

RHTP Statement on Attack at Planned Parenthood Health Center in Colorado Springs

Jessica Arons, President & CEO of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project, has released the following statement in response to Friday's attack in Colorado Springs:

"It is with heavy hearts that we send thoughts of comfort and healing to those affected by the senseless attack at the Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains health center in Colorado Springs, especially to those who lost loved ones. We are humbled by and grateful for the bravery of those who, on a daily basis, put their lives on the line to protect and serve others--and that includes both law enforcement and abortion providers.

"Abortion providers have been subject to a long history of violence, harassment, and domestic terrorism, which has only been further incited by the recent irresponsible and baseless claims that Planned Parenthood sells fetal tissue for profit. This prolonged, coordinated, politically-motivated fear campaign is aimed at denying human rights to anyone who can get pregnant. It is domestic violence in both senses of the term, played out at a societal level, and it cannot go unaddressed. As we have said before, a right without access is no right at all.

"While we may have strong feelings and disagree about abortion, we ought to be able to debate the issue respectfully and with civility. We call on our nation's leaders to end the inflammatory political rhetoric that preceded this attack and instead to make every effort to ensure that reproductive healthcare can be accessed safely.

"We continue to stand with Planned Parenthood, we stand with the millions of men and women they serve, we stand with the first responders who acted so bravely and quickly, and we stand with the people of Colorado Springs."

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