

Fact Sheet: Anti-Abortion Centers (AACs) [Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs)]

AACs are an RJ Issue

Folks often visit AACs because they need access to ultrasounds, diapers, and other resources that are expensive and hard to get elsewhere. While AACs are trying to exploit this gap, there is still a **significant need** for the support to have children (i.e. housing, accessible healthcare, low food prices, parental leave, childcare etc.). Reproductive Justice (RJ) offers a holistic lens that recognizes BOTH the right to parent and the right not to parent. This lens reveals the need for comprehensive reproductive services to support family planning, pregnancy, and childbirth in addition to abortion.

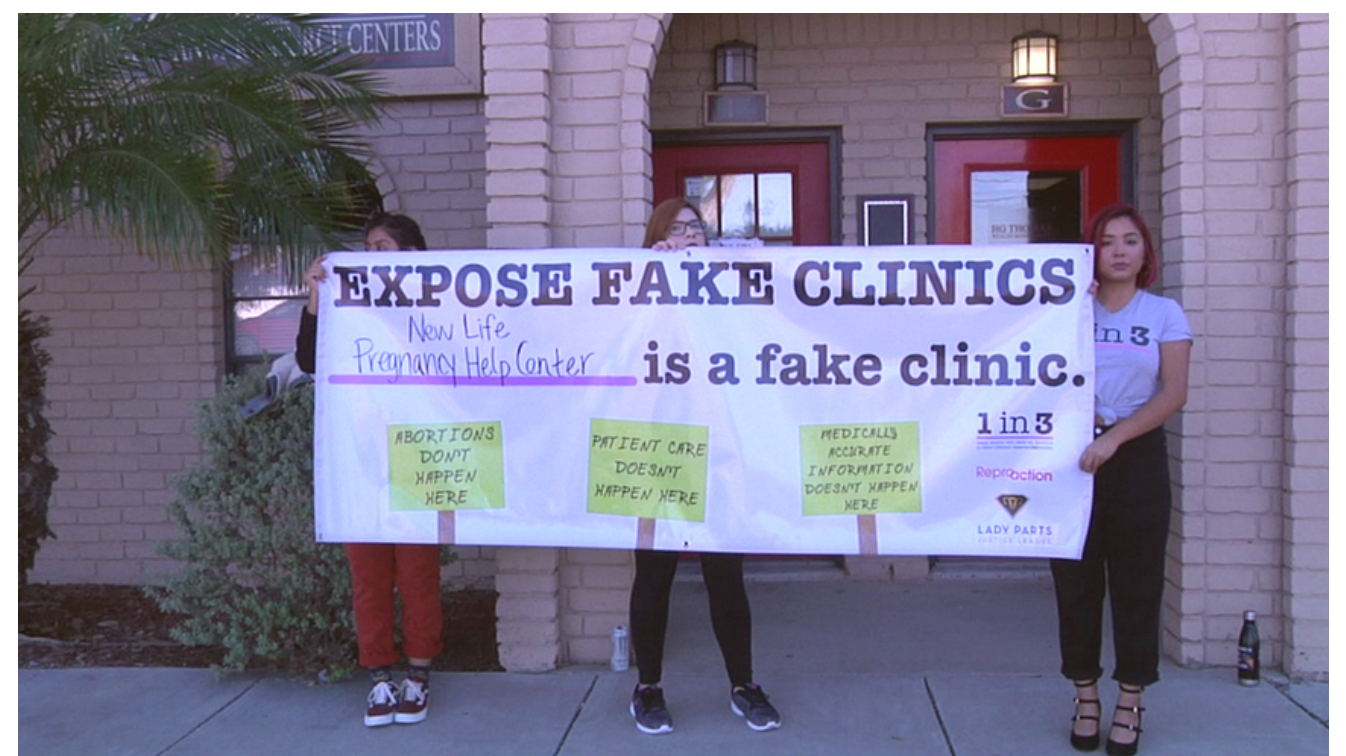
RJ also recognizes that interlocking systems of oppression (such as poverty and white supremacy) impact folks' ability to parent. It's important to challenge these root causes in addition to explicit anti-choice measures to ensure that everyone has the right to become a parent if they want to.

RJ fights for a world in which everyone can parent and raise a child healthily if they desire. This means that fighting for access to housing, education, comprehensive healthcare, and childcare are all ways to counter the AAC movement.



Harms of AACs:

- Traumatize individuals through problematic language and tactic
- Impose religious values on individuals
- Spread medically inaccurate information
- Falsely advertise quality of care
- Delay test results to prolong pregnancy
- Work to close legitimate clinics
- Disproportionately prey on individuals of low socioeconomic status



Additional resources:

- [ReproAction's Database of Fake Clinics](#)
- [NARAL TX's Expose CPCs Campaign](#)
- [Expose Fake Clinics Campaign](#)
- [End the Lies Campaign](#)
- [Map of all Anti-Abortion Centers](#)

Texas Specific information:

- [Conflict of Interest? Texas GOP Lawmakers Serve on Boards of Taxpayer-Funded Fake Clinics](#)
- [Texas's Publicly Funded CPCs](#)
- [While Cutting Family Planning Funds, Texas Lawmakers Divert Millions to Crisis Pregnancy Centers](#)
- [How Texas Failed to replace PP](#)
- [A Changing of the Guard Doesn't Mean Texas' Fake Clinics Will Start Providing Quality, Non-Biased Care](#)
- [TX A2A program lacks data](#)
- [Most recent state A2A report](#)

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What is an AAC (aka CPC)?

“Crisis pregnancy centers are organizations that seek to intercept [people] with unintended pregnancies who might be considering abortion. Their mission is to prevent abortions by persuading [people] that adoption or parenting is a better option.”

– Amy G. Bryant, MD, & Jonas J. Swartz, MD

AACs lure clients in with the offer of free services such as pregnancy tests, sonograms, and STI tests. However, they provide inaccurate medical information, often require clients to take classes to “earn” the “free” resources, and delay testing results to keep clients pregnant as long as possible, past the point of being able to have an abortion. AACs are usually associated with Christian charities and purposefully locate themselves near abortion clinics.



A History of AACs in Texas

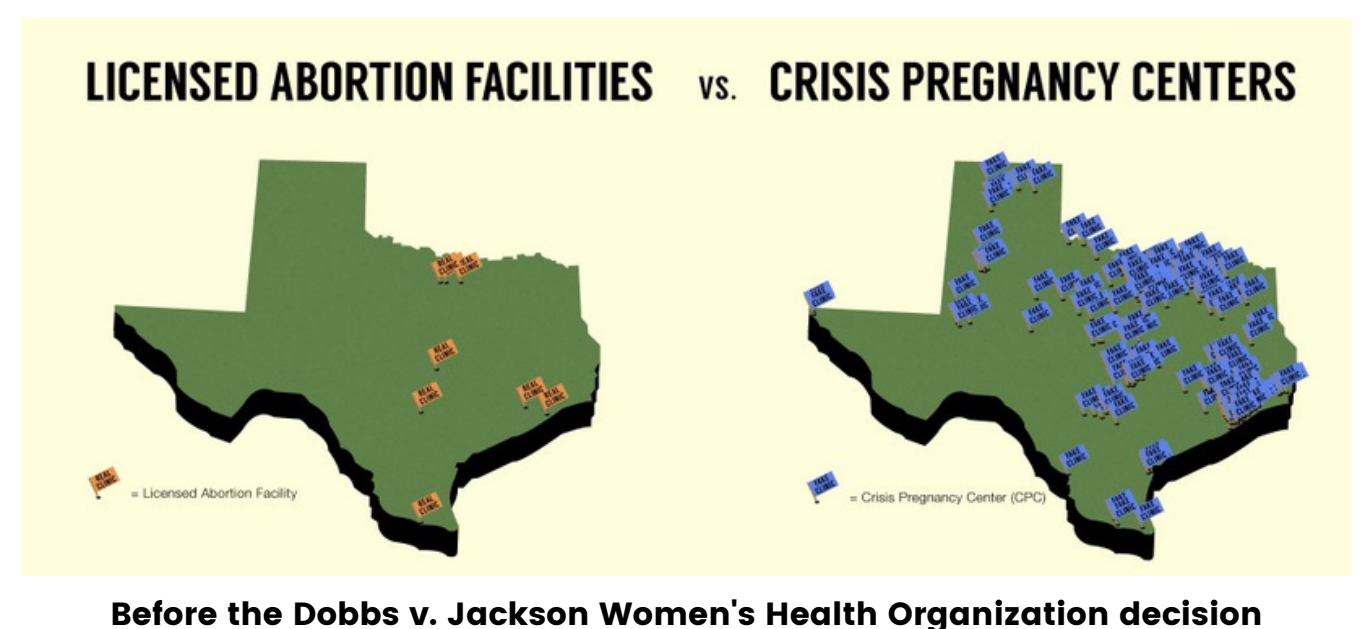
- In 2005, anti-choice Texas lawmakers passed a rider into the state budget to create an “Alternative to Abortion” (A2A) program.
- In 2006, the Texas Pregnancy Care Network (TPCN) a \$5 million grant to start and operate the A2A program. TPCN then distributes state funds to its subcontractors (AACs).
- The state has steadily increased funding to AACs through A2A since 2005.

203 AACs



22 Abortion clinics

Texas had **9 times** as many AACs as abortion clinics before the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision. All abortion clinics in Texas have now been forced to close while the number of AACs continue to grow.



Before the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision

Medical Myths

Many AACs peddle these myths to discourage abortion. They also provide inaccurate information regarding contraceptives and STIs. AACs are not licensed medical providers even though they present themselves that way. Here are some of the most common myths:

- Abortion increases the risk of breast cancer **FALSE!**
- Abortion increases risk of infertility due to scarring of the uterus **FALSE!**
- Abortion may impact one's mental health due to “Post abortion syndrome” **FALSE!**

How are AACs funded in TX?

- The A2A program originally diverted \$5 million from TANF (welfare)
- Texas reduces state funding for family planning and reproductive healthcare to funnel money into A2A
- The extra fee from the ‘Choose Life’ License Plates goes directly to AACs
- Non-state funded AACs receive private grants