



### Nobody Complained

#### Is Planned Parenthood hiding adverse events from webcam abortions from the public?

DES MOINES—The *Des Moines Register* alleged for months that 3,000 women underwent Planned Parenthood's webcam (telemedicine) abortions and no one complained. Now Planned Parenthood's own medical director **Dr. Jill Meadows** is claiming no patients complaints to Planned Parenthood either.



"No complaints" is "a flat out lie," says former Planned Parenthood Manager, Sue Thayer.

Planned Parenthood's Meadows said in a statement to the *Register*, "Over the past 5 years, our physicians have provided medication abortion through telemedicine to more than 3,000 women in Iowa. During that time we have received no patient complaints." (*Des Moines Register*, 9/30/13.)

But former Planned Parenthood manager, **Sue Thayer**, is speaking out, saying, "This is a flat out lie."

Thayer, who was the manager of Planned Parenthood's Storm Lake location for 17 years explained that Planned Parenthood documents adverse events or complaints in what they call an "Occurrence Report."

"Through staff meetings and informal contact with other managers, I know that several complained about the high complication rate with medication abortions, with one saying that since the start of webcam, all she did was occurrence reports to deal with all the complications," said Thayer.

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### Iowa Board of Medicine ends webcam abortions Culver's Board ignored

DES MOINES – Two years ago, an Iowa Board of Medicine (IBOM), appointed entirely by pro-abortion Gov. Chet Culver chose to look the other way at Planned Parenthood of the Heartland's (PPH) risky practice of performing webcam abortions with a doctor not even in the room or available for follow-up emergency care.

The current IBOM reversed the Culver board's position, in an 8-2 decision establishing "Standards of practice" for "physicians who prescribe or administer abortion-inducing drugs."

The new standards say a physician shall not induce an abortion with abortion-inducing drugs unless a physician has performed a physical exam of the woman. The physician must also have a follow-up appointment to confirm the woman is no longer pregnant and evaluate her condition.

Seems logical, right? Have a doctor examine the woman, then be available for follow-up care. But that *is exactly what Planned Parenthood was arguing against.*

Former PPH nurse **Todd Buchacker** admitted during the IBOM hearing that some physicals prior to abortions were performed by CMAs (Certified Medical Assistants). **Dr. Robert Bender** of the IBOM, said CMAs were not qualified to perform physicals and repeatedly asked PPH's Board Chair **Dr. Robert Shaw** if he ever relied on CMAs to do physicals in his own private practice. Dr. Shaw dodged the question.

The FDA has documented at least 14 deaths and 2,207 adverse events related to medication abortions, including 612 where women required hospitalization. So a CMA, while useful in a

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### Girls gone bad... the Scouts link to Planned Parenthood and other awful stuff

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI—Say it ain't so! We have heard about this for years, read some articles written a long time ago. We have clutched our Thin Mints™ and our Peanut Butter Patties™ and closed our eyes and said, "We won't believe it until we have more proof."

Now a little soccer mom from St. Louis has done the work for us. She has proof. The **Girl Scouts** are linked to Planned Parenthood,

the United Nations' abortion agenda and a lot of other really bad stuff.



**Ann Saladin's** three daughters first received an invitation to join the Girl Scouts from a parish school. One daughter was in Girl Scouts for three years, "It was a great experience," said Saladin.

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## **Planned Parenthood Medical Director says, “No complaints.” Former Planned Parenthood Manager says, “This is a flat out lie.”**

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Thayer added, “If a woman goes to the Emergency Room, Planned Parenthood never counts that – either they don’t know about it or they count it unrelated to the abortion.”

Occurrence Reports are reviewed and sent to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, but they are kept internal. When asked if there were any inspections by outside agencies, Thayer said, “No.”

“As far as any investigation by the state, the medical board, or any official group, never. In all my years there, there was never any type of inspection,” stated Thayer.

“In Storm Lake I personally spoke with several women who had taken the pills and were having excessive bleeding,” continued Thayer. “We had several women come in saying they had changed their minds after taking the first set of pills and wondering what they could do.” (See *Medication Abortion: How It Works*, p.6)

“I saw that many problems in a center that wasn’t even doing webcam abortions,” added Thayer. “How many more complications do they see in a big center that does them all the time?”

Thayer left Planned Parenthood in 2008, after the rollout of the webcam abortions began. (For more on her story, see *IRTL News*, December 2011 at [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).)

**Jenny Condon**, Executive Director of **InnerVisions HealthCare**, a free medical clinic in West Des Moines said she has also talked to women who have had medication abortion complications.

“At InnerVisions, we have taken calls from several women who have been given the abortion pill and experienced side effects that were much worse than they anticipated,” Condon said. “These effects range from extensive bleeding and cramping to irrational behavior that follows the visual experience of seeing the remains of their baby in a toilet. An experience they did not anticipate.”

An interesting fact — while Planned Parenthood said “there

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**Sue Thayer** was a former General Manager of Planned Parenthood in Storm Lake, Iowa, for 17 years. Earlier this year, she opened the *Cornerstone For Life Pregnancy Resource Center* in Storm Lake.



**Jenny Condon** is the Executive Director of InnerVisions, a free medical clinic in West Des Moines, Iowa, for women who are experiencing unexpected pregnancies.

### **Post-abortive women least likely to complain to Iowa Board of Medicine**

The constant contention in the media that there were no complaints to the Iowa Board of Medicine from 3,000 women who have had Planned Parenthood’s webcam abortions would not surprise anyone who has worked with women in crisis pregnancies. Thayer and Condon confirmed this.

**Q: In your experience, do women who have a bad abortion experience or complications report it to authorities?**

**Thayer:** “If a woman experiences heavy bleeding/severe cramping, they don’t even want to return for the follow-up appointment, much less report it to anyone. Calling the Iowa Board of Medicine would be pretty low on their priority list. Plus, remember that Planned Parenthood tells them that there is no reason to mention to anyone that they are in the process of a medication abortion, which just adds more shame.”

**Condon:** “First of all, their abortions don’t come without a certain level of shame. Then when they experience complications and they have not had the opportunity to consult personally with a doctor with whom they can call in case of complications - this instills yet another level of shame. We refer these women to the nearest emergency room and have to make sure we remind them to tell the attending doctor to inform them of the recent abortion. Often times they are told not to let on to the Emergency Room where they had been previously.”

**Q: Do women who have had a bad abortion experience know they can report it to the Iowa Board of Medicine? Would they know how to go about reporting it?**

**Thayer:** “I don’t believe that most women would even know where to begin to report a problem. It’s certainly not something Planned Parenthood shares with them. I know that several managers complained about the high complication rate with one saying that since the start of webcam, all she did was occurrence reports to deal with all the complications.”

**Condon:** “I have not seen any documentation that would provide the patient with a sense of security which includes the phone number of the doctor that prescribed the chemical abortion. Nor have I

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## The evolution of the “No complaints”: from Bowden to Meadows

DES MOINES—In the battle over Planned Parenthood’s webcam abortions, the “nobody complained” line has been like a regular drumbeat in the *Des Moines Register* coverage.

But we noticed something funny. The “nobody complained” line evolved. “None of the 3,000 women complained to state regulators” turned into Planned Parenthood’s Medical Director, Dr. Jill Meadows claiming none of the 3,000 complained to Planned Parenthood either.

And even more perplexing, when Planned Parenthood filed their lawsuit against the Iowa Board of Medicine on September 30, 2013, the 3,000 women became 5,000 women. (Where did those other 2,000 come from?)

Take a look:

*“State regulators have received no complaints from the more than 3,000 women who have received abortion pills via Planned Parenthood of the Heartland’s video-conferencing system, the Iowa Board of Medicine’s top staffer said.” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, referring to the Iowa Board of Medicine Executive Director Mark Bowden, 7/22/13.)*

**This is how it started: a statement or answer to a question by the Iowa Board of Medicine Executive Director, Mark Bowden.**

*“State regulators have not received a single complaint from the 3,000 women who have used the video-conferencing system.” (Des Moines Register editorial, 7/27/13.)*

**After a few weeks, it’s ambiguous “supporters” saying none of the 3,000 women complained to state regulators.**

*“Supporters told legislators the system is similar to other forms of telemedicine, and has safely served more than 3,000 women since 2008, without a single patient complaint.” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, 8/6/13.)*

*“Supporters of the Planned Parenthood system point out that none of the more than 3,000 patients who have used it has complained to state regulators about their experience.” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, 8/28/13.)*

*“None of the more than 3,000 Iowa women who have participated in the telemedicine system complained to state regulators.” (Des Moines Register staff editorial, 8/30/13.)*

*“Planned Parenthood supporters note that no patients have complained to state regulators about their experience with the system.” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, 8/31/13.)*

*“None of the 3,000 Iowa women who have used the teleconferencing system to obtain the drug have complained to state regulators about any problems.” (Des Moines Register staff editorial, 9/4/13.)*

**Enter Planned Parenthood’s Jill Meadows who says they have received “no patient complaints” from the 3,000 women. (Hint to Dr. Meadows: check your internal “Occurrence Reports.” See *Nobody Complained* on Page 1.)**

*“Dr. Jill Meadows, the agency’s medical director, added that the arrangement is safe. ‘Over the past 5 years, our physicians have provided medication abortion through telemedicine to more than 3,000 women in Iowa,’ she wrote. ‘During that time we have received no patient complaints.’” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, 9/30/13.)*

*“None of the 3,000 women who have used the teleconferencing system in the past five years have complained to state regulators about problems” (Des Moines Register staff editorial, 10/2/13.)*

**Suddenly Planned Parenthood’s 3,000 medication abortions by webcam becomes 5,000. Did the *Des Moines Register* even blink?**

*“Planned Parenthood supporters said the video-conferencing system is a safe way to provide abortion services in rural areas where they aren’t otherwise available. They said none of the more than 5,000 women who have used the system have filed complaints...” (Des Moines Register article by Tony Leys, 10/8/13.)*

**Will the *Register* ever ask Planned Parenthood’s about their Occurrence Reports? Or ask any Planned Parenthood staffer how many they fill out a week? Their job is to report the news and they owe women in Iowa the truth.**



### Déjà vu all over again?

This isn’t the first time Planned Parenthood was caught fibbing about “no complications.”

In 1995, Planned Parenthood used Iowa women as guinea pigs to test RU-486/ medication abortions.

**Jill June said there were no complications in the trials at Planned Parenthood in Des Moines. One woman almost bled to death.**

After the trials, Jill June, CEO of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland (PPH) told the media that there had been no complications among the women in the trial at PPH’s Des Moines clinic.

But an emergency room doctor came forward and reported that at least one woman who was in the PPH abortion trials nearly bled to death.

Jill June and the others from PPH are not believable when they say medication abortions are “safe” and have “no complications.”

## All in the family: *The Des Moines Register's* history with Planned Parenthood in Iowa and beyond

DES MOINES—Why is the *Des Moines Register* so biased in favor of Planned Parenthood—even at the cost of their journalistic integrity?

The answer may lie in the names in big letters on the outside of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland (PPH) headquarters in Des Moines. Why does the *Des Moines Register* fight so hard for Planned Parenthood? *Because it's about family.*

The Planned Parenthood of the Heartland headquarters facing Sixth Avenue, across from Mercy Hospital, are labeled:

**Elizabeth and David Kruidenier Center.** On the opposite side of the building is: **Elizabeth Bates Cowles Center.** These names are all part of the same family tree and they all have ties to the *Des Moines Register*.

***The daughter-in-law of the Register's owner, was a founder of the Maternal Health League, which became Planned Parenthood in Iowa.***

### Gardner Cowles, Sr. and Florence Call Cowles

Let's start at the beginning. The *Des Moines Register* was owned by the family of Gardner Cowles from 1903-1985. Gardner Cowles, Sr., was a wealthy media magnate who purchased the *Register* and was its publisher from 1903-30s.

Cowles also purchased the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, along with other newspapers, magazines and radio stations across the country. He and his wife, Florence Call Cowles, had six children: Russell, Helen, Bertha, Florence, John and Gardner Jr. also known as "Mike."

Despite being deceased for many years, Gardner and Florence may be PPH's biggest donors today (after the taxpayers, of course.) The Gardner and Florence Call Cowles Foundation gave \$1 million to PPH in 2006 and still gives over \$100,000 annually to Planned Parenthood in

Iowa, including 2012.

### John Cowles and Elizabeth Morley Bates Cowles

Elizabeth Bates Cowles (of the front of PPH headquarters) was married to Gardner Sr.'s son John Cowles, Sr. John started as a reporter at the *Register* and moved up the ranks to general manager and associate publisher. From 1945 to 1970, he was chairman of the board of the *Des Moines Register and Tribune Company*.

Elizabeth Bates Cowles was a founder of the **Maternal Health League**, which became **Planned Parenthood in Iowa** in 1934. She was a big fan of Planned Parenthood's founder

Margaret Sanger. When the Cowles family purchased the *Minneapolis Star* in 1935, John was made publisher. The family moved to Minneapolis, where Bates Cowles continued to promote Planned Parenthood.

John Sr. and Elizabeth had four children: Sarah, Russell Cowles II, Elizabeth and John Jr.

### Gardner "Mike" Cowles, Jr. and Lois Thornburg Cowles

Mike, also son of Gardner Sr. and Florence, was publisher of the *Des Moines Register* in the 1940s after his father and President of the *Register and Tribune* from 1943 to 1971.

Lois Thornburg Cowles, his second of four wives, was a reporter for the *Register*. Later in life she spent many years working for Planned Parenthood in Lakeland, FL, and after she passed away, that Planned Parenthood was named after her.

Mike and Lois had three children, Lois, Gardner "Pat" and Kate that



donated tens of thousands of dollars to PPH over the last ten years, even though none of them were living in Iowa.

### Lois Cowles Harrison Hooks

was President of the Florida Association of Planned Parenthood Affiliates.

**Gardner "Pat" Cowles III** was President of the Cowles Charitable Trust and the Gardner Cowles III Charitable Trust which both donated to PPH.

**Kate Cowles Nichols** was also on the Board of the Cowles Charitable Trust, which gave \$25,000 to Planned Parenthood in Naples, FL.

### David Kruidenier and Elizabeth Stuart Kruidenier

The Kruidenier name entered the family when Florence, the daughter of Gardner Cowles Sr. and Florence Call Cowles married David Kruidenier. Florence and David had four children: David Jr., Sue, Nancy and Peter.

David Jr. began at the *Minneapolis Star* and was later president, publisher and chairman of the *Des Moines Register* from 1971-1985. Elizabeth Kruidenier served on the

***Continued on the next page...***

## All in the family: *The Register's* history with Planned Parenthood

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Board of Trustees and the Board of Sponsors for PPH.

Both David and Elizabeth Kruidenier have passed away, but like Gardner and Florence Cowles, their foundation still feeds Planned Parenthood in Iowa. In PPH's 2012 Annual Report, the Kruidenier Foundation gave between "\$50,000-99,000" to Iowa's largest abortion provider. In 2006, 2007 and 2008, the Kruidenier Foundation gave \$100,000+ annually to PPH.

**Lisa Kruidenier**, David and Elizabeth Kruidenier's daughter, has served on PPH's Board of Directors. She is also President of the Kruidenier Charitable Foundation.

### Charles C. Edwards and Sue Kruidenier Edwards

Sue Kruidenier (sister of David Jr.) married Dr. Charles C. Edwards, who was at one time the head of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

In an interesting twist, Dr. Edwards angered Planned Parenthood Federation in 1969, when he ordered a message be inserted in packets of birth control pills warning about possible dangerous side effects, including blood clots and breast cancer. He also had two birth control brands removed from the market as unsafe.

In the *New York Times* obituary for Dr. Edwards in August 2011, it said, "Planned Parenthood objected to the warnings because it believed the pills' benefits far outweighed what it said were unproven dangers." (Sound familiar? It's exactly what Planned Parenthood is saying about medication abortions today.)

Those differences did not stop the couple from donating tens of thousands of dollars annually to Planned Parenthood, both in Southern California where they lived and in Iowa. To PPH, they gave as much as \$10,000-24,999 in 2006 to \$5,000-9,999 in

2008 and another \$5,000-9,999 in 2009. In 2012, Sue K. Edwards gave over \$25,000 to Planned Parenthood in San Diego and Riverside Counties in California.

So what do they have to do with the *Des Moines Register*?

### Charles C. Edwards, Jr. and Rusty Hubbell Edwards

Charles C. Edwards Jr., son of Charles and Sue, was publisher of the *Des Moines Register* from 1984-1996. His wife, Rusty Hubbell-Edwards once threw a big party for PPH in her home in Naples, FL. The couple is now divorced, but PPH's 2012 Annual Report shows Rusty Hubbell on the Board of Trustees.

The younger Charles Edwards is not on PPH's donor list, but he was President of the Gardner and Florence Call Cowles Foundation, which donated \$1 million to Planned Parenthood in Iowa. He is currently the Dean of the Drake University School of Journalism.

Hubbell-Edwards was the daughter of **James Hubbell, Jr.**, the prominent Des Moines businessman who

headed Equitable Life Insurance, and **Helen Hubbell**. They were also PPH donors, and Rusty's brother **Fred and wife Charlotte** have both served on PPH's Board of Sponsors.

### John Cowles Jr. and Jane "Sage" Fuller Cowles

John Jr. was publisher of the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* from 1968 to 1983. His wife, Sage Fuller Cowles, was President of Planned Parenthood in Minneapolis and sat on the board of Planned Parenthood Federation. They did not donate to PPH in Iowa, but their son did.

Sage's mother, **Jane White Canfield**, was a sculptor and author of children's books in New York. According to her 1984 obituary in the *New York Times* she was an early

supporter of Planned Parenthood. After attending an International Planned Parenthood Conference in New Delhi in 1938, she said, "You can't go to India and not think birth control is the most important thing in the world."

**"You can't go to India and not think birth control is the most important thing in the world."**

### John "Jay" Cowles III and Page Knudsen Cowles

John and Sage's son, Jay Cowles, (John Cowles III) was also publisher of the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*. Jay's wife, Page, served on the board at Planned Parenthood of Minnesota/South Dakota. As recently as 2006, the couple donated to PPH in the \$1,000-4,999 range.

### Arthur A. Ballantine and Elizabeth "Morley" Cowles Ballantine

Arthur A. Ballantine, a reporter with the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, married Morley, daughter of John Cowles and Elizabeth Bates Cowles. She was on the Board at the *Des Moines Register and Tribune* and publisher at the *Durango Herald* in Colorado. In 2004, **Continued on Page 7...**



# What you need to know about medication abortions

DES MOINES—In the battle over Planned Parenthood's webcam abortions, it is critical to know the facts about what a medication abortion is and how it works.

## Testimonies: *What is it like to have a medication abortion?*

**Excerpt from blog by Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood manager, describing her own medication abortion: (WARNING: Graphic)**

*"...I knew I had to get up and wash the blood off of me. I stood up slowly and straightened out my body. As soon as I was completely upright, I felt a pain worse than any other I had experienced. I began to sweat again and felt faint. I grabbed on to the side of the shower wall to steady myself.*



*"Then I felt a release...and a splash in the water that was draining beneath me. A blood clot the size of a lemon had fallen into my bath water. Was that my baby? I knew this huge clot was not going to go down the drain, so I reached down to pick it up. I was able to grasp the large clot with both hands and move it to the toilet.*

*"I stood in the warm shower for a few minutes... feeling a little relief from the cramping. Then came the excruciating pain again. I jumped out of the shower and sat on the toilet. Another lemon sized blood clot. Then another. And another. I thought I was dying. This couldn't be normal. Planned Parenthood didn't ever tell me this could happen..."*

**(To read the full post, visit [www.abbyjohnson.org](http://www.abbyjohnson.org), blog post, October 23, 2012.)**

## Even pro-abortion people will tell you medication abortions are a painful mess

*"This has turned into a marathon I hadn't expected/takes longer than I thought it would..."*

Read the testimony of **Angie Jackson**, a single mom from Tampa, FL, who gave a play-by-play of her medication abortion on Twitter, featured in the *IRTL News*, September 2010, page 5 at [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).



## What Planned Parenthood says:

*"Many women feel it's more "natural" — they feel it is more like miscarriage."*

## Medication Abortion: *How it Works*

A medication abortion, also known as a chemical abortion, abortion pill or RU-486, is not a single pill, but actually a two-step process involving multiple doses of the two drugs.

**1) Mifepristone**—also known as RU-486 or by its marketing name, "Mifeprex." These drugs block the action of progesterone, the natural hormone vital to maintaining the rich nutrient lining of the uterus. The developing baby starves as the nutrient lining disintegrates.

**2) Misoprostol**—an artificial prostaglandin. These drugs, taken a few days after the mifepristone, initiate uterine contractions and cause the baby to be expelled.

Planned Parenthood violates FDA protocol on medication abortions by using a cheaper regimen (or combination of mifepristone and misoprostol) not recommended by the FDA. The cheaper regimen is more profitable for Planned Parenthood, but more dangerous for women.

## Here is the difference:

### FDA Protocol for Medication Abortions:

The FDA approved Mifeprex regimen for a medical abortion through 49 days of pregnancy involves three separate doctor's office visits:

**Day One:** Mifeprex Administration: 3 tablets of 200 mg of Mifeprex orally at once.

**Day Three:** Misoprostol Administration: 2 tablets of 200 mcg of misoprostol orally at once.

**Day Fourteen:** Post-Treatment: The patient must return to confirm that a complete termination has occurred. If not, surgical termination is recommended to manage medical abortion treatment failures.

## How Planned Parenthood of the Heartland Violates FDA Protocol

- PPH uses the Mifeprex regimen on women up to 63 days into a pregnancy, two weeks beyond the FDA recommendation.
- PPH cuts the Mifeprex pills from 3 to 1 and ups the misoprostol pills (Mifeprex is about \$90 a pill and misoprostol is about \$1 a pill.) Reducing Mifeprex and increasing misoprostol increases Planned Parenthood's profits.
- PPH eliminates an office visit by making the women take the misoprostol at home. Again, less overhead and more profits for PPH.

**For more information, visit our website at [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).**

**IBOM ends webcam abortions****Continued on Page 7...**

doctor's office for taking blood pressure, giving shots, doing clerical work and maybe drawing blood, is not qualified to diagnose conditions that might kill a woman in a medication abortion, nor are they qualified to do a follow-up surgical abortion if the medication abortion is incomplete.

The new IBOM standards were published on October 2 and go into effect after 35 days. PPH has filed suit in Polk County District Court to try to roll back the standards.

The IBOM's release on the new standards is a must-read for all. The release refutes all PPH's myths about the safety of their webcam abortions. PPH tried to make this about politics, but the IBOM made it about the health and safety of women, regardless of where they live.

**Find the IBOM's release on [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org) under "Hot Topics."**

**Life is good: have we been busy!**

**IRTL has so much going on!** Pictured clockwise from right: *Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, 40 Days for Life outside Ankeny Planned Parenthood, Final IRTL Book Sale*  
**To join in, call us at 877.595.9406 or visit [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).**

**All in the family: The Register's history with Planned Parenthood****...Continued from Page 5**

she received the "Margaret Sanger Award" from Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains. A 2009 obituary for her in the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* said "she was a strong advocate for Planned Parenthood in her native Iowa and Colorado."

**Paul Leavitt and Elizabeth Ballantine Leavitt**

Elizabeth is the daughter of Arthur and Morley. She was a reporter for the *Des Moines Register* and Paul was a city editor for the *Register*. He is currently Washington News Editor for *USA Today* and she is a Director of the McClatchy Company, which owns over 30 newspapers. The McClatchy Company purchased Cowles Media in 1998. Elizabeth was on PPH's Board of Sponsors and she and her husband contributed over \$100,000 to PPH in 2012.

**Richard Ballantine and Mary Lyn Allen Ballantine**

Richard is the son of Morley and her first husband, Richard Pillsbury

Gale, Jr. He followed his mother as the publisher at the *Durango Herald*. He is now retired, but is still Chairman of the Board for Ballantine Communications, which owns the *Herald*. Richard and Mary Lyn contributed over \$100,000 to PPH in 2012.

**Edward Healy and Helen Ballantine Healy**

Helen is the daughter of Arthur A. Ballantine and Morley Cowles Ballantine. She and her husband contributed over \$100,000 to PPH in 2012. With her siblings, Helen is a trustee of the Ballantine Family Fund, that gave \$3,000 to Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains in 2012. She is also on the Board of Directors for Ballantine Communications, which owns the *Durango Herald* and three smaller newspapers.

**Culture of Kowtowing**

It is amazing to look at all of these people and realize they are from one family tree—and how intertwined they are with Planned Parenthood.

But it is easy to imagine that any of these publishers, owners and editors would not question Planned Parent-

hood—their people, their methods or ambitions—when they sit across the dinner table each night from a member of Planned Parenthood's board. It is easy to understand how they abandoned reporting and became purveyors of the Planned Parenthood marketing message.

The Cowles family sold the *Des Moines Register* to Gannett, its current owner, in 1985. While the Cowles may have moved on, the culture of kowtowing to Planned Parenthood still exists.

A few months ago, *Des Moines Register* Publisher Rick Green posted Gannett's "Principles of ethical conduct" for its newspapers. One of them is: "We will be persistent in our pursuit of the whole story." Clearly that's not happening with *The Register* and Planned Parenthood.

Will they change? If not, the next Planned Parenthood built in Iowa should be named "*The Des Moines Register*."

**See "Questions the Des Moines Register will never ask Planned Parenthood about webcam abortions" featured in *IRTL News*, August 2013, page 3 at [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).**

# Girls younger than 15 getting abort-at-home medication abortions in Iowa



DES MOINES—The numbers of girls age 15 and under in Iowa having medication abortions should give anyone pause, especially given the brutality of a medication abortion, where a teen could bleed out at home up to two weeks, then see the body of her dead baby. Who would do that to someone so young?

The Iowa Board of Medicine must have recognized this when it issued its August 30, 2013, decision to establish standards of practice for physicians who prescribe or administer abortion-inducing drugs, because one of its guidelines re-enforced Iowa’s Parental Notification law:

**“13.10(5) Parental notification regarding pregnant minors.** A physician shall not induce an abortion by providing an abortion-inducing drug to a pregnant minor prior to compliance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 135L and rules 641—89.12(135L) and 641—89.21(135L) adopted by the public health department.”

### Abortions in Iowa, Age 15 and younger

Year	Medication Abortions	Surgical Abortions	Total Abortions
2011	21	47	68
2010	25	56	81
2009	28	53	81
2008	31	74	105
2007	18	86	104
2006	18	89	107
2005	19	84	103
2004	16	75	91

(Source: Iowa Vital Stats Reports)

The numbers are documented in the Iowa Vital Stats reports that come from the Iowa Department of Public

Health. What the stats do not tell us is who is doing them. Is it Planned Parenthood? Emma Goldman Clinic in Iowa City? University of Iowa Hospitals? UnityPoint? Private physicians? If any of these are statutory rape cases, are they being reported? (Planned Parenthood has a history of not reporting statutory rape and incest cases.)

What the chart shows is medication abortions for teens 15 and under shot up in 2008, the same year Planned Parenthood started doing their medication abortions by webcam. (From 18 in 2007 to 31 in 2008.)

Iowa has a “Parental Notification” law, but Planned Parenthood is notorious for fighting parental notification laws and even instructs teens to circumvent their parents on their **“Info for Teens”** section of their website:

*“Many teenagers want to consult their parents before an abortion. But telling a parent is not required in all states. Find out what the laws are in your state.”*

#### Iowa

*Your state requires that one of your parents or a grandparent be told of your*

*decision 48 hours before your abortion. A judge can excuse you from this requirement.*

*To find out more about the laws in your state and the judicial bypass option, contact your local Planned Parenthood health center. (provides link)*

(Source: www.PlannedParenthood.org “Info for Teens”)

We need to do better to protect teen girls in Iowa.

**To see more information about how Planned Parenthood Hurts Children, visit: [www.iowaRTL.org/get-the-facts](http://www.iowaRTL.org/get-the-facts)**

**“Your state requires that one of your parents or a grandparent be told of your decision 48 hours before your abortion. A judge can excuse you from this requirement.”**

From PlannedParenthood.org “Info for Teens” who live in Iowa

## You’re teaching my child **WHAT??**

Go to [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org) and “Hot Topics” for more resources to fight Planned Parenthood’s Sex Ed in your schools:



**Take our Planned Parenthood Sex Ed Quiz.**

**Download a Letter to Opt your Child out of Sex Ed.**

**See What You Missed in Our IRTL News Archive:**

Find out what Planned Parenthood is saying to your kids behind your back! (IRTL News, February 2012)

Planned Parenthood said WHAT?! Sex Ed Sampler (IRTL News, October 2012)

(Find the IRTL News Archive under “What’s New”)

# The Girl Scouts link to Planned Parenthood

## And a whole lot of other really bad stuff...

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But Saladin pulled her daughters out of Girl Scouts after discovering both financial and curriculum ties to organizations that promote abortion.

Here is how it works. Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) is a member of **WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts)**. There are 145 WAGGGS organizations around the world and Girl Scouts is the largest member organization.

GSUSA has a fiduciary relationship with WAGGGS. GSUSA pays money into WAGGGS. In 2007, for instance, the Girl Scouts USA made a \$1.8 million payment to WAGGGS.

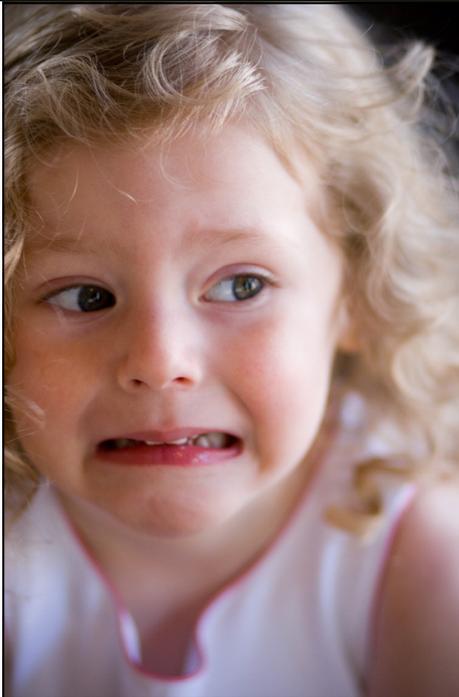
Never heard of WAGGGS? You should get to know them. Their website is [www.WAGGGS.org](http://www.WAGGGS.org).

WAGGGS invites Girl Scout councils and girls to be delegates to lobby for "sexual and reproductive rights" at United Nations events such as:

- [The Commission on the Status of Women](#)
- [UN Climate Change Conference](#) (the message here is sexual and reproductive rights play an important part in climate change.)
- [UN Global Youth Forum](#)

Global Youth Forum sounds harmless enough...but *this is no World Youth Day*. The Outcome Document from the 2013 Global Youth Forum, held in Bali, calls for:

- Abortion on demand
- Contraception
- Sexual rights for all young people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Elimination of parental consent laws (where a minor girl notifies a parent before an abortion.)
- Sexuality education that is "free of religious intolerance."
- Decriminalization of prostitution (which they call "sex work.")



**When you signed your daughter up for Girl Scouts, did you expect her to earn a badge for visiting a family planning clinic?**

(Read it for yourself: search "Bali Global Youth Forum Declaration 1.")

These are all positions WAGGGS advocates. It should be no surprise that WAGGGS is a close partner of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and Planned Parenthood sometimes appears as a resource at the end of WAGGGS handbooks, like the "Voices Against Violence" handbook. In fact, IPPF boasts about its close ties to WAGGGS.

WAGGGS is controversial enough that **Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa** has a "Frequently Asked Questions" section on its website that says, "Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa does not have a local relationship or partnership with Planned Parenthood." And "Every Girl Scout organization is a member of WAGGGS..." but "troops and individual girls are not members of WAGGGS." (How is that possible?)

This makes you think WAGGGS is some kind of distant cousin. But when

you click on "Who We Are" on the Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa website, then "Girl Scout Days," you see, "**World Thinking Day**." This is WAGGGS main fundraiser, according to Saladin.

Under "Travel" one of the trips is "WAGGGS World Centre" trip to the Swiss Alps in 2015 for grades 8-12. It looks innocent, but another website on WAGGGS's Swiss retreats suggests more abortion indoctrination.

All Girl Scouts websites promote numerous activities, awards and links to WAGGGS. The WAGGGS "Global Action Theme (GAT) Badge Curriculum, is based on the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MGDs), which sound harmless: "Improve Maternal Health." Who wouldn't be for that?

But one of the GAT badge projects says, "Visit a family planning clinic and find out about the ways they try to prevent adolescent pregnancy."

A GAT Badge project for "Younger Members" suggests: "Talk to your mother or another mother about what it is like to be a mum. What is good about it? What is not so great? Draw a cartoon about it."

Nothing like starting them off young with negative images of motherhood.

What about those cookies?

"Cookie money stays local," says Saladin, "But millions of dollars in licensing fees go directly to Girl Scouts USA to spend as they choose."

Girl Scouts does a lot of good—promoting self-esteem, friendships and independence in girls. There are many good people involved locally as troop leaders and volunteers. But if any part the money goes to an organization that is a training ground to turn girls into abortion activists, it may be time to explore other paths.

**Ann Saladin's website is [www.mygirlscoutcouncil.com](http://www.mygirlscoutcouncil.com).**

## Has *The Des Moines Register* “jumped the shark” on Planned Parenthood and webcam abortions?

DES MOINES—*The Des Moines Register* is clearly obsessed with defending Planned Parenthood at all costs.

But they really jumped the shark in their recent response to an Iowa Right to Life Letter to the Editor. And by jumped the shark, we mean responded in a way that was so over the top, it made one question their future.

The letter cited the *Register's* bias in the case of the Iowa Board of Medicine review of Planned Parenthood's webcam abortions. (We reprinted our letter on Page 11, so you can see what was submitted.)

Here's how we think the *Register* jumped the shark:

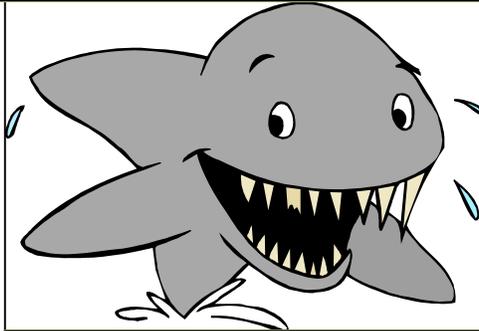
### 1) The pre-buttal

The same day the *Register* printed the IRTL letter on September 13, they published a staff editorial—that's right, the big space at the top of the *Opinion* page—in opposition to our letter. They wrote a *pre-buttal* to our Letter to the Editor. When is the last time you saw the *Register* write a *pre-buttal* to any letter?

### 2) The overkill

The *Register's* pre-buttal was 690 words. Our letter was only 380 words. It could be that they just have to fill the space. Have you noticed the *Register's* photos have been getting bigger and the same Letter to the Editor writer names show up more than once a week? That means nobody's writing. Nobody's writing means nobody's reading.

Back in 2007, the *Register's* daily circulation was 146,050 and their Sunday circulation was 233,229, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations. In 2013, their Daily circulation was down to 93,304 and their Sunday circulation was down to 191,560. (That's like losing the equivalent of the city of Ankeny or Urbandale.) This, when the popula-



### What does “jumped the shark” mean?

If you are old enough to remember the 70s sitcom, *Happy Days™*, you will remember how “jumped the shark” became a popular expression to describe anything that has plummeted in popularity because it has gone too far to be believed.

The term was coined from a three-part episode where The Fonz™ (played by Henry Winkler) defends his macho by donning water skis and jumping over a shark—wearing swim trunks and his trademark leather jacket, of course. It was so unbelievable, it was pegged as the beginning of the end for the series. After that, the expression was used to describe anything that has gone too far and thus, signaled its demise.

tion of the Des Moines area and the state of Iowa is rising.

Just an idea, but maybe the *Des Moines Register's* total devotion to Planned Parenthood, plus the ongoing “*We hate Terry Branstad*” campaign is turning people away. More attention to diversity might increase circulation.

### 3) The total disconnect

The IRTL letter cited many instances of the *Register's* bias (Seriously, read our letter on Page 11.) But the *Register* chose to refute only one issue in their 690 word pre-buttal: Planned Parenthood's violation of FDA standards on RU-486 (the combination of pills used in a medication abortion).

*The Register* argued that Planned

Parenthood's misuse of RU-486 is just like any other off-label use of a drug. They use several examples—including “*Doctors prescribe high blood pressure medicine to treat anxiety and a drug approved to treat shingles for tennis elbow.*”

Let's think about that. Tennis elbow...vs. a woman hemorrhaging at home for up to two weeks until she delivers a dead baby. A total disconnect on what a medication abortion is. This is not surprising, because all of the *Register's* news and editorial coverage on the medication abortion process ends with the woman “...takes the rest of the prescription at home.” (*Des Moines Register* editorial, 7/7/13.)

What happens when the woman takes the rest of the prescription at home is more protracted, more bloody and more painful than a surgical abortion (and a surgical abortion is no picnic.) Unlike tennis elbow, there is a possibility of dying from an infection, an ectopic pregnancy, excessive hemorrhaging or a massive heart attack. Come on, *Register*, tell the whole story.

### 4) The condescension

*The Register* condescends to say, “*It appears anti-abortion activists may not understand how the medical profession works in the United States.*”

Oh, but we do. Misoprostol, the second drug in the RU-486 abortion cocktail used to expel a dead baby, can also be used to induce labor for a woman delivering a live baby.

Once the FDA approves a drug, a doctor can use it in any dose, in any way on any patient a doctor wants. But the off-label use of misoprostol (brand name Cytotec) to induce labor has spawned a new industry for personal injury attorneys, because one of the possible complications is that the baby can die.

**Continued on Page 11...**

## Has *The Des Moines Register* “jumped the shark?”

...Continued from Page 10

Same reason Planned Parenthood finds it useful.

The FDA gives detailed protocols on the use of the drugs in a medication abortion for a reason. The FDA has documented 2,207 adverse events in women who have had medication abortions in the U.S. These adverse events include 14 deaths, 612 hospitalizations (excluding the deaths), 339 cases where blood loss was so great the woman needed a transfusion, 256 infections and 58 ectopic pregnancies. These statistics are available on the [www.FDA.gov](http://www.FDA.gov) website: just search for “FDA” and “Mifeprex.”

These are the ones that were reported. Imagine how many more women were injured and their cases not reported. By ignoring FDA protocol, Planned Parenthood is not just tinkering around with “off-label” drug use, but treating women as guinea pigs.

### 5) The questionable sources

While questioning what pro-lifers know about the medical profession, *The Register's* pre-buttal quotes Planned Parenthood of the Heartland's Shelby Cloke, who isn't a medical professional, but plays one in the news. Last year, Ms. Cloke wrote a Letter to the Editor to *The Red Oak Express*, stating, “As a medical provider, it's my job to clear up misinformation and provide medically accurate, science based information.”

It's IRTL's understanding of the medical profession that people like Ms. Cloke, PPH's Public Relations Manager, who majored in journalism and communications at the University of Iowa, are not considered “medical professionals.”

Ms. Cloke says of Planned Parenthood's misuse of RU-486, “...we follow the recommendation of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' (ACOG) evidenced-based regimen.” *The Register* pre-buttal even refers to ACOG as “the nation's leading authority on women's health.”

While **ACOG** sounds professional, it is not a medical or scientific body, nor a board-certifying group. **ACOG is a trade union.** What in the world made *The Register* think they were the nation's leading authority on women's health?

ACOG's medical data is sometimes questionable. And ACOG recommends that misoprostol be given to women vaginally, which the FDA has shown is unsafe. ACOG is more political than medical – they lobbied the FDA early on to have no restrictions on  
**Continued on Page 12...**

Here's the original IRTL Letter to the Editor. Words in bold were edited out of the original letter by *The Register*.

To the Editor:

*The real difference between the Iowa Board of Medicine decision two years ago on webcam abortions and the most recent board overturning that decision, is not Governor Branstad's appointed board. It's the Register's over-the-top, biased coverage.*

*Why did the Register repeatedly say “Gov. Terry Branstad, a Republican, has appointed all the current members” and Branstad “packed” the medical board, but never mentioned the last board was appointed entirely by liberal Democrat Chet Culver?*

*Why was this board “political,” but the Culver board, which included Dr. Rodney Zeitler of Iowa City who was writing big checks to Planned Parenthood's Voters of Iowa Political Action Committee and other board members who gave thousands of dollars to “Chet Culver Committee” not “political?”*

*Why did the Register publish the names of current board members, where they were from, how they voted **and even publish a photo of them**, but did not reveal any of these details about the Culver board?*

*The “Register's Editorial” of 9/4/11 included **bizarre statements** about the current board, “Of course, Hoversten does not work for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.” Did someone from the Culver board work for the FDA? If they had, they would not have rubber-stamped Planned Parenthood's violations of FDA medication abortion standards which increase the danger for Iowa women and profits for Planned Parenthood. It looks like *The Register* is the one not “influenced by facts” as they accused the current board.*

***Why is the Register clamoring for the current board's report, but never asked to see the Culver board's report?***

***The Register tried to stack the deck against the current Iowa Board of Medicine, but the truth is, this board was more fair than the Culver board.** The recent hearing lasted three and a half hours and everyone who signed up to speak on both sides of the issue was allowed to speak. The Culver board let pro-lifers know at the last minute they would only have 10 minutes total.*

*And the current board did the unthinkable – they asked questions of Planned Parenthood, something *The Register* has never done.*

*We would like to remind *The Register* that, despite their endorsement of Chet Culver in the last election, he lost – by almost 10 points. The people of Iowa overwhelmingly trust Governor Branstad and his appointments.*

—Jennifer Bowen, Executive Director, Iowa Right to Life

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## The Des Moines Register jumps the shark...

*Continued from Page 11...*

medication abortions, specifically so doctors would not be involved at all.

Maybe it's not the "anti-abortion activists" *The Register* needs to question more closely.

Okay, we've been hard on *The Des Moines Register* in this issue. The strange thing is, as much as we take *The Register* to task, we like them.

We like the people at *The Register* that we deal with from time to time. They are nice people—some even have a sense of humor. We know

they work long hours under tight deadlines and that they juggle multiple stories.

There have been many layoffs at *The Register*. It's never easy to see your colleagues go out the door. It also means more work for fewer people.

They may not agree with us, but they have left out the welcome mat and we appreciate that. We will continue to keep our welcome mat out for *The Register* reporters, too.

We don't want their careers to go the way of The Fonz™. And because

of that we are going to keep after them. We are going to keep writing to them...and about them. We are going to continue sending them facts, statistics and evidence that challenges their total devotion to Planned Parenthood's marketing message.

A lot of people say, "Why bother?" We say, "Because we believe in life and goodness and people. We believe the women of Iowa deserve better than "Planned Parenthood says..." We hope that you do too.

**For more good stuff, please visit: [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org).**

## "No complaints," says Planned Parenthood; "Not so fast," say experts

**"No Complaints" is "flat out lie" ...  
...Continued from Page 3**

were no patient complaints" in their 9/30/13 press release about their lawsuit against the IBOM. **That's not what their lawsuit said.**

Here is an excerpt from the lawsuit text, filed in Polk County District Court the same day (our emphasis in bold):

28. "PPHeartland has performed more than 5,000 medical abortions through the telemedicine delivery system. **These have been without any evidence of complications any more frequently (which is rarely) or different than medical abortions provided with the physician physically present when the pharmaceuticals are provided and the Mifeprex ingested.**"

Now there are complications—just not more frequent when a physician is present. (It's frightening to ponder what that means in Planned Parenthood-speak.) Don't worry about these women with the complications—because *nobody complained*. We don't buy it...and neither should you. We have shown post-abortive women are unlikely to file complaints. That does not mean there are no complications or that those complications should be ignored.

**Post abortive women least likely to complain ...Continued from Page 2**

seen any documentation that would suggest that these patients can and should report any problems with doctors and/or 'clinics' if they do not feel they received the care they deserve."

"Reporting a complaint about a doctor in the case of a botched medication abortion is not like making a complaint about a botched gallbladder removal. Women do not want to talk with anyone about their experience due to the shame associated with abortion. They will suffer for life before sharing the experience over and over again."

**Thayer:** "There is "required" information for any type of visit—HIPAA, birth control information, STI information, etc. As these brochures are very expensive, they are put in a brown sack and not freely given. Planned Parenthood staff lay them on the desk and tell

the patients they are welcome to take it if they want. Most do not."

"Same with abortion patients. Planned Parenthood does "packets" ahead of time, then at the visit, they just lay the packet out. This would have emergency contact information. Honestly, most women are in such shock, a lot of what you say doesn't sink in."

### Callous attitude towards post abortive women

It's very callous and heartless, when you think about Planned Parenthood withholding information from women, not counting a trip to the Emergency Room as a "complication," not caring whether the women have emergency contact information or not, then saying, "there were no patient complaints."

Don't let Planned Parenthood get away with it. Please continue to speak out, educate and challenge your local media to print the truth.

**For more, visit [www.iowaRTL.org](http://www.iowaRTL.org) or call us at 877.595.9406.**

