

Gaps and Limitations in Contraceptive Research
Lots of opponents: very few advocates

European Society of Contraception
Basel, May 2016

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Investment in international Family Planning by

US Gvt = \$615 million
Gates = \$650 million

Does this set the research agenda?

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What is the point of contraception?

- Public health
- Economics
- Environmental
- Individual health and well-being
- Planning families
- Preventing abortion
- Sexual freedom

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What we need

1. Broad understanding of why contraception is important to individuals
2. To understand birth control as a continuum that includes abortion
3. To encourage R&D that makes birth control easier, more private as well as more effective
4. Accept birth control decisions as personal, private and intimate

Just as women have babies not population – so our sexual behaviour is something that needs to be self-determined by women not social/economic planners

Respect for women involves heeding what women want – not trying to encourage them to want what **we think they need.**

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