Whitney Wilcox

March 22, 2011

Comms 235—Professor Ogden

We wish to address the recent attacks on Planned Parenthood. There has been a great deal of backlash and violent demonstrations with regard to the organization’s goal to distribute 100 million condoms and safe-sex brochures to young adults ages 14-24 nationwide. While we understand the controversy and debate surrounding teen sexuality and maintain respect for opposing viewpoints, we want to remind individuals that Planned Parenthood is primarily an educational organization. Our purpose is not to judge values, but rather to provide safe and healthy options for young adults.

The organization is not promoting sexual intercourse among teens or trying to assume the role of parents or religious leaders. Our intent has always been to involve all necessary parties in making informed decisions and improve communication. We understand that everyone is unique and wish to provide options and advice to suit individual needs.

As young adults have access to more educational material, they will be able to make better informed decisions concerning their own personal health and avoid controversial abortions. Studies show that by the time a woman reaches the age of 45, 1 in 3 will have had an abortion. We believe that prevention is an easier and safer alternative. There must be options available to learn and practice safe sex. The beliefs and methods of Planned Parenthood are merely a few of many available, choices. To learn more about our organization and what we have to offer, visit [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org).

**Approach:** Advocacy. We want individuals to learn the facts about Planned Parenthood.