

The **POWER** behind SHUTTING DOWN Planned Parenthood

By Jim Sedlak

This past August on the high plains of Texas, Planned Parenthood closed down a “clinic” it had opened only eight months earlier. The closing of abortion centers has become a commonplace occurrence for Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle.



In 1997, that Planned Parenthood affiliate operated 19 clinics. Today it has just two left—and both of them are in Amarillo. All of its centers in all the other towns have gone out of business.

How did this happen? What causes Planned Parenthood to abandon its operations and pull out of town?

First you should know that in the U.S., Planned Parenthood has closed down a total of about 120 facilities over the last 10 years. The exact empirical reasons for the closing of each site vary, but there are a number of common factors that have been noted by pro-life forces. By concentrating on those factors, areas like the Texas panhandle have been able to greatly decrease Planned Parenthood’s impact on their communities.

In previous *Celebrate Life* articles this year, we told you how Planned Parenthood kills babies through abortion and targets our teens with its sexual messages. We told you how Planned Parenthood has a great deal of money—including your hard-earned tax dollars. We told you how Planned Parenthood spreads the godless religion preached in the *Humanist Manifestos*.

Now the practical answer on how we fight Planned Parenthood is to keep it away from our children and away from our money and we’ll talk a little about that later in this article. But first, we need to talk about the basis for the real fight against Planned Parenthood—and that is faith in God.

Be sheep among wolves

A cursory understanding of Planned Parenthood reveals that it is an organization intent on violating just about every one of the Ten Commandments. From its worship of man and sex as gods, to its dishonoring of parents, to its attempts at stealing the souls of our teens and the killing of babies in the womb, Planned Parenthood is a wolf in sheep’s clothing. If Lucifer were to create an organization to do his

work with mainstream acclaim, he could not find a better model than Planned Parenthood.

It is important to realize, then, that the battle against Planned Parenthood is spiritual combat. It is one that cannot be won by man alone, but must always be centered on God. If you ask Bishop John Yanta of Amarillo why so many Planned Parenthood businesses have closed in his diocese, he will give a one-word answer, namely, “Prayer.” That, combined with effective action, is what sends Planned Parenthood out of town.

Prayer is what closed the Planned Parenthood business that opened in Beaufort, South Carolina. In this small resort town, Planned Parenthood had fought for a number of years to open an abortion facility there. Local pro-lifers began educating their community about Planned Parenthood. In one memorable meeting, they invited STOPP to do an educational session at a local church hall. During the presentation, we shocked the audience by discussing the *Humanist Manifestos* and showing how Planned Parenthood spreads that corrupting doctrine.

Where is Planned Parenthood?

Top 10 states for Planned Parenthood facilities:

State	Total Clinics
California	93
New York	79
Texas	78
Pennsylvania	43
Washington	39
Ohio	39
Indiana	39
Michigan	30
New Jersey	30
Wisconsin	30

In the question and answer session of that meeting, a woman stood up and said she was working with Planned Parenthood to bring the new office to town. She then said that she was well aware of the *Humanist Manifestos* and, yes, the manifestos did represent the philosophy they were spreading.

The pro-lifers of Beaufort continued to fight against the Planned Parenthood abortion business, but, much to their horror, it opened in February of 2001. Then God took over. Despite Planned Parenthood's grandiose plans and market research, the new clinic in Beaufort had very few customers. Finally, after nine months of operation, the business closed its doors in November 2001 and has not reopened.

Get spiritual guidance

In 2001, another classic battle against Planned Parenthood took place in Houghton, Michigan. Pro-lifers mounted an intense campaign against a new Planned Parenthood clinic in that community. They educated the community about the evils of Planned Parenthood by writing letters to newspaper editors and conducting a series of presentations. A large banner saying "Planned Parenthood Kills Babies" was hung on the side of a local bridge and picketers began a regular presence at the business. Pastors in the area began to pray for the demise of the Planned Parenthood facility and urged their congregations to get involved. Just two years later, the clinic closed for good.

A pastor in Houghton, writing about the triumph, said: "This victory was not due to any brilliance on our part. Time after time the Lord just dropped things into our

lap. God raised up people and resources with amazing timing—usually before it even occurred to us what we could use or do! To Him alone belongs the glory!"

Prayer and action. That is the key to defeating Planned Parenthood.

For those getting involved in protecting their children and their communities against Planned Parenthood, we recommend that you read the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 10.

Planned Parenthood by the numbers

Fiscal year 2004-2005 reports

Total income:	\$882 million
Abortion income:	\$108 million (estimated)
Taxpayer funding:	\$272 million
Total profit:	\$63 million
Babies aborted:	255,015

If you understood our earlier articles about Planned Parenthood, then you know it is spreading the work of Satan. You will realize that, if people would only live their lives as God has instructed us to live, Planned Parenthood could not exist. So, our first task in fighting Planned Parenthood is to spread God's word in our communities.

We do not have space in this article to discuss Matthew 10 in detail. For now, we ask you to sit down with your bible, say a prayer to the Holy Spirit to open your heart and then read that chapter with the pro-life movement in mind. You will be amazed how God will show you exactly how to fight abortion and Planned Parenthood.

Act on the prayer

And fight you must. No matter how hard the fight is or how long it takes, it is essential that we do not let Planned Parenthood go unchecked. One courageous battle against Planned Parenthood took place in the 1980s in the school district of Mount Vernon, New York.

Planned Parenthood had installed its model sex education program in that school district and was teaching it in the fifth through eighth grades. In addition to training all the "family life" teachers in the schools, the district had a "Family Life Education" coordinator who was intent on spreading the Planned Parenthood philosophy. In 1986 she proposed expanding the Planned Parenthood program down to the third grade and up to the ninth grade. In addition, plans were hatched to open a clinic in the school.

Planned Parenthood was already well on its way to achieving its goals when concerned parents began to fight. The full details of the fight are contained in our book *Parent Power!!* But we can tell you here that the parents launched a multi-year effort that resulted in the following victories: The school-based facility called a "Wellness Center" was thrown out of the school; the position of Family Life Education coordinator was eliminated; and the plans to expand the program failed.

The Mount Vernon effort was a classic case of pro-lifers working very hard to keep Planned Parenthood away from our children. It is just one of many such successes. In Bryan, Texas, Planned Parenthood was kicked out of the public school system. In Springfield, Illinois, pro-lifers got Planned Parenthood banned from

On the road to monopoly?

Each year, Planned Parenthood is responsible for an ever-increasing percentage of the total number of abortions in the United States:

Year	Abortions	Percent of US total
1979	71,854	4.8%
1984	88,824	5.6%
1989	122,191	7.8%
1994	133,289	9.3%
1999	182,792	13.9%
2004	255,015	19.8%

every school district in the area. In Dutchess County, New York parents forced the local Girl Scouts to disassociate with Planned Parenthood. The same thing happened in Waco, Texas. In Danville, Iowa, pro-lifers successfully saw the cancellation of a Planned Parenthood event at a local Girl Scout facility.

These are all examples of keeping Planned Parenthood away from our children.

Planned Parenthood is able to ply its trade because of the huge amounts of taxpayer money that flow into its coffers. Many people have successfully fought to have local government money taken away from Planned Parenthood.

The classic battle against such local funding of Planned Parenthood took place over a seven-year period in Dutchess County, New York. There, local citizens worked to educate elected officials and gather citizen support. Their efforts resulted in the removal of \$26,000 annual funding from Planned Parenthood.

Through the years, there have been many similar fights across the country. Pro-lifers in Morris County, New Jersey; Charlotte, North Carolina; Fulton County,

New York; Sarasota, Florida; Raleigh, North Carolina; and many more communities have been able to cut off thousands of dollars in taxpayer contributions to Planned Parenthood.

Many communities also have fought to end funding of Planned Parenthood through the local United Way organizations. Success has been seen in Plattsburg, New York; Sarasota, Florida; and, again, many other communities.

In addition, many states have begun taking taxpayer money away from Planned Parenthood. In a research study we did this past summer, the six states of Idaho, Montana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and West Virginia reported that they give NO state money to Planned Parenthood. (However, note that the Planned Parenthood affiliates operating in these states may be receiving federal money.)

Several other states, including

Missouri, Ohio and Texas, have begun the process of ending state funding for Planned Parenthood.

So the message is clear. Planned Parenthood can be defeated, town by town. It takes an effort that is rooted in prayer and seeks to keep Planned Parenthood away from our children and our money.

We invite you all to join in this effort to protect your children in your community. Planned Parenthood is continually trying to open new facilities. As we approach 2007, we ask you to begin your fight against Planned Parenthood in your community. After all, your children and grandchildren are depending on you.

Jim Sedlak is vice president of American Life League. For e-mail updates about fighting Planned Parenthood, sign up for the STOPP Report at www.ALL.org/stopp.

E-mail this article from our web site www.CLMagazine.org.

Learn more about fighting Planned Parenthood!

Join pro-life leaders Jim Sedlak and David Bereit of American Life League for a power-packed series of presentations recorded live at an intensive training workshop in St. Augustine, Florida.

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