

Dear Pro-Life Partners,

January 15, 2026

Fact or Fiction?

The Guttmacher Institute released its “State Policy Trends 2025 Full-Year Analysis” in December (NRL News, 12/25). The report proffers such seamless slight-of-hand and confident lies that it can be difficult for even the most astute among us to separate fact from fiction. It refers to pro-life legislators as *anti-SRHR* (sexual and reproductive health and rights) policymakers and PHC’s (Pregnancy Help Centers) as *anti-abortion centers* (but gives a nod to “crisis pregnancy centers”).

Abortion access being the overarching priority, Kimya Florouzan is quoted as bemoaning how the “anti-SRHR” movement has “increased attacks” to thwart abortion access of all types and in all avenues (including states with abortion bans, gasp!) and target abortion funding, while increasing support for “anti-abortion centers” and “alternatives to abortion” programs. So the pro-life community is just supposed to roll over when a fight for something it believes in gets difficult?

One thing Florouzan did not mention is our fight to keep parents involved in a minor’s decision. Probably because the abortion industry’s stance is wildly unpopular. “Forcing parent involvement often deters young people from accessing SRH services,” she whines. “For many young people, particularly those in states with abortion bans and restrictions, traveling out of state with the support of an abortion fund or practical support organization is the only way they can access abortion care.” (Honestly, this is gross.)

A few notable lies in the report include one mixed with truth, one by omission, and one blatant:

- “Anti-abortion centers aim to prevent pregnant people from obtaining abortion care and contraceptives by providing misleading and stigmatizing information about these services and about human development. Yes, it’s true that these centers discourage, and probably stigmatize, abortion. But misleading it isn’t. The rest is fearmongering. (Notice how “and contraceptives” and “and about human development” is tacked on the end of each phrase like an afterthought.)
- The report fails to mention the significant percentage of women who obtain abortions through coercion.
- The report claims that pro-life education initiatives, such as “Baby Olivia,” “features a fake ultrasound video and an inaccurate depiction of fetal development throughout pregnancy.” Obviously, it isn’t all actual footage, but the depiction is accurate. (I find it disingenuous for them to act like they wouldn’t rush to use AI to produce a “lovely and moving” abortion film.) Live Action actually collaborated with experts in embryonic and fetal development to create the video.

Logic is lacking, science is on sabbatical, common sense is cowering, and truth is tarnished. But one of these days...hope will rise and life will win.

Partnering with You for Life,

Linda Verhulst, MRL-WR