



Planned Parenthood Has a Problem with the Truth

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Recent [documents](#) obtained by the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) reveal that Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin misled the public when it denied last summer that it was involved in the sale or donation of fetal tissue for research.

In a July 23, 2015, news [article](#), Nicole Safar, government relations director for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin (PPW), insisted that “Federal law already prohibits the sale of human tissue. It’s something Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin does not engage in. We do not offer tissue donation services, either.”

However, as the ADF-obtained documents demonstrate, as recently as 2010, Madison Planned Parenthood provided organs from aborted babies to University of Wisconsin researchers, who used them in a 2014 [study](#).

Equally disturbing is the fact that the UW-Madison never openly acknowledged this relationship, despite hours of testimony before legislative committees and subsequent public statements. In August 2015, the most that Marsha Mailick, vice chancellor for research and graduate education at UW-Madison, [revealed](#) is that UW researchers use fetal tissue from four licensed tissue banks: the University of Southern California, Advanced Bioscience Resources, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at the University of New York, and the University of Washington in Seattle. No mention was made of Madison Planned Parenthood.

The newly-released documents also shine a light on the practices involved in fetal tissue research. The 2014 study describes the procedures at Madison Planned Parenthood, where children, who were “between 10 and 18 weeks of gestational age,” were suctioned from their mothers’ wombs, after which “the heart was grasped with sterilized surgical instruments and carefully isolated from the rest of the thoracic content to be placed in RNase-free plastic tubes. Fetal brain was also collected in the same fashion.”

Both Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin and UW-Madison are the recipients of taxpayer money. The public has a right to demand full disclosure of their actual practices. It is only with full transparency that the public and legislators can determine whether medical research is being conducted in an ethical manner and for the protection of every human life.

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