

For immediate release

Texas Handmaids Protest Crisis Pregnancy Center Donor Jack Allen's Kitchen

Sunday, March 4, 2018

The Texas Handmaids protested Jack Allen's Kitchen during the restaurant's busy brunch service in protest to the restaurant's donation to an area crisis pregnancy center, Agape Pregnancy Resource Center. Protesters dressed in red robes and white bonnets like the characters from the dystopian Hulu series, 'The Handmaid's Tale.' In the show and book by the same name, women are forced to bear children and wear red robes after a religious coup turns America into a theocracy. Protesters wear the costume to draw comparisons between fiction and reality as crisis pregnancy centers like Agape PRC work to deceive women about abortion care and pressure them to remain pregnant.

"Donating to Agape PRC to finance health misinformation is not acceptable," said Texas Handmaids organizer Stephanie Martin. "Agape pressures women in need to stay pregnant by lying about abortion care and so called fetal pain. For too long these cpcs have deceived the public into believing they are legitimate charities when really they are political anti-choice groups masquerading as actual health clinics. We are removing their mask."

Martin said the Texas Handmaids have written the restaurant and supporters have followed suit with dozens of postcards complaining of their donation to Agape PRC but received no response from Jack Allen's Kitchen. The group saw public protest as their last resort to raise awareness about what the restaurant's donation funded.

"Agape PRC takes these donations from the community and purchases the anti-LGBT+ curriculum Earn While You Learn to use with clients which promotes marriage as legitimate only if it is between a man and a woman. Clients are then required to attend classes to 'earn' donated items like baby clothes, formula, and diapers. Businesses that donate to organizations with this hateful rhetoric and quid pro quo mentality to charity can expect pushback in 2018," said Martin.

Jack Allen's Kitchen donated a \$1200 gift certificate to Agape PRC's annual gala fundraiser in September 2017, helping fundraise for the organization.

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