



## Why is this a Socialist Feminist issue?

As socialist feminists, our analysis is grounded in the interconnected nature of capitalism, cis-hetero-patriarchy, misogyny, and white supremacy. We see CPCs as agents of state-supported violence against pregnant people. CPCs inflict emotional and financial violence on people who need healthcare and support. They appropriate the language of the feminist movement to dupe pregnant people, and they do it with taxpayer money, at the expense of families with children: Pennsylvania invented the practice of diverting TANF (welfare) funds to support crisis pregnancy centers.

CPCs in Pennsylvania have enjoyed this support since 2001, while actual abortion and reproductive health care providers struggle to stay open. Socialist feminists expose and combat CPCs because they cause real harm: to us as people who can become pregnant, who have had abortions, who have families, and who are fully autonomous human beings. Socialist feminists organize to reveal the agenda behind CPCs and to choke off their sources of support at all levels because a socialist future is impossible without reproductive justice.



**Pittsburgh DSA**  
Socialist Feminist Committee

You wouldn't go to a fake hairdresser...



...so why would you go to a fake clinic?

## What are Crisis Pregnancy Centers?



A Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC), sometimes called a Pregnancy Resource Center, is a fake clinic that does NOT provide comprehensive reproductive health care – or much of any health care at all. They are anti-abortion counseling centers with an agenda. They often use advertisements to trick pregnant people into making an appointment, promising free ultrasounds or free pregnancy tests with the goal of pressuring people to carry a pregnancy to term.

Their goal is to dissuade individuals from exercising their right to choose. Many CPCs intentionally misinform and mislead those seeking pregnancy-related information. Once inside, people are often lied to, shamed, and pressured about their reproductive health decisions, potentially delaying and increasing the cost of their procedure or pushing them past a deadline for legal abortion altogether.

These practices block any pregnant person from making fully informed choices about their reproductive health and put them in danger by delaying access to legitimate health-care services.

## Deception

CPCs pose as women's health clinics or medical facilities but often provide biased pregnancy counseling. Some use debunked studies correlating abortions to cancer and depression. CPCs often lie to patients once they're inside. They have been known to ask probing and invasive questions, and manipulate so-called 'abortion minded' individuals about their spirituality and relationships.

## False Advertisement

False Advertisement: CPCs advertise to target pregnant people who may be seeking abortion care. They often position themselves near real, medically-licensed health care providers. Many CPCs do not follow HIPAA regulations (because HIPAA only applies to actual medical providers).

## Stalling

Some will delay and cancel appointments, hoping to push people past the legal limit for abortion. By scheduling appointments at a location where they cannot receive complete reproductive health care, patients can waste weeks of time, making eventual procedures more expensive or inaccessible due to state law. The farther along a pregnancy goes, the more expensive the procedure. They seek to whittle away at a person's options and make accessing an abortion that much harder.

## Intimidation

Some CPCs work with protesters to intimidate people going into abortion provider offices. Many CPCs share patient data, and try to intimidate legit providers.

## How to Identify CPCs

- Crisis Pregnancy Centers can also go by the name 'Pregnancy Resource Center'
- The ad or flier for a clinic emphasizes how scary a pregnancy can be
- The center offers free ultrasounds and pregnancy tests
- The website offers abortion 'information' but nothing on actual abortion services.
- You call to ask about abortion and they refuse to answer your questions over the phone.
- Look for coded anti-choice language and perspective on their website, including referring to an embryo as 'a human being in early stages of development' and an emphasis on 'abortion recovery'
- The clinic's website or staff refuse to offer referral for actual abortion providers.
- The clinic does not provide extended OB/GYN or pre-natal care, birth control prescription or devices, or fertility testing.

## We Deserve the Facts

**#ExposeFakeClinics**

**[www.exposefakeclinicspgh.com](http://www.exposefakeclinicspgh.com)**

**@pghdsa on Twitter**



**To get involved, contact  
[socfem@pghdsa.org](mailto:socfem@pghdsa.org)**

## The Numbers

- There are more than 2500 fake clinics all over the country vs. less than 800 real abortion providers.
- In many states, taxpayers fund CPCs. In 2013, 34 states directed money to CPCs.
- Fracking Billionaire Farris Wilks, anti-choice foundations, and church communities contribute millions.
- In Pennsylvania, the group Real Alternatives received a 5-year state grant of \$30.2 million dollars. This group has been found misusing these funds by spending them on businesses out of state. [Source: Rewire, "Pennsylvania Officials Still Won't Cut Off Anti-Choice Group Misusing Taxpayer Money"]

## Where Should You Go for Healthcare Instead?

Allegheny Reproductive Health Center  
(abortions up to 21 weeks 6 days)  
5910 Kirkwood St, Pittsburgh  
412-661-8811

Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC  
(abortions up to 24 weeks)  
300 Halket St, Pittsburgh  
412-641-6222

Planned Parenthood  
(abortions up to 18 weeks)  
933 Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh  
412 - 562 - 1900