

Planned Parenthood distributed this note from "clergy" who support abortion and posted it on their website. But since there are quite a few Scriptural, factual, and common sense errors, we thought we might help them set the record straight.



Clergy Advocacy Board Statement

Pastoral Letter to Patients

Dear Friend:

Support? Once Planned Parenthood rips a child from the mother's womb, there is little support for the physical and emotional devastation left behind. At Care Net, we offer counseling, compassion, and real help to support those facing unplanned pregnancies.

The decision to have an abortion is personal. Though your reasons may be complicated and private, you're not alone. As religious leaders from a number of religious traditions, we're here to support you in your decision. Many people wrongly assume that all religious leaders disapprove of abortion.

Actually, the Bible records several accounts of God's anger over the "shedding of innocent blood." Check out Psalm 106:37-40! Interesting... not one Scripture reference in this letter.

The truth is that abortion is not even mentioned in the Scriptures —Jewish or Christian—and there are clergy and people of faith from all denominations who support women making this complex decision.

The beliefs of each person are deserving of respect, and each person deserves care and compassion. No one should be allowed to force their faith teachings on anyone else.

97.6% of Planned Parenthood services to pregnant females are abortions. Who is forcing their beliefs on others?

We believe this decision is yours, made with your doctor and anyone else you choose to bring into the conversation, such as a spouse, partner, parent, or clergyperson.

Shouldn't God be part of the decision?

Our religious traditions have somewhat different opinions about abortion, but we share some basic understandings:

God does!

- No one knows the circumstances of your life as well as you know them; no one knows what's in your heart better than you. Allow yourself to be at peace with your decision.
- God loves you and is with you no matter what you decide. You can find strength, understanding, and comfort in that love.

In order to be at peace with your decision, you must know the truth about it. That is why Care Net launched our Pregnancy Decision Line.

If you'd like to speak with a clergyperson, your local Planned Parenthood health center can refer you to someone who will be supportive of you and your decision. Your privacy will be protected and all conversations will be completely confidential. Our hope for you is for peace in your heart.

Yes, God's love is constant. But how strange to leave Him out of the decision and expect that the relationship with Him will not be affected...

The Clergy Advocacy Board
Planned Parenthood Federation of America

This is really hoping in vain given the strong body of research that makes a clear and compelling case that abortion is a harmful decision for women.

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America Clergy Advocacy Board (CAB), dating from 1994, leads a national effort to increase public awareness of the theological and moral basis for advocating reproductive health and justice. CAB members are dedicated pro-choice clergy from different denominations and communities throughout the U.S. who work with Planned Parenthood at the national and state levels to further the goal of full reproductive freedom for all women and men.

For starters,

see <http://www.aul.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Summary-of-Known-Health-Risks-of-Abortion.pdf>.