## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–1201

March 11, 2019

Dr. Leana Wen, President Planned Parenthood Federation of America 123 William Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10038

Dear Dr. Wen,

After learning the history, and apparent direction of your organization, it is with deep concern that I write to you today and ask for your help in clarifying some information.

I recently learned that Planned Parenthood Founder Margaret Sanger embraced a philosophy of racial discrimination and eugenics. That historical fact, and the possibility that this philosophy continues today within your organization, is disturbing to me and many others.

One need only reflect on the recent controversy surrounding yearbook pictures of lawmakers in black face and white robes to see that this philosophy marginalizes and polarizes communities. But Ms. Sanger didn't just post pictures in a yearbook of people in white robes, she also spoke at KKK events.

It has also come to my attention that, in a personal letter to Katharine Dexter McCormick in 1950, Ms. Sanger called for "a simple, cheap, safe contraceptive to be used in poverty-stricken slums, jungles, and among the most ignorant people." It is clear that in her mind, these people included communities of color. Ms. Sanger continued: "... even this will not be sufficient, because I believe that now, immediately, there should be national sterilization for certain dysgenic types of our population who are being encouraged to breed and would die out were the government not feeding them." She also called for those who were poor, and those (she considered as) "morons and immoral," to be shipped to colonies where they would live in "Farms and Open Spaces" that could train so-called "inferior types" into having what she called better "moral conduct."

Fortunately, Americans are becoming more aware of past racially insensitive actions and words. Yet Planned Parenthood still names clinics after Ms. Sanger and offers the "Margaret Sanger Award" as its' top honor.

As you are aware, Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion provider in the world and received more than \$1.5 billion in U.S. taxpayer money between 2013 and 2015. As a Representative of many who oppose Ms. Sanger's philosophy, I must do all I can to ensure her racist and eugenic policies are still not being implemented today.

## Please provide to me what percentage of abortions your organization performs on women of color.

Since your organization is required to record information on a patient's race and medical history, this should not be difficult information to obtain.

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

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Sincerely,

Russ Fulcher

Member of Congress