



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

#### Education

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### Planned Parenthood's Closings Not All Good News

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**Education:** Planned Parenthood has about 300 fewer clinics than it did in 1995, with 32 closings in 2017, and only 5 new centers opening. Along with centers closing, the number of clients served has also declined. However, the number of abortions done remains fairly steady. PP is focusing more on abortions, and performing fewer other services. (1) Part of the reduction in clinic numbers is due to the fact that over the last several years PP has opened 19 or 20 mega-centers in large cities, replacing smaller, older clinics, which would not

be able to accommodate some of the recent restrictions imposed on abortion facilities in pro-life states. (2)

But another way they are maintaining their abortion sales is with telemed or “video chat” abortions, where a doctor at a remote location speaks with a patient and administers the abortion pill electronically. Such abortions are banned in 19 states, including Texas, but are still happening other states.(3) Planned Parenthood announced recently that it would be opening 10 new telemed locations in 2018, a significant increase over the 24 locations already providing that service.(4)

While some studies have been cited to indicate that telemed abortions are no more dangerous than other medication abortions, medication abortions have four times the complication rate of surgical abortions. (5.2% vs 1.3% for first trimester suction abortions). (5) Complications include incomplete or failed abortions, hemorrhaging, and infections. A report from the FDA indicates that at least 10 women had died from complications of medication abortions in the first 10.5 years after approval in the U.S. (6)

So while fewer abortion clinics are still a good thing, it may mean more of the more dangerous medication abortions, and more women suffering not only serious complications but greater trauma as they experience the abortion over a much longer time frame and see the body of their child as the abortion occurs at home. The only positive aspect of medication abortion is that if a women changes her mind soon after taking the drug, the baby can be saved with administration of high doses of progesterone.(7)

1. <http://www.lifenews.com/2018/02/06/planned-parenthood-opening-10-locations-for-women-to-get-video-chat-abortions/> (2018)
2. <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/planned-parenthoods-mega-center-strategy-and-how-it-will-flourish-if-hillar> (Nov 2016)
3. <https://www.gutmacher.org/state-policy/explore/medication-abortion> (2018)
4. <http://www.cosmopolitan.com/politics/a15949012/planned-parenthood-announces-abortion-video-chat-telemedicine/> (2018)
5. <http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2014/12/ucsf-study-finds-then-downplays-significant-abortion-complication-rates/#.Wn3NsExFzml> (2014)
6. <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF11G29.pdf>
7. <https://abortionpillreversal.com/>



**Prayer:** Please, Lord, help all women considering abortion to find the support they need to choose life. Help them also to be aware of the dangers of medication abortions. Help the word to be spread that the abortion can be reversed if action is taken quickly. Have mercy on those who chose that procedure as they experience the trauma of the abortion happening at home, and may suffer with significant pain and bleeding. Give them every help to acknowledge their sin and choose to repent. Enfold them in your loving and forgiving arms and allow them to find healing.



**Action:** Read the book **unPlanned** by Abby Johnson. Abby was the director of a Planned Parenthood satellite clinic, and had a medication abortion herself. She is now pro-life and has founded an organization called **And Then There Were None**, which helps abortion workers to leave their jobs. Check out ATTWN at [www.abortionworker.com](http://www.abortionworker.com) and consider supporting their efforts. Pray for the conversion of everyone in the abortion industry, but especially the doctors. If abortion clinics can't find workers, if doctors refuse to perform them, abortions will decrease.