

Winners, But at What Cost?

“[T]here was no bigger winner in this election than Planned Parenthood Action Fund and women’s health.”

— **Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards,**
Los Angeles Times, November 12, 2006

Meet Jessie.* “I’m for abortion,” she laments, “but not as a birth control method. And yet, here I sit, having done this thing.” Staring down into her coffee mug, she quietly whispers, “I don’t think I’ll ever get over this.”

Tears of regret stream down the 22-year-old college senior’s face. She’s having trouble sleeping at night – something Planned Parenthood is not likely to have warned her about.

It is said that “the law is a teacher,” and in this case, the “law” – *Roe v. Wade* – was immoral. Jesse thought that if it was too late for her to have an abortion, she would keep the baby. But the law said it *wasn’t* too late, and with enough pressure from her mother, Jessie aborted her baby.

What Jessie didn’t know at the time is that:

- Her baby’s heart had begun to beat
- Her baby’s brain, cardiovascular and nervous system and other major organs were developing
- Her baby’s facial features – eyes, ears and mouth – were forming

Jessie had a viable option – adoption. She might have made that choice, but no one mentioned it. Abortion is a booming business, and adoption cuts into the bottom line, so it’s an option groups like Planned Parenthood don’t like to bring up. According to the American Life League (ALL), Planned Parenthood performs 115 abortions for every referral to an adoption agency.

In 2005, Planned Parenthood performed 255,015 abortions – more abortions in a single year than ever before. This earned Planned Parenthood a profit of \$63 million – yet they’re still lobbying for an increase in government funding.

We shouldn’t be surprised, though. For Planned Parenthood, it’s all about the bottom line, and with new leadership in Congress, they’re dreaming big.

But Jessie isn’t dreaming. She’s just hoping to sleep tonight.

* Name changed to protect her privacy.