# Susan G. Komen for the Cure

## Stance on Planned Parenthood Support/Abortion

https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-greatertexas/newsroom/susan-g-komen-r-greater-central-and-east-texas-awards-grantto-planned-parenthood-of-greater-texas-to-help-fight-breast-cancer

 In July of 2020, Susan G. Komen of Greater Central and East Texas gave PP of Greater Texas a grant for their Mammograms and breast exams.

https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/facts-statistics/researchstudies/topics/abortion-and-breast-cancer-risk/

 As of Sept. 2022, Susan G. Komen has posted a write-up, consulting the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists that there is not a linkage between abortions and an increased risk of breast cancer.

https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Susan-G-Komen-Parent-3.31.22-2021-Form-990-PIC-filed.pdf

- Susan G. Komen's FY 2020 990 Report:
  - ◆ Planned Parenthood Orange and 700 S. Tustin St. Orange CA 92866 956152773 501(c)(3) \$ 59, 990.80 Treatment
  - ◆ Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas 7424 Greenville Ave. Suite 206 Dallas TX 75231 521243221 501(c)(3) \$ 30, 737.15 Screening, Treatment
  - ♦ Komen's FY 2021 990 report does not list Planned Parenthood as grant recipients, which is interesting. <a href="https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Susan-G-Komen-Parent-3.31.22-2021-Form-990-PIC-filed.pdf">https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Susan-G-Komen-Parent-3.31.22-2021-Form-990-PIC-filed.pdf</a>

# Stance on Contraception

https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/risk-factor/birth-control-pills/

- Komen has a page about birth control and its linkage to a "slight increase" in breast cancer. This write-up clearly does not condemn the use of birth control for its actual health risks, and it states that Depo-Provera, the vaginal ring, and hormonal IUDs (intrauterine device) are not linked to breast cancer. They downplay the risk factors to breast cancer. This was updated in April 2023. https://www.komen.org/blog/komen-perspectives-some-questions-some-answers-birth-control-pills-fertility-drugs-and-breast-cancer-risk/

- "The use of birth control pills appears to increase the risk of breast cancer, but they are usually taken during a time in a woman's life when she is young and her risk is low. So for most young women, the contraceptive benefits of birth control pills outweigh this risk."

#### **Stance on Human Embryonic Stem Cells**

https://www.komen.org/uploadedFiles/Content/AboutUs/MediaCenter-2/StatementEmbryonicStemCell 252012.pdf

 The link above provides Komen's statement on Human Embryonic Stem Cell research as of 2012. They have not provided a public statement since regarding this.

https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Susan-G-Komen-Parent-3.31.22-2021-Form-990-PIC-filed.pdf

- 1. <a href="https://www.bcm.edu/research/research-centers/star-center">https://www.bcm.edu/research/research-centers/star-center</a>
- 2. <a href="https://www.bidmc.org/research/core-facilities/transgenic-core">https://www.bidmc.org/research/core-facilities/transgenic-core</a>
- 3. <a href="https://www.bu.edu/research/ethics-compliance/safety/biological-safety/ibc/policies/guidelines-for-the-use-of-human-embryonic-stem-cells/">https://www.bu.edu/research/ethics-compliance/safety/biological-safety/ibc/policies/guidelines-for-the-use-of-human-embryonic-stem-cells/</a>
- 4. <a href="https://www.brighamandwomens.org/about-bwh/newsroom/research-briefs-detail?id=4012">https://www.brighamandwomens.org/about-bwh/newsroom/research-briefs-detail?id=4012</a>
- 5. <a href="https://research.columbia.edu/stem-cell-research#:~:text=Columbia%20University%20believes%20that%20human,legitimate%20research%20and%20therapeutic%20purposes">https://research.columbia.edu/stem-cell-research#:~:text=Columbia%20University%20believes%20that%20human,legitimate%20research%20and%20therapeutic%20purposes</a>.
  - ♦ Five of the 11 grant recipients of Komen's in FY 2021 conduct research using human embryonic stem cells.

### Stance on LGBTQ+

https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Breast-Health-Toolkit-for-hcps-Final-2019.pdf In 2019, Susan G Komen put together a Breast Health Toolkit for those who associate themselves with LGBTQ+. On pages 5-6 of the toolkit, they go on with Gender & Sexual Expression Spectrums, & LGBTQ Terminology. This document focuses more on how not to offend the person by what gender they claim to feel like, rather than actual breast health exams.

https://www.komen.org/wp-content/uploads/Breast-Health-for-LGBTQ-community-Final-2019.pdf

 This is another example, also from 2019, which does the same. There is a little bit more breast health exam examples in this one, but it focuses on how to identify individuals from their preferences.

https://www.komen.org/breast-cancer/screening/when-to-screen/transgender-people/

 Updated in December of 2022, this page on their website focuses on screening transgender people; something they weren't too sure about in 2019.

## **History with Planned Parenthood**

- In her 2012 book, "Planned Bullyhood: The Truth about the Planned Parenthood Funding Battle with Susan G. Komen for the Cure," former Senior VP of Public Policy for Komen, Karen Handel, writes about the strong relationship Komen had with Planned Parenthood since its beginnings and how PP bullied Komen when they withdrew funding under her leadership.
  - ◆ Foundress of the organization, Nancy Brinker was a member of a local PP board and former honoree of the organization (p.2).
  - ◆ The President of Komen in 2010, Elizabeth Thompson, was friends with PP CEO at the time, Cecile Richards (p.57).
  - ◆ Democratic strategist, Hilary Rosen, was also involved with both Komen and Planned Parenthood while Handel was there.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Handel, Karen, *Planned Bullyhood: The Truth Behind the Headlines About the Planned Parenthood Funding Battle With Susan G. Komen for the Cure.* Nashville, Tenn., Howard Books, 2012.

- ♦ Handel explains that Planned Parenthood was receiving grant money from Komen for Mammograms, yet PP wasn't performing them and instead was referring women too clinics that offered mammograms (p.68).
  - Also confirmed by Cecile Richards which was reported in the Washington Post in 2015- <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/10/02/the-repeated-misleading-claim-that-planned-parenthood-provides-mammograms/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/10/02/the-repeated-misleading-claim-that-planned-parenthood-provides-mammograms/</a>
- ◆ "Certainly, it was true that no Komen dollars were supposed to go to abortion, but the reality is, we had no way to really know." (p.71)
- ♦ When Komen made to revisit and revise their grant requirements for all their grant recipients in 2012, Planned Parenthood immediately made it into a media-stormed story and claimed that Komen was no longer funding their work to help fight breast cancer (p. 117).
- ◆ Handel said that while the grants to Planned Parenthood from Komen were only for screenings and mammograms, they found that some of the community grants were going to Planned Parenthood's general administrative costs (p. 163).
- ◆ Handel recalled the moment in 2012 when Komen decided to reverse their decision and "continue to fund existing grants" for Planned Parenthood (p.242). Since 2012, Komen has continued to grant money to Planned Parenthood, who bullied them out of their decision to withdraw grant funding.