

HOW TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST FAKE CLINICS

1. KNOW THE FACTS!

- Make sure your group studies up on fake clinics or so-called Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPC) to know the facts. Read the Fall '08 Ms. Magazine article, "Dangerous Masquerade" for information about how CPCs are funded and operate. Other informative articles include the National Abortion Federation's report, "*Crisis Pregnancy Centers: An Affront to Choice*" and a report prepared for the U.S. Congress House Committee on Government Reform titled, "*False and Misleading Health Information Provided by Federally Funded Pregnancy Resource Centers.*" All reports and articles are available online for free.
- Use resources to determine if in fact there is a CPC near your campus. Check your campus website or use websites like www.optionline.org or www.lifecall.org to find out if a CPC exists near your campus. (Note: These are anti-choice websites with locations of CPCs). Call your local Planned Parenthood and ask if they know of any CPCs in the area, too.
- If there is a CPC near your campus, your group can call or visit the CPC to determine what they say about abortion and birth control. Do they offer abortion as an option for an unplanned pregnancy? Do they offer comprehensive family planning (e.g. condoms, EC, birth control)? Do they make false claims such as abortion causes breast cancer, infertility, suicide or post-abortion syndrome?
- Gather real stories from fellow students on campus. Post flyers asking, "Have *you* visited or had any experiences with a fake clinic or 'crisis pregnancy center'?" Email [put your club email here] with your story!"

2. KNOW YOUR CAMPUS!

- As a group, visit your Campus Health Center. Does your Health Center know about CPCs? Where would they refer a student if facing an unintended pregnancy? Do they include CPCs on their referral lists?
- Does a CPC advertise on your campus? Find out if they do. Check out your campus newspaper, billboards, cafeteria and informational kiosks for "Worried? Pregnant? Call XXX" ads or flyers.

3. TAKE ACTION!

- If your Campus Health Center refers students to a local CPC, urge them to stop or, at a minimum, to disclose that these facilities are **NOT** comprehensive healthcare providers and that they do not provide abortion services or referrals, or family planning services, condoms, emergency contraception or birth control. Alert them to the information you gathered about your local CPC.
- Have your group demand a CPC-free campus! Kick CPC ads off campus. If your paper refuses, call attention to the false and deceptive advertising practices of CPCs. Write an article about the CPC near your campus for the newspaper.
- Hold a pro-choice rally outside the CPC located nearest to your campus. Record and photograph your demonstration to use on YouTube or Facebook.
- Sign and circulate FMF's petition campaign demanding Congress stop funding abstinence-only education and fake clinics! Demand that Congress pass the "Stop Deceptive Advertising for Women's Services Act" and the "Responsible Education About Life (REAL) Act," a federal bill to fund comprehensive sexual education.

4. SHARE YOUR STORIES AND SUCCESSES!

- Put your pro-choice, anti-CPC stories on your blog, Facebook and YouTube to share with other activists!
- Email us at campusteam@feminist.org or call a CHOICES Organizer at West Coast 1-866-471-FMLA or East Coast 1-866-444-FMLA.