

**To: Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services**  
**From: Kate Rough, Clackamas County Legislative Action Team Chair**  
**Date: April 1, 2013**  
**Re: Support for SB 490**

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today in support of SB 490. I have been a volunteer for Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon for almost 5 years. I go to school full-time at Portland State University and I also work full-time.

I am here today to speak as a participant in a research project that Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon conducted starting in April of 2010. I volunteered to help research information and services that Crisis Pregnancy Centers provide in Oregon.

In 2010, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon identified 52 Crisis Pregnancy Centers operating in our state. A total of 19 volunteers, including myself, participated in this project. We researched 43 Crisis Pregnancy Centers: 23 in person and 20 by phone.

I personally conducted in-person visits to 8 Crisis Pregnancy Centers, where I presented myself as being concerned I might be facing an unintended pregnancy.

During my visits, I observed a variety of factors including what types of services were offered, how the center described itself, and the hours of operation. I also took note of procedural methods, paperwork, and materials I received during my visits. I did not use any audio or video recording devices during my visits, but I did document my findings on a standard written form immediately following each visit to allow for the most accurate recollection of details. From the visits, we learned that Crisis Pregnancy Centers offer free urine-based pregnancy tests and that some provide other services such as baby supplies, parenting classes, and maternity clothes. Some Crisis Pregnancy Centers also advertise more extensive services such as testing for sexually transmitted infections, although it is unclear whether these services are provided routinely by licensed medical providers or whether referrals for these services are available if the entity is unable to provide the advertised service.

What my fellow researchers and I observed raised serious concerns about patient safety and consumer protection.

None of the Crisis Pregnancy Centers we contacted during the research offered medical exams, birth control, prenatal care or childbirth services. But walking into one these centers, it would be easy to mistake it for a doctor's office where actual medical services are provided: The people you meet often carry clipboards, act like medical staff, and sometimes even wear white lab coats.

## HOW?

Abortion interrupts the natural process of breast development, leaving the breast with more cells that can become cancerous. Elevated levels of estrogen, starting early in pregnancy, cause normal and pre-cancerous cells to multiply and stimulate the breasts to swell. Third trimester hormones of a full-term pregnancy change cells into cancer-resistant, milk-producing tissue and turn off their growth (and cancer-forming) potential.

At least fifty-nine significant studies published since 1963 report a link between prior surgical abortion and premature birth in subsequent pregnancies. Early premature birth (under 32 weeks gestation), in turn, raises the risk of breast cancer in the mother and cerebral palsy in the prematurely born children.

- a. *Rooney B, Calhoun B. Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons 2003;8:46-49.*
- b. *Melbye M, et al. British Journal of Cancer 1999;80:609-13.*
- c. *Innes K and Byers T. International Journal of Cancer 2004; 112:306-311.*

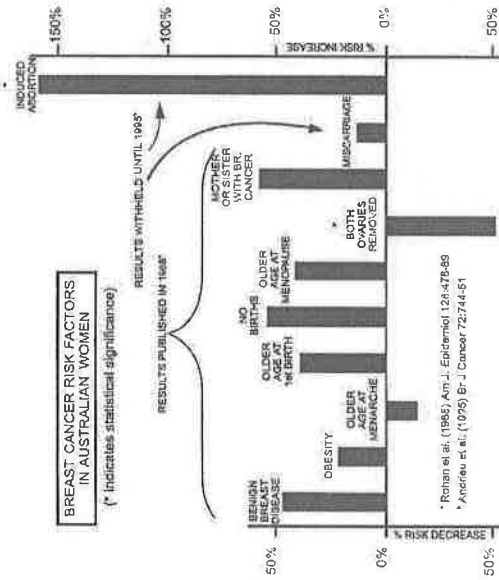


The Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer is a women's organization founded to protect the health and save the lives of women by educating and providing information on abortion as a risk factor for breast cancer.

### ADDITIONAL COPIES

- 10 - 26¢ ea. 50 - 23¢ ea. 250 - 18¢ ea.
  - 25 - 24¢ ea. 100 - 21¢ ea. 500 - 16¢ ea.
- Please include shipping fee:  
Orders of \$30 or less add \$4.00  
Orders over \$30 add 15%  
Shipments outside U.S. add 20%

# Abortion raises Breast Cancer risk



This 1988 study shows the reluctance of researchers to publish data showing the abortion/breast cancer link. Abortion data (see two rightmost bars) were withheld for seven years. Note that miscarriage has no significant effect on risks; whereas, induced abortion does significantly increase a woman's breast cancer risk.

a. *Rohan T, et al. A population-based case-control study of diet and breast cancer in Australia. American Journal of Epidemiology 1988;128:478-489.*

b. *Andrieu N, et al. Familial risk, abortion and their interactive effect on the risk of breast cancer, a combined analysis of six case-control studies. British Journal of Cancer 1995; 72:744-751.*

For a list  
whose m  
between  
website at

104 NW 11th Avenue  
Gresham, OR 97030  
(503) 666-6527  
[www.prcofportland.com](http://www.prcofportland.com)

If you would like to help dispense information about the abortion / breast cancer link or wish to offer financial assistance, please contact:

### Coalition on Abortion/Breast Cancer

AN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION  
P.O. Box 957133

Hoffman Estates, IL 60195-3051

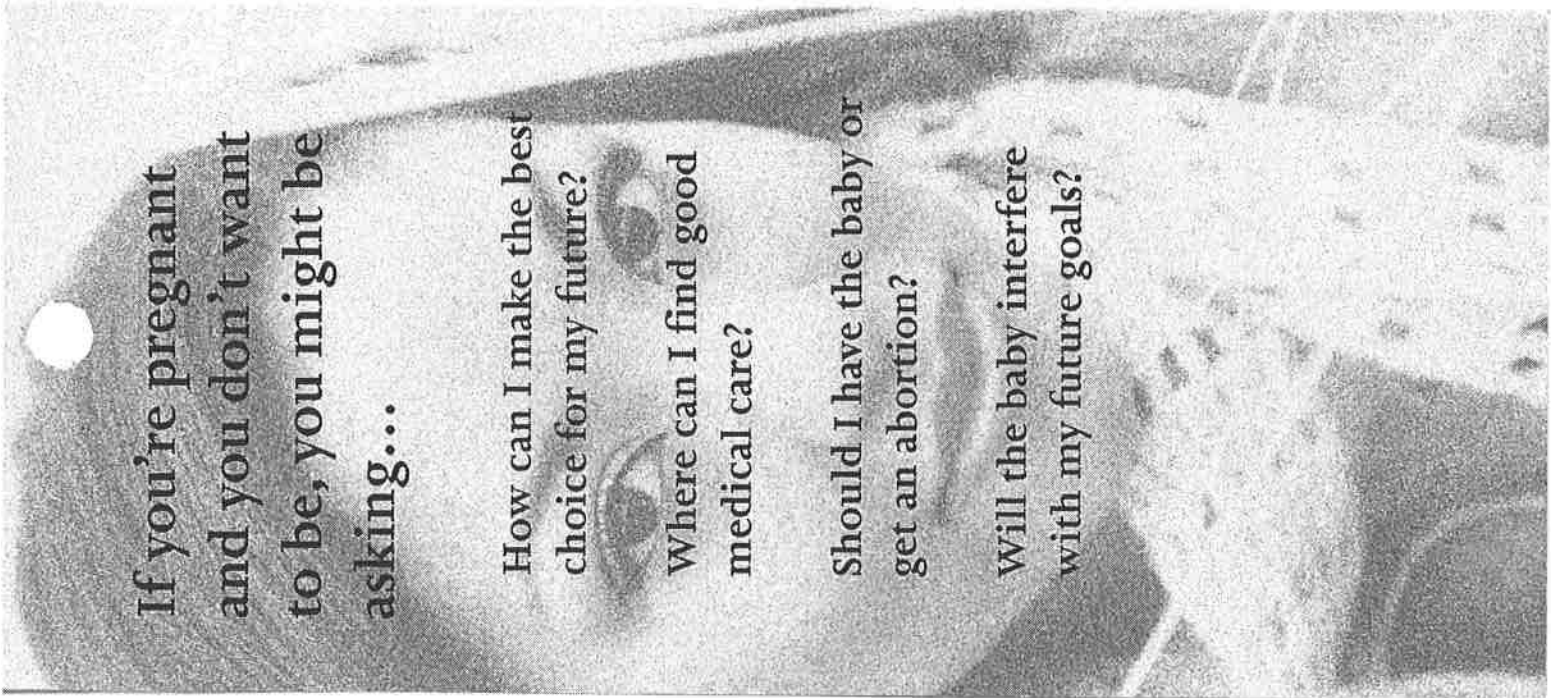
Call Toll-free 1-877-803-0102

[www.AbortionBreastCancer.com](http://www.AbortionBreastCancer.com)

E-mail: [response@abortionbreastcancer.com](mailto:response@abortionbreastcancer.com)

Revised 6/05





**If you're pregnant  
and you don't want  
to be, you might be  
asking...**

**How can I make the best  
choice for my future?**

**Where can I find good  
medical care?**

**Should I have the baby or  
get an abortion?**

**Will the baby interfere  
with my future goals?**

## **We can help!**

**You are facing an important decision  
and need information you can trust.**

The Pregnancy Resource Centers are here to help you look at your options so you can make the choice that is right for you. Here, you will meet trained peer-counselors who care about you and can answer your questions, without any pressure.

**All of our services are confidential,  
caring, and free of charge.**

- Reliable pregnancy tests with immediate results.
- Limited Ultrasound Services.
- Confidential consultation with someone who cares about you.
- Accurate information about all of your options, including abortion, adoption and parenting.
- Excellent physician referrals, as well as referrals for community agencies, adoption, housing, legal assistance, support groups, and much more.
- Many other resources to help you make the right decision for you and your future.

You deserve care and attention. Our desire is to help you explore your options and find the resources for positive solutions.

# Who should know about Condoms

## Will condoms protect me from STDs and pregnancy?

If you are young and sexually active or are considering becoming sexually active, this is a critical question. In the U.S. today there is a growing epidemic of STDs (sexually transmitted diseases). It is estimated that over 65 million people are now infected and 19 million new infections occur each year.<sup>1</sup> Almost half of these new infections are in young people 15-24 years old.<sup>2</sup> Some of these infections are simply embarrassing and treatable with antibiotics, but others are much more dangerous. Some STDs are incurable, life-long infections. Some can lead to life-threatening diseases and even death. Today the list has grown to perhaps 25 STDs that should concern every young person...

## What are some of the diseases?

**Chlamydia** spreads from vaginal, anal and oral sex. Most men and women have no symptoms. In women, if left untreated, it can lead to PID (pelvic inflammatory disease) up to 40% of the time. PID can cause chronic pelvic pain, infertility and possibly fatal ectopic (tubal) pregnancy. An estimated 2,800,000 new infections occur each year.<sup>3</sup>

**Gonorrhea** spreads from vaginal, anal and oral sex in men and women. An estimated 700,000 people in the United States are infected each year. In men, it causes a burning sensation while urinating and penile discharge. Most women do not have symptoms. It is another common cause of PID. Without treatment, gonorrhea can spread to the blood or joints and become life-threatening.<sup>4</sup>

**Genital Herpes** spreads from contact with sores of an infected person, often from sexual contact. It causes sores and flu-like symptoms. It is a life-long disease, with typically 4-5 repeated episodes each year. It increases the chance of a person acquiring HIV virus (HIV causes AIDS) if exposed to that virus. An estimated 45,000,000 people have had genital herpes.<sup>5</sup>

**Syphilis** spreads through contact with a syphilis sore mainly from vaginal, oral or anal sex. It progresses without treatment in three stages. The last stage has no symptoms but can cause paralysis, numbness, gradual blindness, dementia and death.<sup>6</sup>

**Trichomoniasis** spreads from sexual contact, especially in women who have had multiple sexual partners. Symptoms may include a frothy, yellowish vaginal discharge with a strong odor. In men, a burning sensation and urge to urinate. An estimated 7,400,000 new infections occur each year.<sup>7</sup>

**HPV - Human papillomavirus** infections usually clear on their own. However, some HPV viruses are "high-risk" types and can lead to cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, anus or penis. About 20 million people are currently infected with HPV with 6.2 million new infections each year. At least 50 percent of sexually active men and women will have genital HPV infection at some point in their lives. Some people get visible warts on the genitals that can spread to the mouth by oral sex. There may also be changes in cells of the cervix, vulva, anus or penis that could lead to cancer.<sup>8</sup> About 10 of the genital HPV types can lead to the development of cervical cancer. The American Cancer Society estimated that in 2008 in the United States, about 11,070 women would develop invasive cervical cancer and about 3,870 women would die from this disease.<sup>12</sup>

**HIV** causes AIDS, a weakening of the immune system. It is spread by vaginal, oral or anal sex. AIDS is routinely fatal. Through 2005 there have been 1,106,400 AIDS cases in the U.S.<sup>10</sup> with over 545,805 deaths.<sup>11</sup> Having other STDs can increase a person's risk of becoming infected with AIDS as much as 5 times.<sup>13</sup>

## Will condoms protect me? Here's what the CDC says:

Condoms, when used consistently and correctly, can **reduce** the risk of transmission of chlamydia.<sup>3,14</sup>

Condoms, when used consistently and correctly, can **reduce** the risk of transmission of gonorrhea.<sup>3,14</sup>

Genital ulcer diseases, like syphilis, **can occur** in both male and female genital areas that are covered or protected by a latex condom, as well as in areas that are not covered. Correct and consistent use of latex condoms can **reduce** the risk of syphilis, as well as genital herpes (based on limited data<sup>15</sup>) and chancroid, **only when** the infected area or site of potential exposure is protected.<sup>5,6,15,16</sup>

Condoms, when used consistently and correctly, can **reduce** the risk of transmission of trichomoniasis.<sup>7</sup>

Condoms **may lower** the risk of HPV, if used all the time and the right way.<sup>8,17</sup> A new vaccine has been developed which protects against new infections of four types of HPV viruses. Because the vaccine does not protect against all types of HPV, it will **not prevent** all cases of cervical cancer or genital warts. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 30% of cervical cancers and about 10% of genital warts **will not be prevented** by the vaccine - nor will it prevent other sexually transmitted infections.<sup>18</sup>

Condoms were found to **reduce** the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission during vaginal sex by 85% when used consistently (following the directions exactly and using them at every occurrence of sex, without exception).<sup>9,19</sup> Using condoms 100% of the time still leaves a 15% risk of HIV infection compared to not using condoms at all. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS, a routinely fatal disease.

# This means that you can be infected with any STD even when using condoms 100% of the time.

Were you looking to just **reduce** your risk leaving yourself open to disease or infection?

HPV IS A  
SYPHILIS IS A  
CHLAMYDIA IS A  
GONORRHEA IS A  
TRICHOMONIASIS IS A  
GENITAL HERPES IS A  
HIV IS A



### Is the Morning After Pill safe?

No. Some of the side effects are: nausea, vomiting, possible infertility, breast tenderness, ectopic pregnancy (conception inside the fallopian tubes that is life threatening) or blood clot formation. There are no long term studies to show whether women will be permanently damaged, or risk such diseases as cancer, as a result of these chemicals being given in such high doses.

### What is the best option?

Some people may try to convince you that emergency contraception is totally without risk. Don't believe it. If you're single, abstinence is always your best choice. It isn't always easy, but it always works. By abstaining, you eliminate the risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases (STD's). Emergency contraception offers no protection against STD's including AIDS. If you are married, be faithful to your spouse. Take time to learn about natural methods of contraception, which increase your awareness of your body and how it works. Natural methods involve no potentially harmful chemicals, and never threaten the life of your pre-born child. Be good to yourself. Do not use emergency contraception.

### References:

1. Wilks, J. *A Consumer's Guide to the Pill and other Drugs*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 1997. p. 154.
2. Rahwan, Prof. R, *Contraceptives, Interceptives and Abortifacients*. Division of Pharmacology, College of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210. 1995. p. 7
3. Wilks, p. 154.
4. Wilks, p. 155-156.
5. Rabone, D. Postcoital contraception—coping with the Morning After. *Current Therapeutics*. Jan. 1990. p. 47.
6. USP DI. Drug Information for Health Care Professionals. 12<sup>th</sup> Ed., 1992, p.1355.

### St. Germaine

3855 Wolverine St. N.E.  
Salem, OR 97304  
Tele # 503-363-2525, 363-9393

# The Morning After Pill

What you  
should know!

*Additional copies may be purchased from*

Life Cycle Books

Niagara Falls, NY • Toronto, ON

Contact us for a free copy of our catalog!

[www.lifecyclebooks.com](http://www.lifecyclebooks.com)

USA Phone: (800) 214-5849

Canada Phone: (866) 880-5860

©2004 Jane Richard

0905

Item #566

Printed in Canada