

**S A L E M
P R E G N A N C Y
C A R E C E N T E R**

May 8, 2003

Dockets Management Branch
Food & Drug Administration
Department of Health & Human Services
Room 10-61
5630 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Re: Docket 01P-0075 ("Switch Status of Emergency Contraceptives from Rx to OTC")

Dear Commissioner:

I am very concerned about the proposed change in status of "emergency contraceptives" from prescription to over the counter. I recently spoke with a young woman who was approximately 17 years of age. She told me that she was able to obtain "emergency contraceptives" in another country where they are readily available over the counter. From the information that she gave me, it sounded as though she and her friend were routinely self-administering these pills after each of their sexual encounters. I was horrified at what damage these young women may be doing to themselves without realizing it. In addition, I frequently talk with women who are suffering emotional turmoil after pregnancy termination, and believe women who take emergency contraceptives may later endure this difficulty as well, once they realize that a tiny preborn child may have died at their own hand.

I respectfully encourage you to take the comments in Dr. David C. Reardon's letter to you of May 7th very seriously and include his statements in any disclosures. Dr. Reardon is well known and very well respected in his field.

Sincerely,



Pam Richards
Director of Community Relations

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