



## Weekly News Roundup – 31 March 2017

While in the United States, [Congress voted](#) to allow states to restrict funding for Planned Parenthood, several African nations are reconsidering their laws and policies about access to Family Planning and abortion to avoid negative health consequences of the population boom and unsafe procedures.

The reaction in the US was predictably split, while some are calling for a [more nuanced discussion](#), including for “Pro-Life” groups to allow [access to contraception](#).

In the African context, the [economic](#) and [security](#) benefits of family planning were discussed. In Namibia, the number of [unsafe abortions hit more than 7,000](#), leading to the health minister to call for a [reconsideration of the country's law](#). In Uganda, [midwives are overstretched](#) and the older generation was called upon to [take more responsibility](#) for educating children about [sexuality](#).

Exciting news on the technology front, written about across the general, medical and scientific press, concerned a new [“female reproductive system on a chip”](#), which can help remote tests and diagnoses.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has questioned whether medical research is being disseminated quickly enough, and has initiated a program to create [open access to any findings it has funded](#). The WHO issued a [checklist](#) for monitoring contraception information and services, based on human rights standards. Global Health: Science and Practice published a raft of relevant articles on family planning in [Nigeria](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Madagascar](#), [Angola](#) and [Ghana](#).

### Complete News Review References:

#### General

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## **Academic**

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[Women's Limited Choice and Availability of Modern Contraception at Retail Outlets and Public-Sector Facilities in Luanda, Angola, 2012–2015](#), Global Health: Science and Practice, 24 Mar 2017

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[Monitoring Sayana® Press Pilot Introduction](#), Path, January 2017

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## **Botswana**

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## **DRC**

[Les troubles psychiques post abortion expliqués aux jeunes de Saint Gyavira](#), ACP, 29 Mar 2017

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## **Somalia**

[More midwives graduate in Puntland](#), UNFPA, 20 Mar 2017

## **South Africa**

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## **Tanzania**

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## **Uganda**

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