

MEDIA FACTSHEET



Investigation of CRS-Kenya

THE HEART OF OUR CONCERN

Catholic Relief Services solicits funds from Catholics who believe their funds are being used for charitable works in-line with Catholic teaching. However, CRS regularly receives two-thirds of its funding from the United States government. The concern with Catholic agencies embracing a model in which the vast majority of their funding comes from the government; that a dilution of Catholic identity has necessarily followed, and that the government, not unreasonably given its investment, determines the parameters of the relationship.

See also pages 48 and 49 of the full report.

WHAT DID THE INVESTIGATION FIND?

Numerous people in Kenya told our investigator that CRS funds, oversees, and monitors the implementation of programs in Kenya which endorse and enable contraceptive-use.

Catholic Relief Services implements a program called “Healthy Choices” as the prime partner of the SAIDIA project. CRS implemented Healthy Choice 1 for pre-teens and young teens (10-14). CRS implemented Healthy Choices 2 for older teens (15-19). CRS began implementing HC 1 and HC 2 in 2011. Initially, both HC 1 and 2 included the endorsement and propagation of condom use. In 2012, after public outcry, the HC1 curriculum was changed to remove condoms. CRS staff participated in this editing process.

In 2013, CRS discussed with CDC-Kenya shifting away from implementing Healthy Choices 2 because of its contraceptive content. Healthy Choices 2 promoted condom use to prevent HIV as well as hormonal contraception and abortifacients to prevent and end pregnancy. PRI found that CRS corrected its involvement in some of the contraceptive programs after having been taught to 35,000 Kenyan teenagers.

The investigator also found that CRS funded and implemented male and female condom distribution through a “care and treatment” program and “Preventing Mother to Child Transmission” (PMTCT) program. CRS implemented these programs for all 5 years of the SAIDIA program.

HISTORY OF PRI’S INVESTIGATION INTO CRS

Population Research Institute began its investigation into Catholic Relief Services in 2012 after private CRS donors confided that they had unconfirmed concerns about CRS programs abroad.

In November and December of 2012, the Population Research Institute sent a field-researcher to Madagascar to investigate specific CRS programs. The investigator found that CRS implemented programs that enabled contraceptive distribution in Madagascar.

In early 2013, the Population Research Institute presented the findings of the Madagascar investigation to appropriate channels.

In July of 2013, PRI made the results of the Madagascar investigation available to the public. You can see the report here: <http://pop.org/content/investigation-catholic-relief-services-madagascar>

In early 2014, PRI continued to try and address its concerns about the need for sustained, structural reform at CRS to appropriate channels.

In early 2014, PRI partnered with the Lepanto Institute to begin the online portion of the Kenya investigation.

In mid-2014, PRI sent a field researcher to investigate CRS programs in Kenya. The investigator found that CRS funded, monitored, and implemented programs in Kenya which endorse and enable contraceptive-use.

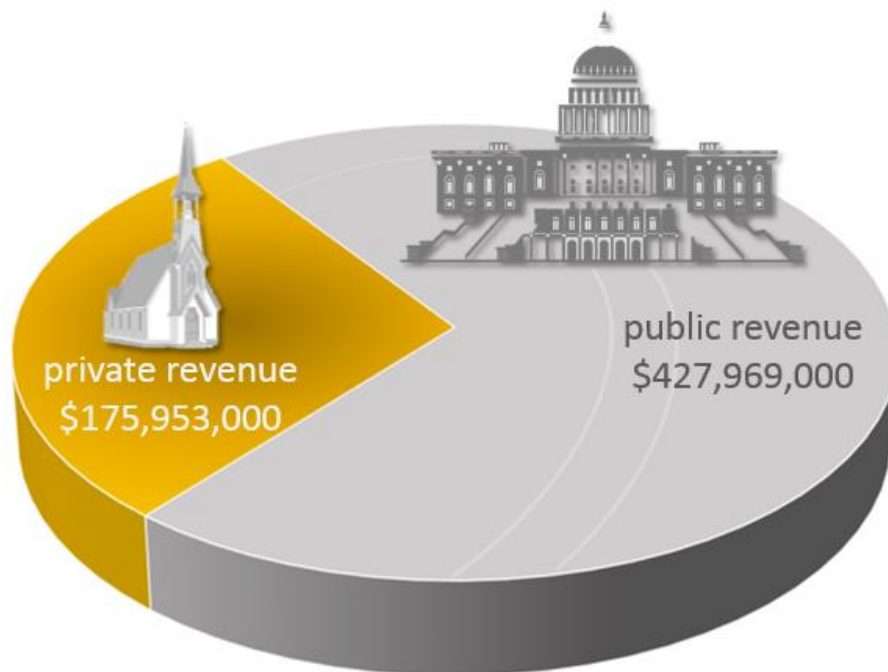
PRI found that CRS corrected its involvement in some of the contraceptive programs after having been taught to 35,000 Kenyan teenagers. PRI also found that some contraceptive programs have not been corrected in Kenya.

PRI concluded that structural problems fuel programs that violate Church teaching. In some instances, devout CRS employees catch and remedy these programs. Oftentimes, CRS implements programs that violate Church teaching.

In early 2015, PRI and Lepanto reached out with the results of their investigation to appropriate channels.

HOW MUCH DOES CRS RECEIVE FROM THE GOVERNMENT?

CRS revenue composition: 2013



Source: CRS Financial Report. September 30, 2013.

NAMES AND AGENCIES

POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PRI)

Founded in 1989, the Population Research Institute has been the primary investigative resource for proliferators around the world for over 25 years. PRI's expertise lays in sending field researchers to document abuses committed under reproductive health, family planning, or population stabilization programs. PRI seeks to not only document abuses, but also to follow the trail of responsibility and to catalyze reform.

STEVEN MOSHER

Steven Mosher is the president of Population Research Institute. A Stanford trained anthropologist, Mosher conducted field research in Taiwan and China. In 1979, Steven was the first American social scientist to visit mainland China. In China, Mosher witnessed forced abortions committed under their population control program. He returned to the United States and exposed the abuses being committed in the name of population control. Mosher is proficient in eight languages and has written eight books.

IN-COUNTRY INVESTIGATOR

The investigator is a native Kenyan, who holds a higher degree in the social sciences. As such, the investigator did not experience any linguistic, cultural, or terminological difficulties in carrying out the investigation assigned. The investigator has requested anonymity.

LEPANTO INSTITUTE

The Lepanto Institute for the Restoration of All Things in Christ is a research and education organization dedicated to the defense of the Catholic Church against assaults from without as well as from within.

MICHAEL HICHBORN

Michael Hichborn is the president of the Lepanto Institute. Before working at the Lepanto Institute, Hichborn spent seven and a half years as the American Life League's Director of the Defend the Faith project.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS)

Catholic Relief Services is the official international relief and development agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

JOAN ROSENHAUER

Joan Rosenhauer is the executive vice president, US Operations at CRS. In this role, she oversees the domestic programs as well as all communications, media and web activity for CRS.

JHPIEGO

Jhpiego is an international non-profit affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University.

PEPFAR

Launched in 2003, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is a United States government program focused on eradicating HIV/AIDS and ministering to those affected by the diseases.

SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO INDIGENOUS IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES (SAIDIA)

SAIDIA is a PEPFAR funding initiative funded by the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Jhpiego and Catholic Relief Services jointly implement SAIDIA to "develop and reinforce capacities among indigenous sub-grant local organization to improve HIV services."

CRS lead the consortium and managed the sub-grants and technical leadership for all programs labeled: “Palliative Care, Basic Care and Support, Orphans and Vulnerable Children, Health Systems Strengthening, Abstinence and being faithful, and Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission.”

HEALTHY CHOICES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Healthy Choices 1 and 2 are SAIDIA programs which were coded as “Abstinence/Being faithful” programs. Youth aged 10-14 received Healthy Choices 1 and youth aged 15-19 received Healthy Choices 2.

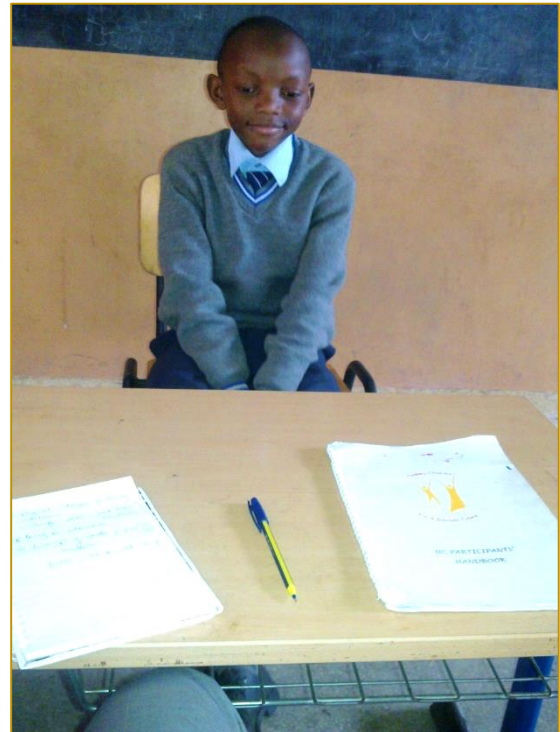
According to PEPFAR, Healthy Choices 1 aims to delay sexual debut. Healthy Choices 2 provides the “knowledge, confidence, and skills necessary to reduce their risk of STDs, HIV, and pregnancy by abstaining from sex or using other risk reduction strategies.” HC2 promoted condoms to prevent HIV as well as hormonal contraceptives and emergency contraception to prevent or end pregnancy.

PREVENTING MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

Preventing Mother-to-Child Transmission program has 4 prongs:

- 1) Primary prevention
- 2) Prevention of unwanted pregnancies
- 3) ARV prophylaxis to all HIV positive pregnant mothers and exposed infants
- 4) Care and treatment to eligible HIV positive mothers.

Under “prevention of unwanted pregnancies” and “care and treatment” CRS programs funded, provided, and endorsed contraception use.



School boy with his Healthy Choices handbook

EXPLANATORY GRAPHIC: Catholic Relief Services partnered with Jhpiego to implement SAIDIA, a CDC-funded program under PEPFAR:

