



The National Partnership for Women & Families is deeply concerned about reports that more than 200 NIH-funded research grants on critical public health issues like sexual health and preventing HIV infection are being singled out for increased scrutiny regarding the “value” of this research because of pressure from certain Members of Congress and conservative advocacy groups.

The National Partnership has long advocated for policies that enhance the quality of women’s health, including women’s sexual and reproductive health. Over the years the federal government has invested enormous public resources in biomedical research, and the results have been astounding. Research funded by NIH has spearheaded numerous scientific breakthroughs, including developing cures for diseases and identifying behavioral interventions that are effective at preventing or alleviating human suffering. NIH has long had in place a rigorous and respected peer review system to ensure the integrity and value of biomedical research undertaken with taxpayer dollars. As a result of this process, the health of millions of people all over the world has been enhanced by NIH-funded research.

At no other time in our nation’s history has the integrity of the scientific process been so threatened by efforts to advance a particular ideological agenda. We condemn this latest effort to interfere with NIH’s peer review process for approving federally-funded biomedical research.