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## Augustine in the Modern Age: The Planned Parenthood Debate

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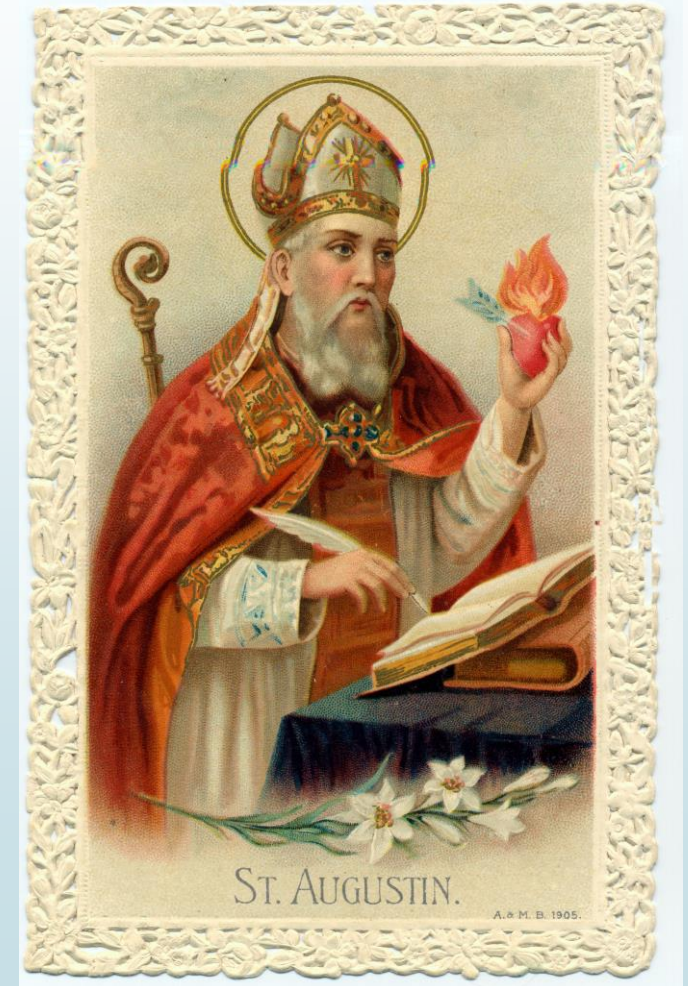
# Augustine in the Modern Age: The Planned Parenthood Debate

Project by Emma Lane

Mentored Dr. Anna Harrison

# St. Augustine (354-430 CE)<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Catholic Bishop of Hippo
- ▶ Great intellectual and writer
- ▶ Continues to influence Catholicism today
- ▶ Teachings on women & sexuality



<sup>1</sup> Augustine, Confessions, Tr. F. J. Sheed, Indianapolis, IN: Hackett Publishing, 2006.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.catholic.com/magazine/articles/want-to-evangelize>

# The Planned Parenthood Controversy<sup>1</sup>

- Center for Medical Progress video
- Protests
- Push to defund Planned Parenthood



2



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<sup>1</sup>Carmon, Irin, "Planned Parenthood video controversy reaches Washington," MSNBC, last modified July 16, 2015.

<sup>2</sup><http://www.worthynews.com/21135-abortion-opponents-plan-nationwide-planned-parenthood-protest>

<sup>3</sup><http://thepoliticus.com/sites/default/files/planned-parenthood-1.jpg>

# Relevant Groups



Members of Congress



Protestors

<sup>1</sup> [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fb/Obama\\_Health\\_Care\\_Speech\\_to\\_Joint\\_Session\\_of\\_Congress.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fb/Obama_Health_Care_Speech_to_Joint_Session_of_Congress.jpg)

<sup>2</sup> <https://img.washingtonpost.com/wp-apps/imrs.php?src=https://img.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/files/2014/08/abortion.jpg&w=1484>

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## Question

By analyzing the Planned Parenthood controversy and the views and motivations of the groups involved, to what extent are St. Augustine's teachings relevant to women's issues today?



# Interview Questions

- ▶ Why do you oppose/support defunding Planned Parenthood?
- ▶ Do you think your religious beliefs, or lack thereof, influence your opinion of PP?
- ▶ Have you heard of St. Augustine?
  - ▶ If yes, are you familiar with his teachings on sexuality?

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## Expected Results

- Interview answers will be analyzed in a paper
- Address similarities and differences in the answers of each group
  - Correlation?
  - Causation?



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