



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pro-Family Women Testifies at FDA Hearing on Over-the-Counter Contraception

Pro-Family Women testified yesterday at a joint meeting of two FDA committees that are considering a proposal to allow over-the-counter nonprescription access to the Opill progestin-only contraceptive pill. If the FDA approves the application, it will be the first time in America that women will purchase a daily oral contraceptive pill over the counter, without first getting a prescription from a health care provider.

In her testimony, Susan Muskett, President of Pro-Family Women, emphasized the impact the proposal could have on minor girls and parental rights. She testified: “A key issue is whether the FDA will allow minor girls over-the-counter access to Opill without their parents’ permission. If an adolescent has not used birth control, it would mean that their first exposure to a birth control pill, with all of its potential side effects and strict criteria for proper use to avoid pregnancy, would be by picking up a package of pills off the store shelf.”

Muskett went on to emphasize its impact on American women: “It is estimated that only 4% of American women using an oral contraceptive pill use a progestin-only pill. It is hard to imagine any set of documents or protocols that could replace sitting down with a medical provider to learn about the side-effects and contraindications for a drug that a woman may be on for decades.”

To view Pro-Family Women’s testimony at the FDA hearing go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsGSDRoLCx0> and scroll to the 7:42 point in time (Pro-Family Women was speaker #18). To read Pro-Family Women’s more lengthy written comments that were submitted to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, go to <https://profamilywomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Pro-Family-Women-re-OTC-Contraception-Access.pdf>

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