

Letter to the Editor of the Georgetown Gazette
February 5, 2017

Re: Support Contraception

It is hard to understand why Republicans or anyone else in this day and age would want to make it harder for women to obtain access to contraception and cancer screening. But that is exactly what cutting off funding for Planned Parenthood will do. Worse it will result in more abortions. Why would anyone, especially those who want to see fewer abortions, want to do that? Women who use contraception are less likely to get pregnant in the first place. Fewer unintended pregnancies means fewer women will consider abortion. Thanks to greater contraception availability, much of it through Planned Parenthood, there are now fewer abortions than there were in 1973 when abortion was illegal and dangerous.

I understand that Republican men want to impose their religious views about women's reproductive health on everyone else. But singling out women's bodies for special legislative attention runs counter to Republican principles opposing government interference with individual religious and personal freedom. And, it only dramatizes the Republican Party's antipathy toward women's health needs.

Cutting off funding for Planned Parenthood won't significantly reduce the number of abortions. Neither will repealing Roe v. Wade. It will just make it illegal and dangerous again. What will reduce abortion, as it already has, is continued support for organizations like Planned Parenthood that make low cost contraception and cancer screening as well as safe and legal abortion available to all.

Thank you for considering these views.

Sincerely,

Jerry and Penny Scribner

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