

The Truth About Margaret Sanger

Planned Parenthood wants you to believe that it is a benevolent charity helping women. But is that why Margaret Sanger founded the organization?

Margaret Sanger: A Brief Bio

- Born in 1879
- Founded Planned Parenthood as a clinic in a poor, immigrant neighborhood in 1916
- Founded International Planned Parenthood Federation in 1952
- Died in 1966

Sanger said in her 1920 book *Woman and the New Race* that her work was “**nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defectives.**”¹

In fact, she reiterated in her magazine *Birth Control Review*, “The campaign for Birth Control is not merely of eugenic value, but is practically identical in ideal with the final aims of Eugenics.” Thus, she concluded: “**The most urgent problem today is how to limit and discourage the overfertility of the mentally and physically defective.**”²

Sanger, in other words, was a eugenicist, and her establishment of Planned Parenthood was intended to promote her eugenic world-view. She was a member of the American Eugenics Society for nearly her whole life. Eugenics holds that the value of human beings derives from the value of their genes; it does not believe that people have an innate value that cannot be quantified.

As a result, Sanger believed that genetically “unfit” people should not be born. She **supported coercive and forced sterilization** by the government, saying in 1921 that “possibly drastic and Spartan methods may be forced upon society if it continues complacently to encourage the chance and chaotic breeding that has resulted from our stupidly cruel sentimentalism.”³

At the end of her life, she reacted to a friend who was raising money to feed starving children on Indian reservations. Did she offer to help the children? No.

She said her friend “should be ashamed,” adding, “**I think it is disgusting to furnish food for people who just keep breeding children they know will starve to death.**”⁴

Sanger’s attitude: don’t feed the poor and give birth control to the survivors.

Sanger on Poverty

1922, Margaret Sanger:
“All of our problems are the result of overbreeding among the working class.”⁵

2005, CEO Walter Klausmeier identifies its West Virginia target client as “low-income women ages 20-24.”⁶

Sanger argued that charity benefitting the poor bred “constantly increasing numbers of defectives, delinquents and dependents.” She called the poor “a dead weight of human waste.”⁷

Women and girls deserve better than Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood Hurts Girls, www.pphurtsgirls.org, 304-296-5741

See also *Margaret Sanger’s Eugenic Legacy* by Angela Franks 1. Sanger, *Woman and the New Race*, 1920 2. “The Eugenic Value of Birth Control,” *Birth Control Review*, Oct. 1921, p. 5 3. Ibid. 4. Letter, 4/3/62, Dorothy Brush papers (Sophia Smith Collection) 5. Sanger, *Women, Morality and Birth Control*, 1922 6. Planet Morgantown/Planned Parenthood planning meeting, WVU HSC, 6/25/05 7. Sanger, *Pivot of Civilization*, 1922