

public affairs update

U.S. Rep. Pence Attacks Planned Parenthood

On July 19, Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN) introduced an amendment to the Labor-Health & Human Services Spending Bill to exclude Planned Parenthood from receiving Title X funding.

Planned Parenthood uses Title X funding to provide crucial family planning services to 3 million women nationwide each year. No other health provider was targeted – Pence’s amendment was a blatant attack on Planned Parenthood and the millions of uninsured and underserved Americans.

By a vote of 231-189, members of Congress stood up for women’s health and overwhelmingly defeated Pence’s amendment to deny services to millions of women, men and teens. Planned Parenthood applauds the U.S House of Representatives for defeating this outrageous attack on family planning.

Southeastern Pennsylvania U.S. Representatives Brady, Fattah, Gerlach, Schwartz and Sestak all voted against this appalling amendment. For more information on this vote or to thank your Representative, contact the Public Affairs Department at 215.351.5510 or publicaffairs@ppsp.org.

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America's Top Doctor Gagged

Last month, Former Surgeon General Richard Carmona revealed that he was gagged by the Bush administration from speaking out against abstinence-only sexuality education programs and was consistently pressured to promote ideology over science.

Top officials banned Dr. Carmona from speaking or issuing reports on stem cells, emergency contraception and sex education because of political considerations. His testimony illustrated the White House’s efforts to weaken and suppress significant health reports.

“The job of Surgeon General is to be the doctor of the nation - not the doctor of a political party.” - Dr. Carmona told the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

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Southeastern Pennsylvania

public affairs update, cont.

Fox and CBS Say Yes to Sex, No to Condoms

Did you hear that FOX and CBS have refused to air a Trojan condom ad that focuses on pregnancy prevention instead of disease prevention?!?

FOX writes “Contraceptive advertising must stress health-related uses rather than the prevention of pregnancy.” Meanwhile, CBS defends its decision simply by stating it “did not find it appropriate” for its network. What an outrage!

In 2005, 70% of all television shows and 77% of prime-time shows contained sexual content. FOX and CBS shows are no exception. From *Temptation Island* to the *Victoria's Secret Fashion Show* to *The O.C.* — a show that broadcasts an average of 6.7 sex scenes an hour — FOX and CBS have taken sex all the way to the bank.

Preventing unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections are top public health priorities. Television networks that pride themselves on public service should take every opportunity to educate the public about safer sex.

By airing sex-saturated programs but rejecting condom ads that focus on pregnancy prevention, FOX and CBS are making the wrong move for public health.

Let's get FOX and CBS to pay attention! FOX & CBS need to hear from you! Please tell them to stop the hypocrisy and air ads that promote public health. Contact the Public Affairs Department at 215.351.5510 or publicaffairs@ppsp.org for more information.

Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendars!

- Volunteer Night at PPSP, 1144 Locust Street
Wednesday, August 15th - 5:00-7:30pm
- *PPSP's Cocktails for a Cause Series presents . . .*
PROM NITE 2007
Saturday, October 13th
Atwater Kent Museum | Philadelphia

To RSVP or for information about these or other PPSP events, contact the Public Affairs Department at publicaffairs@ppsp.org or 215.351.5585.