**Why Federal Resources should be used to Fund Planned Parenthood**

The debate over whether or not federal resources should be used to fund Planned Parenthood continues to divide Americans. I stand for federal government funding Planned Parenthood. On my panel for PRO includes Ms. Anita Pietruk, Ms. Olivia Watson and I, Ms. Lorretta Tetteh. This panel believes in the good and the importance of Planned Parenthood in the community and the nation at large.

Planned Parenthood provides different services around reproductive health for a range of individuals across gender and sexuality spectrum, (Berstein, S.,2018). Some of their services include well-women gynecology, annual breast exams, breast and cervical cancer screenings, HIV testing and treatment, vaccines, transgender services (in 17 states), vasectomy, and as well as providing condoms, (Planned Parenthood, 2018). Planned Parenthood’s federal funding is from Medicaid reimbursements for preventive care, and some are from Title X so is it not directly funded by the government. Title X is the nation’s family planning program and its funds are used to support family planning healthcare. The question is which sections are the funds been pulled from? Medicaid and Title X are the programs that fund Planned Parenthood. Title X is a federal family planning program that mostly serves lower-income Americans. Medicaid, on the other hand, is a healthcare program that assists lower-income Americans. Medicaid pulls from both state and federal funds.

Recent talks revealed the government speaking of “defunding” Planned Parenthood. Meaning, primarily cutting off federal resources but States could continue to spend as much as they please to fund the program. One of the reasons for the debate is a result of moral objections to abortion. But this argument has no grounds because federal monies are not used for abortion services. The basic reasoning is being lost which is Medicaid reimbursement follows the patient to wherever the women choose to receive healthcare. Providing continual access to healthcare through Planned Parenthood for Medicaid beneficiaries is an advantage to families.

The provision of family planning services has significant importance to the U.S. population. About 25 million women in America receive contraceptive assistance annually and 44 million make at least one visit for family planning-related visits each year, (Godfrey, E. M., Tepper, N. K., Curtis, K. M., Moskosky, S. B., & Gavin, L. E.,2015). The primary aim of Planned Parenthood is to provide help for individuals and couples to achieve their desired family size, as well as timing and spacing of their children. Unintended and teen pregnancies continue to be significant even though it has notably decreased in comparison to decades before it still poses as a public health challenge in the United States. Contraception being highly cost-effective as shown to decrease unintended pregnancies and abortions. Family planning benefit program is one of the many guidance they provide to women. This program provides family planning services to women and men of childbearing age who meet income and residency criterion.

 Quality family planning care is optimum for providing continual and quality healthcare for women and their babies. Women should have the power to control their own bodies and have a say in their healthcare. I stand for the federal government using its resources to fund Planned Parenthood because denying millions of women critical is wrong.

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**DEBATE PRO NUR**

**The end of the third week is the final remarks.** Each **team member** will make one final statement. This statement will include a brief summary of key points, reiteration of any important rebuttal comments and respond to some of the open discussion.

Hello Professor, classmates, and fellow debaters I believe that I have expanded on the services and benefits Planned Parenthood contributes to women, men, and the entire country as a whole. As we all know, the debate on whether Planned Parenthood deserves federal funding has being ongoing. My opponents will like all of us to believe that this great organization does not deserve federal assistance, which is a big mistake, on the bases of providing abortion. Abortion only consists of about 3% of the total services they provide. Pregnant women who visit facilities of Planned Parenthood go there to receive a service other than (or in addition to) an abortion, prenatal care or adoption referral. Shutting down Planned Parenthood means an increase in unsafe abortions because the organization provides sex education, contraception, and quality healthcare for women. I am in full support of federal resources funding Planned Parenthood because simply disagreeing with someone’s choice is not grounds stripping them off their rights.

In a nutshell, Planned Parenthood’s benefits outweighs its downsides. In the end, a woman’s decision about her body should be of her choice alone and no questions asked.

Reference:

New Study Shows the Benefit of Planned Parenthood in Local Communities. (2016, March). Retrieved March 26, 2019, from https://www.plannedparenthood.org/about-us/newsroom/press-releases/new-study-shows-the-benefit-of-planned-parenthood-in-local-communities