



Planned Parenthood Northern California

## Clergy for Choice

In the current culture debates, one side is woefully under-represented, namely clergy who are pro-family planning, pro-sex education, pro-choice, and pro-equal rights. Our purpose, as faith leaders, is to add our voices to the public discussion of women's health, religious, and reproductive freedoms. We are interfaith leaders who value all human life. We accept that religions differ about when life begins. We believe that human life is holy. That is why we believe in the right to choose to be a parent or not.

### **Our position on important issues:**

**Comprehensive Sexual Health Education:** Schools should provide students medically accurate, age appropriate sex health education that includes information about abstinence, contraception, and disease prevention.

**Family Planning:** State and Federal funding should be available to family planning clinics for a full range of family planning services, including male and female birth control methods, STD/HIV testing and treatment, and pregnancy testing.

**Insurance Coverage for Rx Contraceptives:** Workplace medical benefits that cover prescription drugs should be required to cover all FDA approved methods of prescribed contraception.

**Religious Based Refusal of Services:** Hospitals, pharmacies or other health care entities should *not* be allowed to refuse services on the grounds of moral or religious objection.

**Parental Notification for Contraceptives:** To protect their safety, minors should *not* be required to notify their parents before they receive any form of contraception.

**Parental Notification for Abortion:** To protect their safety, minors should *not* be required to notify their parents before they have an abortion.

**Abortion Access:** Abortions should remain safe, legal, and accessible to *all* women.

**Prenatal Care and Maternity Care:** Maternal care before and after a baby is born should be a federally mandated essential health benefit.

Simply put, it is consistent with spiritual and religious values to support Planned Parenthood Northern California's mission to champion healthy communities and increase access to quality health care for all, by providing medical services, education, and advocacy.