these vulnerable children. By stating that you feel that "their services are essential for our children and families," it is clear that you believe that Planned Parenthood deserves your endorsement. But, do they?

Dr. Berger, for many intelligent, thoughtful and caring individuals, support of Planned Parenthood rests on a deliberate misrepresentation of Planned Parenthood's business services and practices.They are in business to make a profit by victimizing women and killing children, not on providing women's health care. According to their own 2016 Annual Report, Planned Parenthood doesn't perform a single mammogram, and it performs less than two percent of all women's cancer screenings in the United States, yet it commits over 30 percent of America's abortions. Planned Parenthood is the single largest abortion chain in America, committing 887 abortions a day and over 320,000 abortions last year alone. During abortion procedures unborn babies are starved, poisoned, burned, and dismembered without pain medication and all for profit. Most abortions are done in the first trimester, and research proves that babies as young as 8 weeks feel pain. As a compassionate professional entrusted to care for children, we know that in order to support Planned Parenthood, you must be unaware of these inhumane medical procedures.

Many Planned Parenthood abortion centers provide substandard patient care by employing unlicensed doctors without hospital privileges, and it is not unusual to see ambulances collect injured patients, some of whom die from the abortion procedure. It is well documented that PP shelters sexual predators and sex traffickers, routinely lies to and exploits women, and illegally harvests baby parts for profit.These business and medical practices run contrary to medical ethics and acceptable medical standards.

The Pittsburgh area has other healthcare providers that offer women's healthcare services, contraception and STD testing at the same low or no cost that Planned Parenthood claims to do, but they don't kill children or harm women. Why not host a fundraiser for one of these organizations?

Many of us who are taught from an early age to believe that elective abortion as birth control solves the problems resulting from unplanned pregnancy, unwanted and abused children, social and financial challenges, professional conflicts, gestational anomalies, and sexual and physical assault. This view sees the 'right to choose' abortion as a civil liberty, necessary health care, good for women. But, is it?

Reams of documented research now shows that abortion harms women. I have spoken with many post abortive women who report that, immediately afterward or years afterward, the abortion experience left them feeling betrayed by the friends and family who recommended it, as well as grief-stricken, broken-hearted, emotionally and mentally unbalanced, physically compromised, and spiritually inconsolable. Abortion puts women at risk for breast cancer and infertility. We now know that women who complete their pregnancies have far better outcomes than those who terminate. We offer a confidential post abortion healing program for Jewish men and women. If you or someone you know needs support, please contact us for help.

As Jews, we feel we are on moral high ground when we support the use of elective abortion because Judaism allows it. But, does it?

In Judaism, abortion is judged to be the unwarranted taking of a life within a life. It is prohibited, just as murder is prohibited. Originally, our rabbinic tradition correctly found one exception to the prohibition - that of breech birth which, if not remedied, would kill both mother and child. The Halackhic requirement to save the mother's life by taking the child's life was restricted to this grave imminent danger. Today, only 1% of abortion is used to save the life of the mother, and this percentage is dwindling as pre-term babies can be removed from the uterus and given life saving care. The Jewish propensity to expand the limits of this exception disregards the human life that hangs in the balance - an innocent human life.

We've been taught that "It's not alive until It's born", a corrupted, misleading reference to ancient rabbinical opinion on the status of the unborn. This is 2017, the age of ultra-sophisticated ultrasound that verifies instantly the humanity of the child in the mother's womb. Now, it is scientific proof that human life begins at conception. We know without a doubt that abortion kills an innocent living human being. Judaism prohibits killing an innocent person. Therefore, in Judaism elective abortion is wrong.

Judaism emphasizes the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death, making it incumbent upon Jews to find alternative life saving ways to deal with unplanned and unwanted pregnancy. Adoption, marriage, and single parenthood are much better choices for Jews than the intentional killing of an innocent life. Indeed, Judaism insists that a Jew break all the Sabbath rules to save the life of an unborn child. Judaism prohibits desecrating the human body, but abortion destroys a human body, and the harvesting of baby parts for profit runs contrary to Jewish respect for the dead.

Our Jewish tradition provides clear guidelines to follow regarding the protection of unborn human life. From Genesis 9:6-7, *"Whoso sheddeth man's blood through man, shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man. And you, be fruitful, and multiply; swarm in the earth, and multiply therein",* to Deuteronomy 30:19, where our Heavenly Father clearly declares, *"I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore, choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and thy seed."*

In the Zohar, our mystical sages warn us of disturbing human unborn life, "For there are three [persons] who drive away the Shekkinah (indwelling of God) from the world, making it impossible for the Holy One, Blessed be He, to fix His abode in the universe and causing prayer to be unanswered.....{The third is} he who causes the fetus to be destroyed in the womb, for he destroys the artifice of the Holy One, blessed be He, and His workmanship…… For these abominations the Spirit of Holiness weeps."

Until recently, the unavailability of Jewish pro-life educational materials has prevented intelligent, well educated credentialed Jewish professionals like yourself from exploring the truth about the abortion business. Please review the enclosed materials and visit our website to learn more. We are located in the North Hills of Pittsburgh and would be delighted to meet with you to talk about our work.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Cecily Routman

Cecily Routman, Founder