Margaret Sanger 1879–1966

_Born Corning, New York_

As a visiting nurse among New York City’s immigrants in the early 1900s, Margaret Sanger was profoundly affected by the physical and mental toll exacted on women by frequent childbirth, miscarriage, and self-induced abortion. Faced with laws forbidding dissemination of contraceptive information, Sanger’s crusade had much opposition. But by 1921, when Sanger founded the Birth Control League, her movement had begun to win adherents in respectable quarters. Adding to her life of controversy is her association with the eugenics movement—which included promotion of forced sterilization for those deemed mentally unfit—a movement that for a time was endorsed by many of the era’s prominent thinkers.

Joy Buba (1904?–1998)

Bronze, 1972 cast after 1964 original

Gift of Mrs. Cordelia Scaife May

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