

CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2005

October 27th 29th, 2005

CONTRACEPTION: ROOT OF WORLDWIDE SEXUAL MORAL MALAISE

(THE SILENT HOLOCAUST)

By:

Mercedes Arzú Wilson

Family Of the Americas Foundation

P. O. Box 1170

Dunkirk, MD 20754

Tel 301-627-3346

Fax 301-627-0847

e-mail: familyplanning@yahoo.com

INTRODUCTION

“The Humane Holocaust” is the basic dilemma of our time: choosing between the sanctity of life as conceived through the Christian centuries, and the “quality of life” as conceived in a materialist society¹. The pervasive mentality of the population controllers who infiltrated and influenced Western governments to spend billions of taxpayers monies to destroy the basic fabric of society – the traditional human family - have succeeded in creating a worldwide sexual moral malaise.

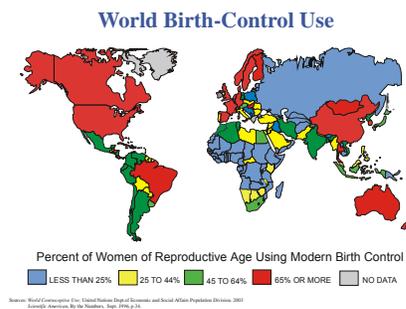
As John Paul II wrote, “If, on the one hand, the West continues to provide evidence of zealous evangelization, on the other hand anti-evangelical currents are equally strong. They strike at the very foundations of human morality, influencing the family and promoting a morally permissive outlook: divorce, free love, abortion, contraconception, the fight against life in its initial phases and in its final phase, the manipulation of life. This program is supported by enormous financial resources, not only in individual countries, but also on a worldwide scale. It has great centers of economic power at its disposal, through which it attempts to impose its own conditions on developing countries. Faced with all this, one may legitimately ask whether this is not another form of totalitarianism, subtly concealed under the appearances of democracy.”²

The world is now conditioned into accepting population control in order to prevent what the Western World regards as an excessive number of unwanted human persons in order to end the affliction of “undesirable” pregnancies, regardless of their moral, physical or spiritual consequences.

THE “DESCENT” OF MAN

The most appalling and degrading aspects of the final decades of the twentieth century: pornography, abortion, sadism, violence, sodomy, and lack of respect for life resulted from the worldwide acceptance of artificial birth control.

A holocaust of unbelievable proportions is occurring every day and began with the extensive use and imposed programs of artificial birth control that was introduced and widely promoted in the 1960’s.



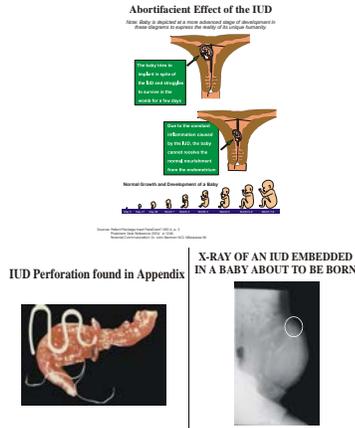
Mode of Action of the Pill, Norplant and Depo-Provera Injection

- 1. Inhibits Ovulation**

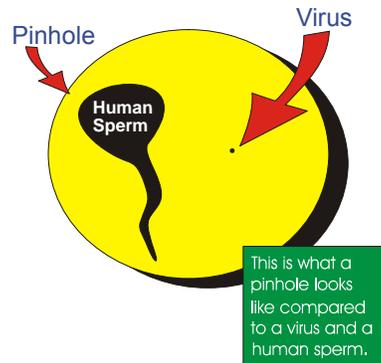
1. The high levels of estrogen and progesterone suppress the 2 hormones FSH and LH and prevent them from being released by the pituitary gland in the brain thus inhibiting ovulation.
- 2. Thickens the Cervical Mucus**

2. The levels of progesterone thickens the cervical mucus making sperm migration difficult.
- 3. Prevents the normal build up of the endometrium**

3. Doesn't allow the normal buildup of the endometrial lining of the woman's uterus. Thus, if conception occurred, the newly conceived baby tries to implant but does not find enough nourishment to remain in the uterus for the rest of the pregnancy. This is the abortifacient effect of these methods.



The Virus That Causes AIDS Is 500 Times Smaller Than a Human Sperm



Human Chorionic Gonadotropin Vaccine

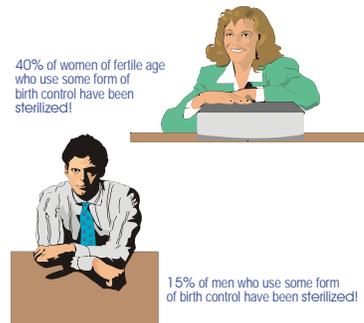


hCG is a naturally occurring hormone. It is the messenger that signals a woman's body that she has become pregnant and is essential for maintaining pregnancy. It causes the release of other hormones which are essential for facilitating implantation of the fertilized egg.

Mode of Action

1. The hCG vaccine prevents the recognition of pregnancy by the body.
2. The woman produces antibodies that target and destroy her naturally occurring hCG's.
3. hCG is injected with a tetanus or diphtheria toxoid as a carrier.
4. While generating antibodies against the toxoid, the body is tricked into also generating antibodies against hCG.
5. When the woman becomes pregnant, anti-hCG antibodies cause a miscarriage by "disabling or deactivating" the hCG needed for implantation.

The Most Widely Used Method of Birth Control in the U.S. is Sterilization!



Source: Women's Characteristics and Surgical Sterilization Series 23, Number 20, 1995. U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, New York, (First Feb. 17, 1992)

COMPULSORY PORNOGRAPHIC SEX EDUCATION

As the prophetic encyclical of Pope Paul VI *Humanae Vitae* predicted, promiscuity and venereal diseases grew to epidemic proportions, young people are now the main target of the "culture of death". Following is information on the way they are luring the young to abort their babies, the latest statistics and the destructive sex education programs being forced on the young all over the world:

CARD DISTRIBUTED BY PLANNED PARENTHOOD
AT CONVENTIONS, CONFERENCES, FAIRS, etc.



ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF SPANISH SEX EDUCATION MANUAL



Sexual Orientation

There are different ways to express your sexuality. It is happen that some people have a different inclination to their own sex. Which means that they have preferences oriented towards both sexes or towards the same sex.

These preferences in sexuality have not been accepted by society only because they are free areas of pleasure and not directed towards reproduction. In traditional societies it means that you should only have sexual relations for reproduction or to have children.

Sometimes we are prejudiced for finding sexual attraction towards people of the same sex. At other moments we feel attracted by presence of the opposite sex. This causes confusion and we feel guilty. It is natural, especially in adolescence and for that reason we want to clarify certain things.

HOMOSEXUALITY

In adolescence you only hear about tenderness or homosexual expressions. But does not mean that we are homosexual. During our adolescence, we develop and search for our own sexual identity and half of female adolescents and 30% of female adolescents have had the experience of having been hit on attraction for persons of our own sex, even though otherwise we preferred relations between a man and a woman (heterosexual relations).

In everyday life, in any homosexual couple have the same desires as heterosexual couples. They wish to form a home, have their own house, their friends and even rear children.

Homosexual men take the risk of contracting Herpesvirus with a sexually Transmitted Disease or HIV-AID in case they had a sexual relation without using the condom.

There are women and men that feel attracted towards a man or a woman at the same time or in different stages of their life. These persons are called bisexual. It means that the person has heterosexual relation and homosexual at the same time.

SPONSORS WHO SUPPORTED THESE CRAFTY AND DECEITFUL PROGRAMS



Facts concerning STDs:

- ✓ STDs are the most common diseases in America next to the common cold and flu.
- ✓ 1 in 5 Americans are presently infected with an STD.
- ✓ Approximately 19 million new STD cases are reported each year.
- ✓ The direct medical costs for treating STD's average \$8.4 billion annually.

Sources: Sexual Medical Institute, March 2005. The Alan Guttmacher Inst. May, 2005
American Social Health Association Dec. 1998. Booklet published by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Joe S. McIlhenny, Jr., M.D., Safe Sex (Baker Book House, 1991), p. 10.

*“And I say to you, my friends: be not afraid of them who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will shew you whom you shall fear: fear ye him, who after he hath killed, hath power to cast into hell. Yea, I say to you, fear him.”
Luke 12: 4-5.*

As the late Father John A. Hardin, S.J. said: **“ABORTION KILLS THE LIFE OF THE CHILD, SEX EDUCATION KILLS HIS ETERNAL SOUL”**.

For several decades we have been witnessing the termination of normal babies, as well as those with a potential irregularity or possible abnormality, before and after birth, with the protection of the law of freely elected governments. Professor Lejeune stated in the eighties that the mother’s womb was the most dangerous place for a baby.

As abortions increased, so did infertility and sterility.

This in turn, resulted in a deluge of infertility clinics (since induced abortions, and chemical and mechanical abortifacients are a major cause of infertility). The widespread acceptance of artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization (IVF), attempts at cloning, stem

cell research, the sale of unpaired vital organs, and other macabre practices soon followed. As Professor Jérôme Lejeune said, “If there is a natural morality for man, an immediate implication is that to dissociate the child from love is an error of method: hence the abstinence of the chaste celibate and the fidelity of a happy marriage. And if monogamy confers on the husband the prerogative of being the only one authorized to be united with his wife, then contraception, which is making love without making a child; fertilization outside the body, which is making a child without making love; abortion, which is destroying an infant; and pornography which is destroying love, are not in accord with the dignity of our nature.”³

Once again, the pharmaceutical industry and irresponsible scientists and physicians continue to increase their wealth, at the expense of the physical, moral and spiritual destruction of humanity.

“For he that will save his life, shall lose it: and he that shall lose his life for my sake, shall find it. For what does it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his own soul? Or what exchange shall a man give for his soul? Matthew 16: 25-26

As the late Professor Jérôme Lejeune explained, “Normally the child of love, desired and conceived in joy, is received with great enthusiasm in the warmest of all shelters, the body of its own mother.”⁴ Never in the history of man has human life been denigrated and exterminated in such great numbers as in the present era. Today’s technology claims to supplant love by performing endless manipulations, not only to destroy life and the normal functions of the human body created by God, but also by fabricating a false beginning of life and a false termination of man’s natural end. Such misinformation could not have transpired, nor prevailed, without the approval or indifference of those responsible for the protection of life.

Prof. Jerome Lejeune also stated: “Do what he (man) will, he attempts to justify his conduct, and if he cannot manage that, he changes the meaning of the words, in the absence of control over the rules of the game.”⁵ Freezing genetic material to reproduce animals (beasts and brutes without immortal souls) was the beginning of artificial insemination, but what followed was the denigration of the dignity of man by using the same technique, which was devised for animals, and now applying it to mankind.

Today, many physicians have fallen into the clutches of industrialized manipulation of existing human cells forgetting that man cannot create immortal souls from nothing. Scientists are manipulating what is already in existence. They are becoming active participants in the violation of the Natural and Divine Laws. They recommend, prescribe or perform the most atrocious and violent acts against the unborn, handicapped and/or elderly persons. The few physicians that have spoken against these heinous crimes were, and continue to be, severely chastised and persecuted by members of their own profession. On the other hand, those who remain silent against such perpetrations against humanity, become passive cooperators by allowing such atrocities to continue.

MANIPULATIONS OF THE BEGINNING OF LIFE

As Dr. Paul A. Byrne explains, a variety of methods were devised to manipulate artificial reproduction. It is imperative to clarify that there are major differences between procreation and manipulation.

Procreation: a special word with a precise significance in reference to the human person's generation, the gift of life that comes from God, with the union of husband and wife. Once conception occurs, a unique and unrepeatable human person with an immortal soul is manifest. Once created, the human person is immortal, no matter how healthy or infirm, strong or weak, handsome or ugly. Unborn human life on earth begins at conception and is already manifest WITHIN the body of his/her mother once the sperm and ovum unite. God and creation are the essential elements of this union. Unless God partakes as the prime Creator of the human person, we would be no different from a beast without an immortal soul. While it is still God's mystery when and how each of us (body and soul) was created, we do know that God is Almighty and God creates from nothing in a non-extended instant.

Reproduction: the process by which brutes, beasts and plants multiply and breed. They do not have an immortal soul, intellect and will.

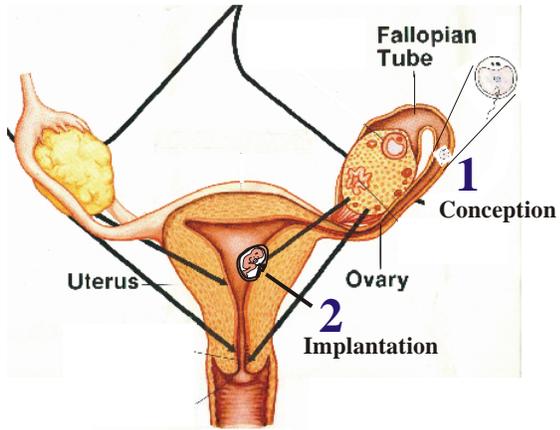
Fertilization is a biological term that can be applied properly to beasts (no immortal soul) to indicate the beginning of a new individual animal. Therefore, *fertilization* is not the correct word to identify the beginning or the earliest manifestation of a human person on earth. Such manipulation of the real meaning of the beginning of life is extremely dangerous and misleading, because God creates the person from nothing. The life of a person begins with creation. The first manifestation of that person on earth is ***conception***. The person created is always a person with soul, intellect and will already present from the beginning stages of development within the mother's body (zygote, embryo and fetus). The person on earth is always a spiritual-corporeal (soul-body) unity. The human person is unique (separate), unrepeatable (one of a kind), made in the Image and Likeness (nature) of God. "Within the mother's body" means ordinarily within the Fallopian tubes and in no way is this to be interpreted as "implantation." But.....

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) has formulated deceitful re-definitions on the beginning of life:

MANIPULATION OF THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN LIFE

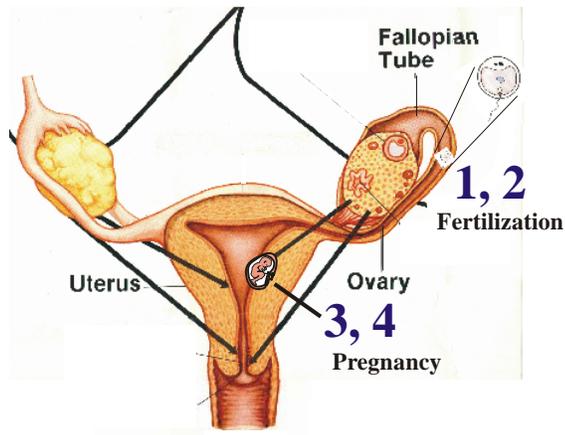
TRUE BEGINNING OF LIFE ON EARTH

CONCEPTION



FALSE BEGINNING OF LIFE ON EARTH

IMPLANTATION



1. **Conception** – the act of conceiving or becoming pregnant, when the spermatozoon penetrates the oocyte (ova).⁶ This union takes place in the outer part of the Fallopian Tube. “As soon as the 23 chromosomes carried by the sperm encounter the 23 chromosomes carried by the ovum, the whole information necessary and sufficient to spell out all the characteristics of the new [human] being is gathered”.⁷ At this instant, the newly conceived baby’s genetic make-up is determined and is unique and unrepeatable.

1. **Conception** has been changed to “fertilization”.
2. **The newly conceived human baby** in the Fallopian Tube is now called a “preembryo”.
3. **Implantation** has been changed to “conception” as follows:

According to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG)

True Beginning of Life (continued)

The formation of the body at the instant of conception manifests the person created by God. "The body, and it alone, is capable of making visible what is invisible: the spiritual and the divine".⁸ Human life on earth is the substantial fact of unity of soul and body. Within the mother's body, conception has occurred when the baby can be identified at the one cell stage known as the zygote.

Hereditary characteristics of the mother and father are contained in the sperm and egg and passed on to their children. In the zygote, the new person's genetic material is present. The new person is unique and unrepeatable. Therefore, the true beginning of life on earth occurs at **conception**.

2. *Implantation* – the newly conceived human life now moves down the Fallopian Tube to implant in the lining of the uterus. About 6 to 7 days after conception, the developing baby attaches to the uterus where he/she is surrounded by the cells of the endometrium which should provide protection and nourishment until birth.

False Beginning of Life (continued)

"The term 'conception' properly means implantation. A pregnancy is considered to be established only when the process of implantation is complete. If fertilization does occur, the zygote divides and differentiates into a 'preembryo' while being carried down the Fallopian Tube toward the uterus. Implantation of the 'preembryo' in the uterine lining begins about five days after fertilization. Implantation can be completed as early as 8 days or as late as 18 days after fertilization, but usually takes about 14 days".⁹

4. Pregnancy has been changed to "established pregnancy" – occurring from 8 to 18 days after "fertilization"; they do not use the word conception. A pregnancy is considered to be established only after implantation is complete.¹⁰

In the U.S. the Helms (1973) and Hyde (1981) Amendments prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to be used for abortions. However, the recipients of massive federal funding and special interest groups circumvented the mandate by redefining the beginning of life from conception to implantation. This allows the continuation of massive national and international funding of abortifacient birth control methods, post conception experimentation and population control under the guise of "Reproductive Health Programs".

Both, His Holiness John Paul II and Prof. Jérôme Lejeune were accurate in their statements on how manipulative the medical community has been with regard to the beginning and end of life.

It is sinister to call a newly conceived human life a “preembryo” when science has proven that the moment the human ovum and human sperm meet in the Fallopian Tube, a unique and unrepeatable human life has begun. The reasons why the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) have changed the definition of the beginning of life to be after conception, i.e., at implantation, is that otherwise chemical and mechanical abortive methods of birth control would not be eligible for funding by the federal government of the United States. Additionally, by re-defining the beginning of life as implantation, scientists and pharmaceutical companies can continue experimenting with newly conceived human life. This way they would not appear to violate existing laws, since they have convinced the public, including governmental committees to accept their definition in order not to be condemned as supporting murder. Additionally, the ACOG insists on calling pregnancy an “established pregnancy” only after “implantation is completed”, which they deceptively state, occurs between 8 to 18 days. Note that they do not consider a woman truly pregnant until the implantation process has been completed. In their view, when newly conceived life is prevented from surviving in the mother’s womb (due to lack of nourishment resulting from the effects of chemicals in the birth control methods and devices), this would not be considered an abortion. The hostile environment created by the chemical/mechanical devices makes it difficult or often impossible to continue the pregnancy of the newly conceived human life. Another reason for extending the accepted days of an “established pregnancy” up to 18 days is to allow scientists to continue using the baby’s stem cells for research.

What is being purposely ignored is that the power to begin the life of a person is not in the sperm, ovum, DNA or genes, but in God who created the life of a person and the power to end life is also in the hand of God. It ought not be in the hand of a physician who prescribes or inserts abortifacients in order to terminate life prematurely because the “quality of life” (lifestyle is more accurate) is not up to “standard.”

SELECTIVE ABORTION

Another violation of Natural Law is in-vitro fertilization. When the technician delivers the gametes (assuming by the interposed syringe the privilege of the husband in this very real sense), there is a shameful substitution of persons. The mysterious power given to us by God and the relationship between a husband and wife is violated. Additionally, when more than one life is conceived, which is often the case, a mother has more than one baby living within her womb. The physician then often follows the atrocious practice of “selective abortion”, (destroying the babies within the mother’s womb), so that a selected few would have a better “quality of life” by giving birth to a smaller number of babies to be born.¹¹ This practice not only transforms the parents into baby killers of their own children, but also increases the acceptance of sanctioning abortions.

It is curious to note that the demand for such experiments emanated from the distress of so many couples who after destroying their gift of procreation, often by their licentious behavior, and the use of chemical and mechanical devices of birth control, are

then desperate to engender human life. What used to be only a 10% rate of infertility/sterility among couples 40 years ago has increased to more than triple the percentage of couples experiencing difficulty conceiving. Therefore, the pharmaceutical industry that profited from destroying women's fertility is once again benefiting by developing ways to reverse the infertility they are responsible for causing. This industry also benefits from the result of promiscuous behavior — venereal diseases affecting one in four people in the United States alone. Latest figures show that approximately 19 million new cases of venereal disease occur each year.¹²

A similar holocaust is taking place against the elderly and handicapped who are regarded as being beyond repair, therefore, not worthy of assistance to continue living. Malcolm Muggeridge described the developing skills of modern medicine - how the human race is being pruned and carefully tended until only the perfect specimens can have the right to live and bloom¹³. Then at last with rigid population control to prevent an excessive number of undesirable human beings, affliction would be ended and possibly death itself abolished by transplanting organs constantly to delay the inevitable outcome – death.

THE FALLACY OF THE END OF HUMAN LIFE

His Excellency Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz of Lincoln, Nebraska recently wrote me a letter regarding the fallacy of “brain death” where he stated: “The question of death and dying is at the heart of our Faith because, in union with Christ on the Cross, dying is a true act of worship. An authentic culture of life does not permit the taking of human life for utilitarian purposes. We must not condone a legitimate desire to save the lives of some to rationalize the unjust hastening of the death of others.”

His Holiness John Paul II requested the Pontifical Academy of Sciences to examine “The Signs of Death” and we were asked to collaborate with them. Experts from both sides of the issue from around the world participated in this important meeting at the Vatican, February 3rd and 4th, 2005. Physicians, scientists, and philosophers explained that prior to the harvesting of the donor's organs, so-called “brain dead” patients have all the vital signs: normal body temperature and blood pressure, a beating heart, functioning liver and kidneys, and respiration (even if on a ventilator). Transplant surgeons keep the ventilator going during the surgery in order to keep the donor alive; otherwise, if they wait for true death, the vital organs quickly become unsuitable for transplantation. In 1957, Pope Pius XII told anesthesiologists: “Human life continues when its vital functions manifest themselves even with the help of artificial processes.” After death, as one doctor aptly noted, there is no life to support.

His Holiness, John Paul II, stated in his message to the participants of this ' meeting of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences: “each human being, in fact, is alive precisely insofar as he or she is *corpore et anima unus* (*Gaudium et Spes, No. 14*)” – that is, a unity of body and soul – “and he or she remains so for as long as this substantial unity-in-totality subsists.” Significantly, 15 of 25 experts and observers at the Vatican conference concurred that unpaired vital-organ transplantation is a form of euthanasia.

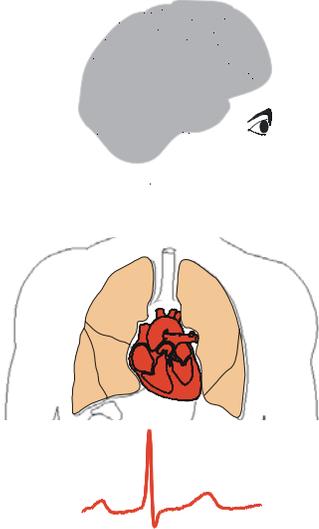
Just as the beginning of human life is being manipulated, many physicians and hospitals are similarly using the deception of “brain death” to prematurely end human life. This is illustrated in the following graphic:

Manipulation of End of Human Life

**FALSE END OF
LIFE ON EARTH**

**TRUE END OF
LIFE ON EARTH**

**“BRAIN DEATH”
False Death**



**NATURAL END
True Death**



Not dead unless there is destruction
of the circulatory and respiratory
systems and the entire brain.

Transplant surgeons ascertained that when they waited until the human donor was truly dead, vital organs (heart, liver and pancreas) were useless for transplantation. Therefore, in order to legally remove the organs before the patient is truly dead, "brain death" criteria evolved for the removal of vital organs. Additionally, the use of paralyzing drugs to suppress bodily reactions to transplantation procedures prevent the possible objections of medical personnel who might wonder if the donor, is truly dead. This way, "brain death" criteria circumvent the crime being perpetrated on uninformed donors and their family members who innocently agree to this premeditated farming out of vital organs from living donors.

“Brain death” is not death. “Brain death” is not based on valid scientific data. The Harvard Criteria were published without any patient data or references to basic scientific studies. Between 1968 and 1978 thirty sets of criteria were published. All are different and each set is less strict than previous sets. A physician is free to choose any one of these. Thus, a patient could be declared “brain dead” by one set but not others. This has opened the way to impose death by removal of life support, extracting vital organs and many other anti-life practices. Life and death cannot exist at the same time in the same person. “Brain death” criteria are nothing more than manipulations intended to accommodate the ever increasing pressures and demands of an heretical society.

No one should be declared dead unless there is a separation of the soul from the body. When this separation occurs, what is left is the remains, a corpse, an empty body. The absence of life in the remains is manifest by destruction, disintegration, dissolution and putrefaction. "No one shall be declared dead unless respiratory and circulatory systems and the entire brain have been destroyed." (*Gonzaga Law Review* 18/3, 429 - 516, 82/83 at 515). The departure of our soul is our "natural end." This is God's secret and one of the many mysteries we must defend by faith. We can know this only after it has occurred.



Remember that Our Lady of Fatima said: "Tell everybody that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Tell them to ask graces from her, and that the Heart of Jesus wishes to be venerated together with the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the Lord has confided the peace of the world to Her. ...In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph. Russia will be converted and there will be peace."

It seems proper to publicly expose those physicians and scientists responsible for conveniently changing the true beginning of life, and those experimenting with the sacredness of life who purposely end life because its "quality" is inferior, its suffering is unnecessary, or its organs are more valuable to others than maintaining a poor quality of existence.

His Holiness Pope John Paul II addressed the same subject in his recent book, Memory and Identity where he writes that it was preceding World War II that those, ..."ideologies of evil, Nazism and Communism were taking shape". He also states that the ideologies of evil are profoundly rooted in the history of European philosophical thought. He was convinced that, "They arose from the same source as the so-called European Enlightenment over two centuries earlier – particularly the French Enlightenment, though that is not to exclude the English, German, Spanish and Italian versions. ...There, the crisis of the Christian tradition arrived from a different direction, erupting at the beginning of the twentieth century with even greater violence in the form of the radically atheist Marxist revolution".

John Paul II expressed dismay as he further stated that the legislative choices made by the parliaments of today's democratic regimes are violating God's law. "We cannot remain silent regarding a tragic question that is more pressing today than ever. The fall of the regimes built on ideologies of evil put an end to the forms of extermination just mentioned in the countries concerned. However, there remain the legal extermination of human beings conceived but unborn. And in this case, that extermination is decreed by democratically elected parliaments, which invoke the notion of civil progress for society and for all humanity. Nor are other grave violations of God's law lacking. I am thinking, for example, of the strong pressure from the European Parliament to recognize homosexual unions as an alternative type of family, with the right to adopt children. It is legitimate and even necessary to ask whether this is not the work of another ideology of evil, more subtle and hidden, perhaps, intent upon exploiting human rights themselves against man and against the family".¹⁴

WHY IS THE CULTURE OF DEATH EXPANDING?

The greatest threat to the forces of evil is new life. For this reason, new life is the main target. The forces of evil blind human beings to the truth, in order to make them instruments of death. Through their programs, they are destroying the value and benefits of discipline, crushing the unity of the family resulting in increases in divorce, and encouraging homosexuality as an alternate lifestyle to be accepted by society. Since no new life can emerge from same-sex unnatural sexual relations, they become strong weapons against the future of humanity. This is being accomplished by subverting new technology for their nefarious purposes, shackling the law-abiding citizen by passing laws against the protection of human life, using even the United Nations and its related organizations to expand even more population control programs, removing parental authority, and destroying the innocence of the young. They have also infiltrated the legal and medical professions to serve their purposes and have intentionally misled society into accepting perversions as normal lifestyles. The inborn modesty and the natural innocence of the young are being destroyed under the guise of "sex education" without morals or values and totally excluding the rights of parents.

Some chapters of John Paul II's book reflect his fear that rampant relativism and secularism are causing the decay of Christian values in Europe and beyond. He states that, "If man can decide by himself, without God, what is good and what is bad, he can also determine that a group of people is to be annihilated".¹⁵ As we enter a new century His Holiness condemned the abortion laws passed by democratically elected parliaments as follows: "When a parliament authorizes the termination of pregnancy, agreeing to the elimination of the unborn child, it commits a grave abuse against an innocent human being utterly unable to defend itself. Parliaments, which approve and promulgate such laws, must be aware that they are exceeding their proper competence and placing themselves in open conflict with God's law and the law of nature".¹⁶

Polish Count Sygmunt Krasinski, a poet and novelist in his book Polish Anti-Communism and Its Intellectual Traditions: An Anthology, foresaw the 20th century in the following Dostoevskyan fashion: "There will be many who will doubt God, many who will doubt their own immortality, many who will doubt their nation and country, many who will doubt love, many who will doubt the harmony of human fate, many who will despair of virtue...and he who submits to the seduction of this brief fainting of the eternal conscience, will perpetrate crimes and violence, having proved to himself logically or mystically that the era of crime has come and that evil has changed places

with good...Moreover, not only individuals, but also whole collections of individual spirits, entire cities and nations will go that way...

THE ELDERLY – A VALUABLE RESOURCE

His Holiness Pope John Paul II was a fine example of someone who would not have qualified for additional care as many physicians would have determined that due to his poor “quality of life” in the last few years of his Pontificate, his condition did not warrant continuing care. Instead he taught the world how to continue living, being productive: He traveled, wrote, and taught while infirm and suffering, and was an example to everyone who is experiencing the so-called poor “quality of life”. John Paul II taught us to accept suffering and pain as the will of God, and how to die with true dignity while enduring suffering. Suffering may be the necessary cleansing before we are worthy of spending eternity with God in heaven.

When he spoke to his contemporaries in his 1999 *Letter for the Elderly*: “I feel a spontaneous desire to share fully with you my own feelings at this point of my life...Despite the limitations brought on by age, I continue to enjoy life. For this I thank the Lord”. In his 2005 Lenten statement released January 27th, the Pope returned to the theme of respect for the elderly and the role they play in society and the Church. He calls the elderly “a resource to be valued,” and encourages them to “focus on that which is essential, giving more importance to those things that the passing of years do not destroy.” The Pope urged communities to “rediscover the mutual enrichment between different generations” and, instead of regarding the elderly as “useless” or a burden, to “accompany with loving understanding those who grow old.” He calls the elderly and indeed, all believers – to contemplate the mystery of death “so that the definitive encounter with God occurs in a climate of interior peace.” And finally, he taught us how to die, as his last days approached, he set the best example of love, patience and resignation as the whole world acknowledged that he was going home to God and the Blessed Mother when he uttered his final “Amen”.

WORLDWIDE EFFECTS OF ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL - THE SILENT HOLOCAUST

It has taken 40 years for our “modern” society to accept war crimes as acts of compassion. The victors in the war against Nazism have adopted the very same practices for which the Nazis themselves had been solemnly condemned at Nuremberg. If we compare the twenty to thirty million human beings that were exterminated by the regimes of Hitler and Stalin to the estimates of billions of unborn babies that have been aborted surgically and chemically, since the seventies, the recent numbers are beyond belief. This annihilation of unborn babies continues daily, largely unreported by the media.

How does this affect the whole world? Surgically induced abortion is a criminal reality, estimated at about forty-six million per year. And these figures would be astronomical were we to include the number of chemical/mechanical abortions that occur daily. However, these abortion figures cannot be verified since most women are unaware that most artificial birth control methods act as abortifacients (at a minimum of one per year).¹⁷ Their mode of action prevents implantation of an already conceived baby in the mother’s womb by transforming the normal lining of the uterus to make it unsuitable for implantation. “The life Thou gavest, Lord, we’ve ended....”¹⁸. The excuse

is that by having fewer children (or only the children who are wanted or desired) the “quality of life” of the human race would be improved and become more superior. Today, most couples are having fewer than three children. However, when we take a serious look at the numbers of human persons who have been destroyed before they are born, the figures are so astounding, as to make any past wars, pestilence, natural disasters, etc., seem inconsequential.

WORLDWIDE ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL USAGE IN 2002:*

(percentage of women of reproductive age in marital or consensual union aged 15 – 49 years) = 1,043,265,000 (over 1 billion)

METHOD	% of USERS	NUMBER
Sterilization (Tubal Ligation/Vasectomy)	23.7	247,253,805
Barrier Methods		
Condoms	4.8	50,076,720
Vaginal barriers	0.05	521,632
Withdrawal	2.4	25,038,360
Abortifacients		
Birth control pills	7.2	75,115,080
Injectable (Depo Provera) and implant (Norplant)	2.6	27,124,890
Intrauterine Devices (IUD)	13.9	145,013,835
Total of Chemical/Mechanical Abortifacients	23.7 %	247,253,805

*World Contraceptive Use 2003; United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, (published on the Internet 2005)

CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF CHEMICAL/MECHANICAL ABORTIONS:

It is believed by researchers that probably more than one chemical/mechanical abortion per year is experienced by women using these methods.¹⁹ If only one chemical/mechanical abortion occurred per woman per year, over the past 30 years worldwide, it would amount to the following destruction of unborn human life:

Approximate number of women worldwide using abortifacient methods in one year:

247,253,805 x 30 years = 7,417,614,150 or 7.4 BILLION chemical/mechanical abortions!

In the past 30 years, chemical and mechanical abortions total more than the present worldwide population!!

Approximate number of induced abortions taking place each year:

46,000,000* x 30 years = 1,380,000,000 or 1.3 BILLION induced abortions!

Chemical/mechanical abortions 7.4 billion + Induced abortions 1.3 billion = 8.7 billion abortions during the last 30 years!!!

**Sharing Responsibility: Women, Society, and Abortion Worldwide. The Alan Guttmacher Institute 2005, p. 25*

STUDY IN THIRD WORLD

In a developing country like Guatemala, women who become pregnant while using artificial birth control, as a rule, do not abort their baby, either because they are still God-fearing people; or because induced abortion is still illegal and the “abortion mentality” is not yet ingrained in them. Following is a portion of the results of an unpublished study of 14,730 married women in the three major areas of Guatemala among low income families, conducted by *Asociación Guatemalteca para La Familia De Las Américas* (1997-1999), sponsored by the Ministry of Health:²⁰

In the Guatemala study, one of the questions was: **Did you become pregnant while using the Pill, Injectable or Intrauterine Device (IUD)?**

Method	# of Users	Pregnancies Carried to Term	Percentage
Birth control pill	2,174	109	5%
Injectible (e.g. Depo Provera)	1,651	74	4%
Intrauterine Device (IUD)	544	71	13%

These are probably the only accurate statistics regarding the pregnancy rate of the various abortifacient methods of birth control.

Another question asked in the study was: Why did you stop taking the Pill, stop the injections or have the IUD removed? **Many women reported experiencing heavy hemorrhaging as the reason for stopping the method of birth control.** It is scientifically documented that one of the modes of action of these methods is to alter the normal development of the endometrial lining. Therefore, when the newly conceived baby arrives in the uterus to implant, the baby finds a hostile environment to survive and is then aborted. Hemorrhages in these cases are an indication of a probable chemical/mechanical abortion.

Method	# of Users	Possible Chemical/Mechanical Abortion	Percentage
Birth control pill	2,174	327	15%
Injectible (e.g. Depo Provera)	1,651	147	8%
Intrauterine Device (IUD)	544	103	19%

GRATITUDE TO THE TEACHINGS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The world owes a profound debt of gratitude to the unwavering teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Even though her teachings are not always followed or properly taught, nor enforced, sooner or later the repercussions for violating Natural and Divine Laws always emerge with a vengeance.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ADMISSION

The recent press release of July 29, 2005 by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)²¹, a division of the World Health Organization (WHO), revealed the little publicized classification of combined estrogen-progestogen oral contraceptives (OCs) as carcinogenic. The IARC placed the contraceptive/abortifacients into its group 1 classification, which is the highest classification of carcinogenicity. This classification is only used “when there is sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity in humans.”

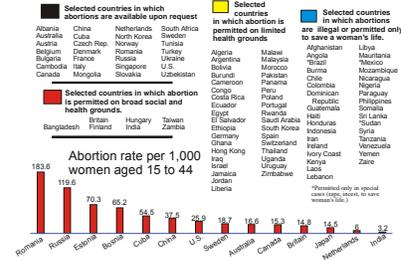
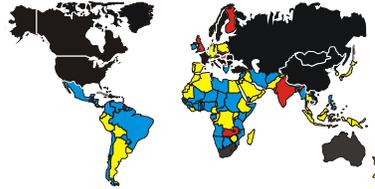
Combined estrogen-progestogen OCs are the most commonly prescribed methods of artificial birth control. “Worldwide, more than 100 million women – about 10% of all women of reproductive age - currently use combined hormonal contraceptives.” Tragically, the WHO is only admitting “late” what was already reported in 2003 by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and other scientific bodies that have found a substantially increased risk of several types of cancer among combined OC users, citing a “significant increase” of the risk of breast cancer, as well as an increase in the risk of cervical and liver cancers. What they failed to report is that millions of women are being given the same carcinogenic chemicals, particularly the poor in Third World countries, through the Depo-Provera injections, implants, patches, Intra-uterine devices, etc. Even though there is immediate danger to the millions of women, who are regularly ingesting or inserting “carcinogenic chemicals”, the IARC did not recommend the immediate removal of combined estrogen-progestogen oral contraceptives from the market.

It is curious to note that the IARC research does not mention whether the cancer is caused by the presence of the chemicals (estrogen/progestogen) in the body or whether the cancer is caused by the abortifacient effect of the chemicals as reported in the book Breast Cancer, Its Link to Abortion and the Birth Control Pill, by Chris Kahlenborn, M.D.

Mother Teresa said that “Abortion is the greatest destroyer of life in the world today”.

Abortion Policies

Of more than 100 major countries, 25 offered abortion on demand, almost 40 had outlawed abortion, and the rest had imposed varying restrictions.



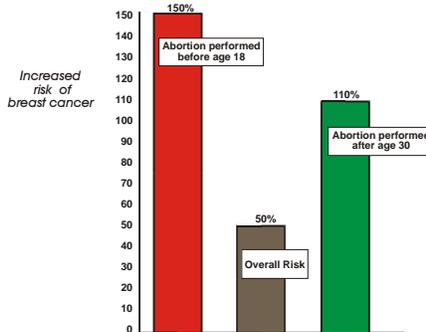
Source: United Nations, World Abortion Policies, 2005, The Washington Post, Aug. 17, 1996, p. A 19.

DECRIMINALIZING ABORTION

Industrialized nations, with the assistance of the UN, are lobbying legislators of the developing nations to pass laws, particularly in Catholic countries, to decriminalize abortion. It is of critical importance to alert these countries' pro-life legislators to investigate their own Constitutions and laws that would enable them to prohibit this massive destruction of human life. As long as this abuse goes unchecked, the agents of population control and the pharmaceutical industry will be breaking the laws and violating the Constitutions of these countries, while amassing billions of dollars in tax-derived profits from killing innocent babies through the sale of abortifacients.

Results of Study of Risks of Breast Cancer due to Induced Abortion (before age 45)

According to a National Cancer Institute study of 1,800 women over a seven year period.



Footnote: Regarding Ages 18 - 30: Although highest risks are observed when abortion is done at ages younger than 18 (particularly if it occurs after 8 weeks gestation) or at age 30 or older, data in NCI funded study supports the hypothesis that an induced abortion at any age can adversely influence a woman's subsequent risk of breast cancer.

Source: Journal of National Cancer Institute, Nov. 2, 1994, The Houston Chronicle, Oct. 26, 1994, p. 10A, by Tom Paulson, Seattle Post-Intelligence.

Way back in 1994, researchers at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center in Seattle found that women who had been pregnant at least once and who had had an abortion face a 50% greater risk of developing breast cancer than those who had never had an abortion. The risk was highest among those who had abortions before age 18 or after age 30. Within these two groups, the risk of breast cancer increases if the abortion occurs between the eighth and twelfth weeks of pregnancy. Nineteen out of twenty-one studies have shown an overall increased trend or significant risk in the development of breast cancer with oral contraceptive use before a woman's first term-pregnancy.

Women who take oral contraceptive pills for **long periods of time** (i.e., four years or more) are at increased risk for developing breast cancer. Other women at risk are **those who use them after age 25** and **nulliparous women** (who have not had children), who use them for a long time (i.e., four or more years). All three categories of women seem to be at increased risk, with individual studies ranging from 40% to over 200% increased risk. Women who took oral contraceptive pills for longer time periods and started using them at an early age appear to be at an even greater risk. As reported, oral contraceptive pills also increase the risk of cervical and liver cancer. **For example, the largest study to date, performed by the World Health Organization, examined over 2,300 women and found that use of the pill before age 25 increased the risk of invasive cervical cancer by 45%.** In addition, more women get breast cancer in the US than all of the other alluded to cancers combined [cervical, liver, uterine and ovarian], making this the most dangerous risk in Western countries. Oral contraceptives may be particularly risky in **Asian and African countries where cervical and liver cancers are prevalent.**

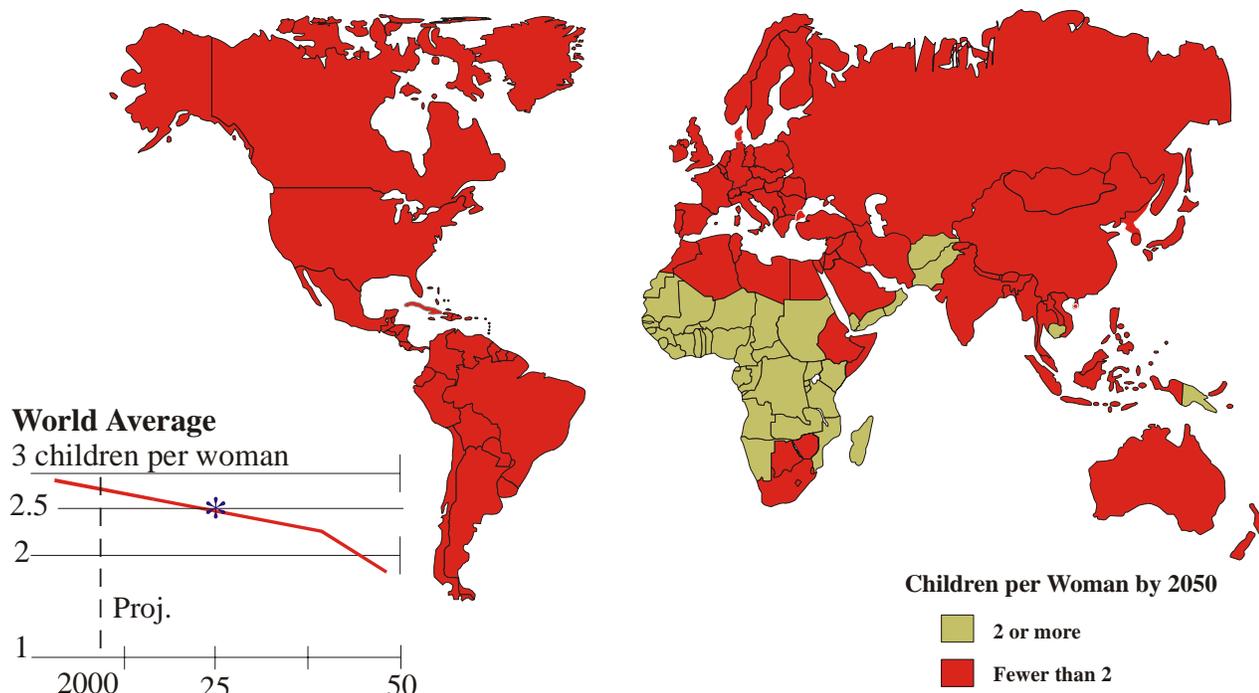
The Western nations' taxpayers unwittingly and without consent contribute to the unjust implementation of population control programs that promote abortion and dispense abortifacients at home and overseas. The poor countries ultimately bear the financial burden of curing the numerous health complications that arise from such barbaric practices. Furthermore, numerous studies have confirmed the direct correlation between abortion and breast cancer. This research has been conspicuously hidden from the majority of women. What happens to the poor, when all they have is their children and their faith, and they are being eliminated?

Our Lord said: "And will not God revenge his elect who cry to him day and night; and will He have patience in their regard? I say to you, that He will quickly revenge them. But yet the Son of Man, when he cometh, shall He find, think you, faith on earth? (Luke: 18: 7-8)

The following graph dramatically illustrates the unfortunate victory of the "culture of death" over the whole world, with few exceptions (Africa). However, the high infant mortality rate of Africa places those countries at a similar suicidal trend.

Population Explosion Fizzles Out

Demographers now expect birthrates in much of the world to fall below the two - children - per woman "replacement rate" before the middle of this century. In many places, it's already happened.



© Mercedes Wilson 2005
Family of the Americas P.O. Box 1170 Dunkirk MD 20754
E-Mail Address: family@upbeat.com

Source: World Bank, *International Herald Tribune*, February 2005
U.N. Population Division, *NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL*, September 27, 2004 p. 42.

Rich industrial nations need an average of 2.1 children per couple to remain at zero population growth. Today the average number of children per couple is 1.6. Poor nations need an average of 2.6 children per couple to remain at zero population growth. Today they stand at 3.1 per couple. However, Latin America and Asia average 2.4 children per couple. This means that those 2 continents are already below replacement level. Africa still has 5.1 children per couple. By the year 2025, (*) most of the world will be below replacement level and, if the current trend continues, this suicidal trend may be impossible to overturn.

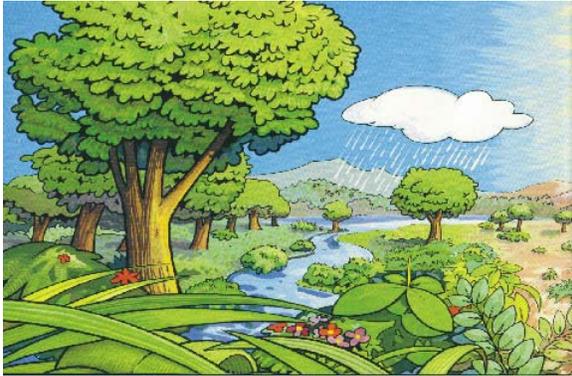
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines, in a speech at the UN, lashed out at the population control movement and its effort to encourage contraception in her country: "We expect the United Nations to respect the deep Catholicism of the vast majority of the Filipino people. The funding given by the United Nations to our national government for reproductive health shall be dedicated to train married couples in a natural family planning technology, which the World Health Organization has found effective compared to artificial birth control".

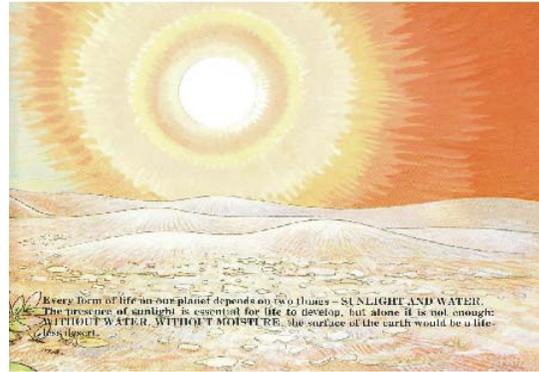
THE OVULATION METHOD OF NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Married couples do not have to remain slaves to the lucrative market of artificial birth control, sterilization, or abortion that continues to exploit them. Natural family planning unites the couple, increases communication, and contributes to the disappearance of divorce. If you add prayer, together with at least weekly church attendance, then you can offer the couple a virtual guarantee of keeping their marital bond forever.

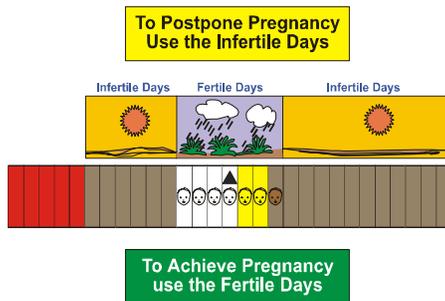
Fertility of the Land



Infertility of the Land



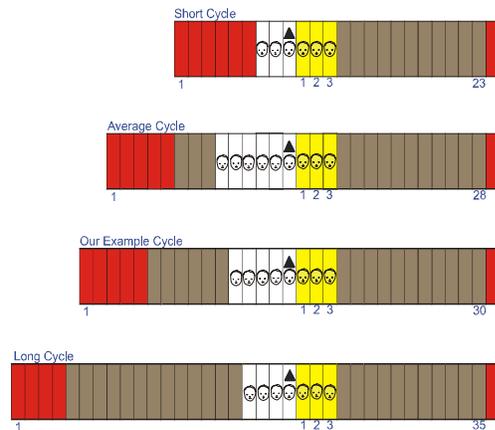
The Ovulation Method



The Ovulation Method is not the old "rhythm method" or the temperature method. It is a new scientifically proven method, researched by Dr. John Billings, based on the simple recognition of natural signs of fertility that appear for a few days during the woman's menstrual cycle.

By keeping accurate records, a woman can now confidently identify the fertile and infertile phases of her cycle. Women with long or irregular cycles, breast-feeding mothers, and even those going through pre-menopause or discontinuing artificial methods of family planning may use the Ovulation Method safely and effectively.

Irregularity of Cycles Does Not Interfere with The Practice of the Ovulation Method



The time between the Peak and the beginning of menstruation is normally about two weeks. If a cycle is to be long or short, it is the number of days between the end of menstruation and the Peak that will vary. There may be no dry days before the mucus begins, or the dry days may go on for longer than usual...even for weeks. The number of days of menstruation and of mucus may also vary.

Photos – Teaching Mother Teresa’s Sisters

Photos – Brazil

Photos – Africa

Photos – China

Photos - Philippines

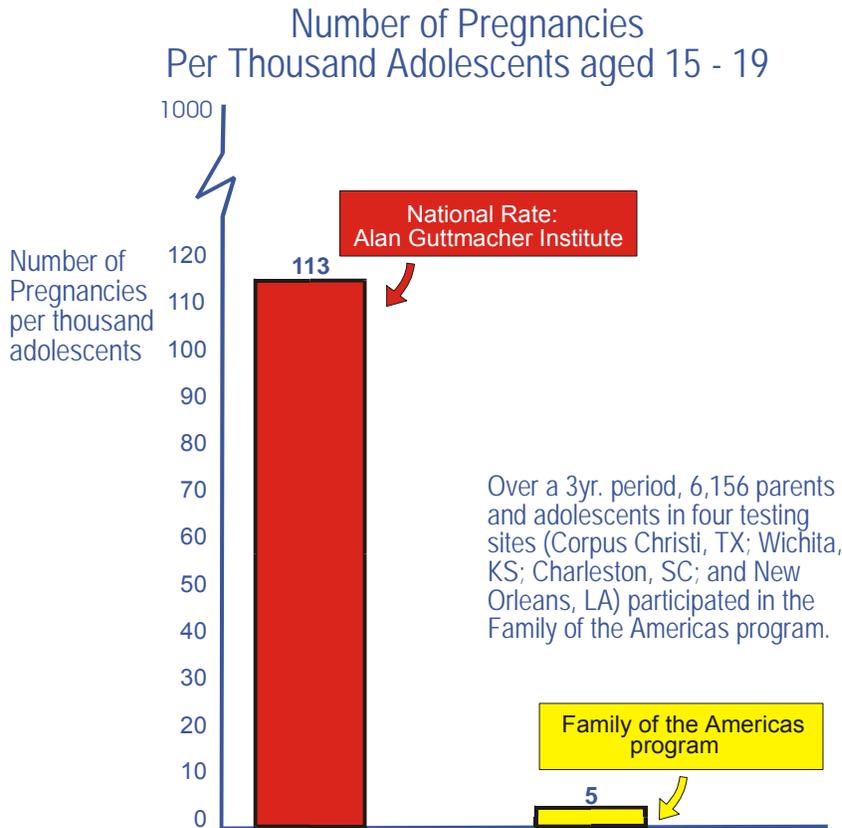
PARENTS AS THE PRIMARY EDUCATORS OF THEIR CHILDREN REGARDING HUMAN SEXUALITY

As years went by, we at Family of the Americas Foundation (FAF) recognized the fact that teaching only natural family planning to couples was not enough. We designed and introduced a very successful a program for parents so that they would remain the principal educators of their children in matters of human sexuality, thus instilling love and respect for the natural laws into future generations. We never underestimated the power of self-control that young people and married couples possess. We must continue challenging them to put into practice the teachings of the Church. “True love waits for marriage” is the only answer to the future happiness of the young. What young people need is to be told the truth and the consequences of irresponsible behavior. It is a fact that human beings recognize the truth; they may not always follow it, but they will recognize it.

We impressed upon parents in four regions of the United States from 1984 to 1987 the profound impact they make on their children and that their example is the primary influence in a child’s life. Parents must know that the love they give their children is the greatest deterrent against promiscuous behavior, as well as any rebellious conduct often encountered in the adolescent years. They must realize that a strong and disciplined family produces responsible citizens and, consequently, a better world. The parents’ example, good or bad, will leave an indelible mark on the behavior of their children and will strongly influence the path they will follow in future years. This three-year program for parents and adolescents promoted family-centered sexuality education, helping parents to assume their role as the principle educators of their children in matters of human sexuality.

Our results showed that by the end of the program 2,478 parents and 3,678 adolescents had been reached. The program participants had a pregnancy rate of only 5 per 1,000 adolescent females, in contrast to the national rate of 111 per 1,000 adolescent females. This rate was approximately 20 times lower than the national average. However, the present sex education programs being taught in secular as well as Catholic and Christian schools are destroying the innate innocence of the young. This will have repercussions on their heart and soul for the rest of their lives.

Comparison of Sex Education Programs To Reduce Teen Pregnancy



I make a commitment to God, to myself, to my family, to those I date, to my future spouse and future children, that from this day forward, with God's grace, I will be sexually pure by practicing the virtue of chastity, and I will remain a virgin until the day I enter into the Sacrament of Marriage.

Courtesy: Diocese of Memphis NFP Center
AMJ Saint Francis Hospital
5252 Park Ave.
Memphis TN 38119
(901) 756-1707



John Paul II said in his Sunday Angelus February 13, 1996: “Authentic love is not a vague sentiment or a blind passion. It is an inner attitude that involves the whole human being. It is looking at others, not to use them but to serve them. It is the ability to rejoice with those who are rejoicing and to suffer with those who are suffering. It is sharing what one possesses so that no one may continue to be deprived of what he needs. Love, in a word, is *the gift of self*....The family, the great *workshop of love* is the *first school*, indeed, a lasting school where people are not taught to love with barren ideas, but with incisive power of experience. May every family truly rediscover *its own vocation to love*. Love that absolutely respects God’s plan, love that *is the choice and reciprocal gift of self* within the family unit.”

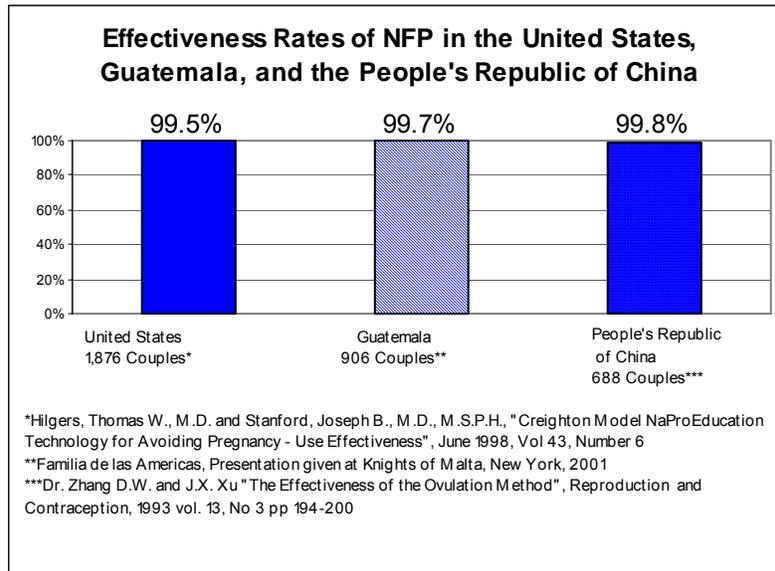
THE PRACTICE OF NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING VERSUS THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL: FAMILY, SEXUAL AND MORAL ISSUES

For many years, research has pointed to substantial differences between couples who practice Natural Family Planning (NFP) and couples who use artificial birth control. Using data collected from a sample of women in the United States of America who practice natural family planning and comparing them to well-known national surveys, the study conducted by FAF in 2000 examines the effects of NFP and artificial birth control on several dimensions of marital and family life. The study found that NFP women have lower rates of abortion and divorce (0.2%), than women in the national samples. The NFP women are more likely to be married and are more likely to recommend premarital chastity to young women. The study also finds a high level of success in family life among NFP women, as well as strong religious faith. Results support the hypothesis that NFP is associated with positive spousal relationships and family stability. Interpretations of new data are discussed.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

It is essential to understand what is meant by natural family planning in order to realize why it produces so many benefits to the marriage. In general, NFP is defined as methods for achieving or postponing pregnancy that are based on observations of naturally occurring signs in the woman’s body that inform her of the fertile and infertile phases of her cycle. Authentic NFP never interferes with the transmission of life; its sincere openness to the Will of God and respect for life is its most vital virtue. Various natural methods are being taught throughout the world that respect the natural law and are accepted by most cultures and religions. The Ovulation Method (OM) of NFP is at present the most widely used method because it is the easiest to learn, the simplest to

follow, and has the most published statistical studies and scientific research including statistics of the United States, Guatemala²² and the Peoples Republic of China.



The NFP survey participants in the FAF study were generally practicing the Ovulation Method. This method is neither the old “Rhythm” method nor the “Temperature” or Sympto-thermal method. It is based on the simple recognition of natural signs of fertility that appear for a few days during the woman’s fertile cycle. It is important to recognize that a woman is only fertile for approximately 100 hours per cycle during her reproductive years, whereas a man is potentially fertile every day from puberty onward. The advantages of the OM that influence the practice of NFP within the marriage are not only spiritual, such as increased church attendance and frequency of prayer, but also psychological and physical. It is simple to learn and safe to practice and does not depend on regularity of cycles for effectiveness. It has no physical side effects, and it does not interfere with the conjugal act nor does it involve distasteful procedures. When practiced for the avoidance of pregnancy, it is 98-99% effective in postponing pregnancy, even among the poorest of the poor in developing countriesⁱ, or among couples of no religious persuasion, as in China²³. Women discover signs of fertility never fully understood before. The OM has proven extremely helpful in assisting seemingly infertile couples to conceive a baby. It fosters communication and mutual respect between the spouses as they accept responsibility in their decision to achieve or postpone pregnancy. It seems to bring peace and greater intimacy to the marriage. When practiced generously and not for selfish or materialistic reasons, the spouses respect life and the privilege given to them of transmitting life.

ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL

In contrast, couples who use artificial methods of birth control seem to experience disturbing spiritual, and psychological as well as physical risks to their body and soul. Young people are persuaded early in life, through amoral sex education, to experiment

prematurely, becoming promiscuous with different partners, increasing the prevalence of venereal diseases and endangering their fertility. The burden on the poor is particularly serious because of the often extremely harsh conditions under which they live and the lack of medical facilities to treat the serious side effects of artificial birth control. Artificial methods do not encourage intimate communication between spouses as they transfer the burden of responsibility primarily to the woman. Artificial birth control places an artificial barrier between husband and wife and limits the most intense physical expression of human love. Such methods facilitate the couple's use and misuse of each other rendering them unable to fully appreciate the gift of their sexuality.

HOW ABORTION, DIVORCE, AND PROMISCUITY ARE LINKED TO THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL AS SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTED TABULATIONS

The statistical connections are becoming clear. Abortion, divorce, and multiple sexual partners are all statistically associated with artificial birth control. Abstinence before marriage and chastity within, is not only the message taught with Natural Family Planning, it is the essential message that should be taught to young men and women before they become entrenched in the dominant artificial birth control mentality that is so harmful to marriage and family.

In our thirty-five years of experience, seldom have we counseled couples that have not been wounded by the experience of using artificial birth control. They are surprised and often angry at not having been privy to such vital and simple knowledge as NFP earlier in their lives. Artificial birth control has affected the physical and psychological health of many through the effects of divorce and abortion. This supports the conclusion that the consequences of violating the natural law has been to the detriment of their own marriage.

Even though 91% of the couples in our survey were Catholic, most of them (65%) had violated Church teaching on artificial birth control, and 5% of the women had induced abortions. Nevertheless, as we study their replies in the survey, a change of heart appears to have taken place in their married life and seems to correlate with the practice of natural family planning.

The main objective of our study was to discern if couples who practice NFP are less likely to be divorced than those who do not; so a more direct comparison of groups of similar age and beliefs was necessary.

DIVORCE RATE STATISTICS

It is interesting to note that other studies endorse our findings on the increased number of divorces. They attribute the cause to the widespread use of artificial birth control. Robert T. Michaels and former Secretary of Education, William Bennett reported the following findings:

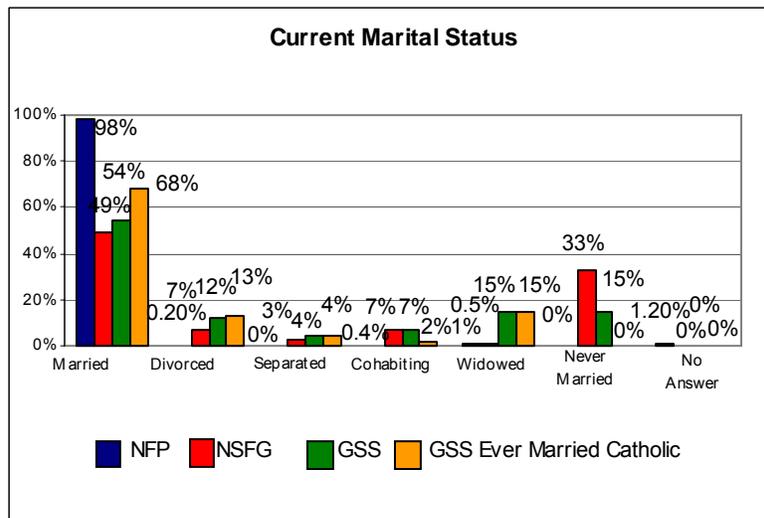
- 1) 50% of the rise in divorce rates from the 1960's to the mid 1970's has been attributed to the increased use of artificial birth control²⁴.
- 2) There has been a 400% rise in the divorce rate in the U.S. between 1960 to 1990.²⁵ (Widespread use of artificial birth control began in the 1960's and led to

increased promiscuity followed by the legalization of abortion and an increase in divorce rates.)

- 3) The much slower rate of increase of divorce in Japan and Japan's refusal to adopt the pill through the early 1970's seems to support the hypothesis that the contraceptive revolution is partially responsible for the rise in U.S. divorce rates.²⁶
- 4) Statistical evidence confirms the commonly held belief that the presence of children, in particular young children, inhibits divorce.²⁷

As Catholics, we believe that when we are in the state of sanctifying grace respecting the Ten Commandments and not violating the Natural Law, God pours His blessings upon us to strengthen our faith and free will to remain faithful to His teachings. For this reason, the spiritual graces and benefits of respecting God's Moral and Divine Laws seem to be essential in marital happiness and conjugal harmony.

DIVORCE RATES IN THE GENERAL POPULATION

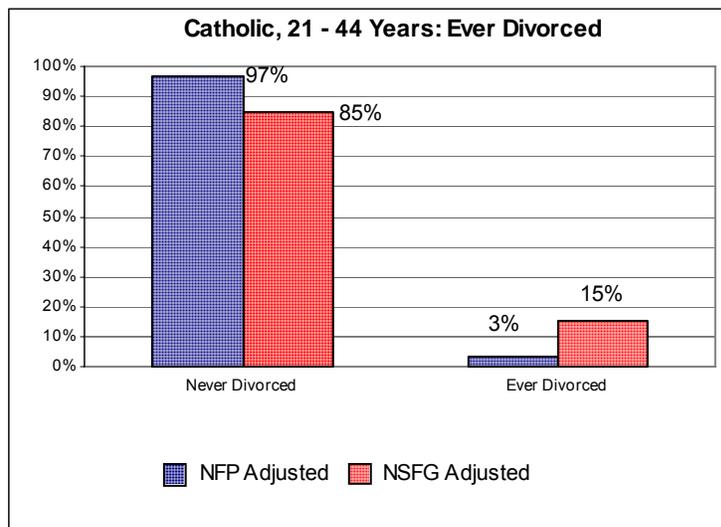
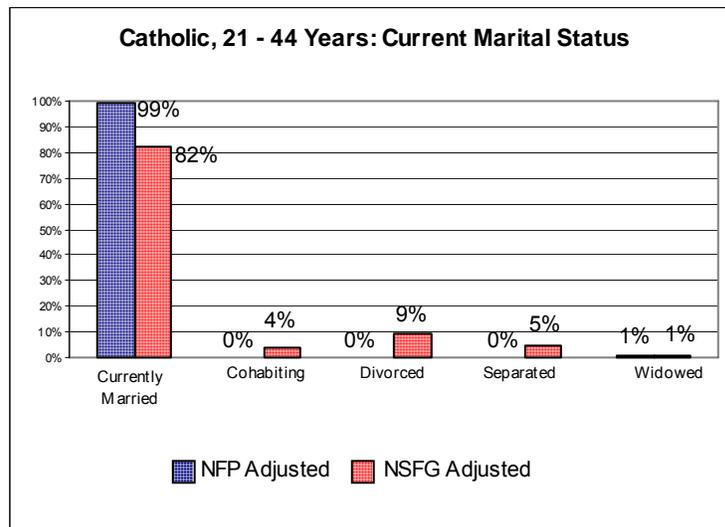


Even though our NFP survey is not a random sample, but is national in scope, the NSFG and GSS surveys were random. This graph illustrates the current marital status of all three studies as well as that of the subsample of the GSS ever married Catholics. However, a definitive comparison cannot be made because of the age difference among the NSFG (15 to 44), the GSS and the GSS ever married Catholics (18 and older), and the NFP (21 to 66) survey groups. Nevertheless, the adjusted age comparisons reported below showed only a small difference.

As we observe the marital status of the four groups surveyed, we can't help but wonder whether this curious phenomenon is in great part due to the advantages of the use of Natural Family Planning. The impressive low divorce rate seems to be closely linked to the practice of NFP, but a future matched sample study would enable us to make a more accurate comparative study. It cannot be denied that NFP fosters communication and intimate conversation between spouses, as they need to be aware of their combined fertility and infertility. In contrast, it appears that those who have not been given this enrichment have considerably higher divorce, separation and cohabitation rates. Is it possible that a critical element is missing in the marriages of the other groups surveyed? Could the missing element be practicing and sharing the

responsibility of NFP? Marriages in violation of the natural law seem to be in a state of instability due to the lack of chastity within their marriage, resulting in poor communication and cooperation and the denial of mutual responsibility in the area of responsible parenthood.

DIVORCE RATES IN THE CATHOLIC POPULATION



The reason the divorce rate among NFP couples increased from 0.2% to 3% in the adjusted tabulations is because the statistician is using a smaller number of couples in a concentrated age group (21 – 44 years). The divorce rate in the Catholic NSFG group increased from 7% to 15%. The NFP Catholics who have never divorced is 97%, while the NSFG Catholics is 85%. The difference between these is 12%, which is a four-fold difference!

These three graphs provide support for the idea that using NFP among Catholics is associated with family stability. Further research is required in order to determine if this relationship is in any sense causal, or whether the relationship between practicing NFP and family stability is due to other factors common to these couples, including their strong religious beliefs and practices, and if these developed after they began practicing NFP.

If it is found, after further studies are conducted, that religious fervor is a primary factor in marital stability together with respect for the natural law through the practice of NFP, it becomes especially important to prioritize a more faithful adherence to one's chosen faith. Such findings would provide strong reasons for advocating religious beliefs and practices among the general population who desire a fruitful and lasting marriage. If Natural Family Planning is the main reason for the spouse's conversion towards strong religious beliefs and practices, then NFP should be given top priority in all marriage preparation courses around the world.

INFLUENCES OF INTACT FAMILIES

Unequivocal data have shown that an intact family of a father and a mother has tremendous influence on the behavior of children. Following are some of the findings that show teen pregnancies are influenced by family structure:

➤ *Consequences of Family Instability:*

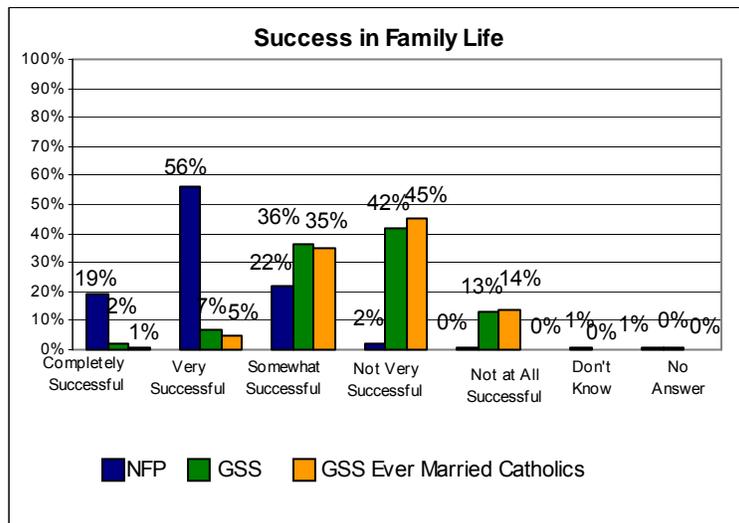
- 80% of unintended pregnancies result from contraceptive failure.²⁸
- Cohabitations are four times more likely to break up than marriages and less than 4% of cohabitations last 10 years or more.²⁹
- The incidence of divorce is 33% to 80% higher among couples who lived together before marriage.³⁰ This is a good reason why priests should not marry couples who attend pre-Cana classes but are living together. These co-habiting couples view marriage as a major social event in their lives instead of as the sacrament of Matrimony that will bind them together for life.

➤ *Benefits of Family Stability:*

- Young people aged 14-17 who live in a two parent family are less likely to have ever had sexual intercourse than young people living in any other family arrangement, even after adjusting for potentially confounding factors such as race, age, and socioeconomic deprivation.³¹
- Abstinence and decreased sexual activity among adolescents are primarily responsible for the decline during the 1990's in adolescent pregnancy, birth and abortion rates.³²
- A three-year program for parents and adolescents promoting family centered human sexuality education accentuating morals and values, lowered teen pregnancies to 1/20th of the national average (5 per 1,000).³³

SUCCESS IN FAMILY LIFE

A majority of NFP respondents feel successful in family life, while the majority of the GSS and Ever Married Catholics do not.



A majority (75%) of NFP respondents feel completely or very successful, and if we also add the “somewhat successful” responses to this, the total becomes 97%. Conversely, only 9% of GSS women and 6% of ever-married Catholic women regard themselves as completely or very successful in family life. If we also add the “somewhat successful” these totals become 45% for GSS and 41% for GSS ever married Catholics. The percentage difference is considerable. These responses seem to reflect the vision that to feel successful in family life, it is vital to be disposed to share your most intimate feelings with your spouse, be willing to give to your spouse selflessly without barriers, and to recognize the gift of life and the power to become generous co-creators of new life with God.

CONCLUSION

The Roman Catholic Church has always protected and defended life at all stages regardless of the physical and mental conditions, never taking into consideration the “quality of life” above the sanctity of life of any individual person. For instance, Mother Teresa of Calcutta went to great trouble to bring castaways left to die in the streets into her “Home for Dying Derelicts”. Although they might survive for no more than a few days, hours or minutes, in that brief time, instead of feeling rejected and abandoned, they are treated with Christian love and care. As one of these persons just prior to death said to Mother Teresa, “I have lived like an animal in the street, but I am going to die as an angel, loved and cared for”.³⁴ The Missionaries of Charity reach out with love, compassion, and respect for the sanctity of life to the afflicted without any other consideration than their immediate need. These Sisters care for life at all stages, and we should thank God for their Christian witness of honoring the sanctity of life.

Of course it must be admitted that the sanctity of life is a spiritual or transcendental concept, and has no meaning otherwise; if there is no God, life cannot have sanctity. By the same token, the “quality of life” is an earthly or worldly concept, and the lack of quality can only be expressed legalistically and in materialistic terms; God and the soul do not come into consideration. Malcolm Muggeridge expresses this thought very

clearly, “Thus a child conceived in conditions of penury, with poor heredity, against its mother’s wishes, or otherwise potentially handicapped may be considered as lacking the requisite ‘quality of life’ prospects, and so should not be born. Equally it follows, at the other end of our life span, that geriatrics unable to appreciate what this world has to offer in the way of aesthetic, carnal and egotistic satisfaction, in other words, by virtue of their years losing out on quality of life, should be subjected to euthanasia or mercy-killing, and discreetly murdered”.³⁵

With the focus on “quality of life”, Malcolm Muggeridge states, “Compassion easily becomes a holocaust; garden suburbs and gulags derive from the same quest for ‘quality of life’, and the surgeon’s knife can be used equally to sustain or extinguish life. Dostoyevsky makes the same point: ‘Love toward men, but love without belief in God, very naturally leads to the greatest coercion over men, and turns their lives completely into hell on earth.’ Malcolm Muggeridge reminds us that if ever there was a killing without mercy, a death without dignity, it was on Golgotha. Yet from that killing, what an outpouring of mercy occurred throughout subsequent centuries! From that death, what a stupendous enhancement of human dignity!”³⁶ Our beloved Holy Father John Paul the Great once said: “Our Lord chose not to come down from the cross – why should I”? Suffering is part of life and poor “quality of life” does not demean the value and dignity of that human person.

History shows us that Providence imposes a limit on totalitarian systems. It is, therefore, more productive and instructive, to study and examine ways to reverse these counter natural practices which are being performed in the name of science and compassion. Such malpractices are now extending to the still faithful developing world. It is imperative to convert physicians and scientists back to their original mission of healing and protecting human life. Society depends on them to become once more the fathers of medicine to whom families entrusted their dearest possession – their family with complete trust and without reservation. Families knew that the physicians would do everything in their power to heal their loved ones without violating their oath. They must return to that eternal truth that with each person a physician tries to heal, they are touching Christ – from a baby at conception to an elderly infirm in his last breath of life on earth. Therefore, let’s “Hold the physician in honor, for he is essential to you, and God it was who established his profession. (*Honora medicum propter necessitatem; etenim illum creavit Altissimus*)” Ecclesiasticus-Sirach 38:1.

As we enter the new millennium and depart from an era never before experienced in the history of mankind, we must rally our forces and accept the challenges to fight the culture of death. Let us remember the words of Mother Teresa who said: “ God did not call us to be victorious, but to be faithful.” And even more dramatic than the words of Mother Teresa are the words of Our Lord: “I would have you hot or cold, but the lukewarm I will spew out of My mouth.” (Rev. 3:15) Dante’s warning is also pertinent: “The hottest place in Hell is reserved for those who remain neutral in times of moral crisis.”

Therefore my recommendations are the following:

1. Lobby Congress to pass compulsory ultrasound imaging to be seen by those considering abortion. Pregnancy crisis centers have reported incredible success in overturning a woman’s decision to abort her baby.

2. In light of the recent reports on the carcinogenic effects of estrogen/progestogen methods of birth control, request from the government to remove such deadly chemicals from the market.
3. Demand that the pharmaceutical companies and entities involved in artificial birth control programs pay for the treatment of all the side effects of chemical/mechanical devices, cancer, heart disease, etc. in the United States
4. Compensate with payment to the poor people in developing countries where such artificial birth control methods are being subsidized by the USA government through entities such as Planned Parenthood.
5. Request from the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church to break their silence and denounce this chemical warfare against her teachings.
6. Request from the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church to stop improper sex education in all Catholic schools and replace it by teaching the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
7. Request all Catholic universities to provide compulsory education on marriage and family as this is the vocation most students will be living.
8. Encourage families to be generous and prolific in order to reverse the crisis of vocations in the Roman Catholic Church.

I will close with the saying that is posted on Mother Teresa's Mother House in Calcutta:

PHOTO OF JP II AND MOTHER TERESA

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self centered – forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives – be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies – succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you – be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight – build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous – be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow – do good anyway

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough – give the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

-
- ¹ Muggeridge, Malcolm – “The Humane Holocaust”, *Human Life Review*, Winter 1997, Volume 23, Issue 1 p. 81
- ² John Paul II, Memory and Identity, 2005, p. 48,
- ³ Lejeune, Jérôme, The Concentration Can, Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1992, p. 126-127
- ⁴ *ibid*
- ⁵ *ibid* p. 131.
- ⁶ Illustrated Stedman’s Medical Dictionary 24th Edition, Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore/London 1984, p. 308
- ⁷ Lejeune, Jérôme, The Concentration Can: When Does Human Life Begin? An Eminent Geneticist Testifies. Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1992, p. 30.
- ⁸ Pope John Paul II, February 20, 1980
- ⁹ *The Guttmacher Report on Public Policy – Special Analysis*, “The Implications of Defining When a Woman is Pregnant”, May 2005, p. 8, Source: *The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists*
- ¹⁰ *Ibid*, p.7
- ¹¹ Carton, Barbara, *The Wall Street Journal*, Vol. CCXXX No. 102, Friday, November 21, 1997, p. A1, A6
- ¹² The Alan Guttmacher Institute, *Contraception in the United States*, May 2004.
- ¹³ Muggeridge, Malcolm – “The Humane Holocaust”, *Human Life Review*, Winter 1997, Volume 23, Issue 1 p.82
- ¹⁴ Pope John Paul II, Memory and Identity, 2005, p. 7
- ¹⁵ *Ibid*, p. 8
- ¹⁶ *Ibid*, p. 135
- ¹⁷ Kahlenborn, M.D., Chris, Breast Cancer – Its Link to Abortion and the Birth Control Pill, One More Soul, Dayton, Ohio, 2000, p. 330
- ¹⁸ Muggeridge, Malcolm – “The Humane Holocaust”, *Human Life Review*, Winter 1997, Volume 23, Issue 1 p.90
- ¹⁹ Kahlenborn, M.D., Chris, Breast Cancer – Its Link to Abortion and the Birth Control Pill, One More Soul, Dayton, Ohio, 2000, p.330
- ²⁰ *Results of Cumulative Figures, Natural Family Planning Billings Ovulation Method Study*, Asociación Guatemalteca para La Familia De Las Américas, conducted 1998-2000, sponsored by the Ministry of Health, April 30, 2000.
- ²¹ World Health Organization-International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), Press Release # 167. July 29, 2005
- ²² Unpublished Study presented at the Medical Committee Meeting of the Knights of Malta, New York, NY 2000
- ²³ Dr. Zhang D.W. and J.X. Xu “The Effectiveness of the Ovulation Method”, *Reproduction and Contraception*, 1993 vol.13, No. 3 pp.194-200; Ryder, R.E.J., *British Medical Journal*, Vol. 307, pp. 723-726, Sept. 18, 1993.
- ²⁴ Robert T Michael, “Why did the U.S. Divorce Rate Double within a Decade”, *Research in Population Economics*, Vol. 6. pp. 367-399. 1988.
- ²⁵ William J. Bennett, “*Quantifying Americas Decline*” *The Wall Street Journal*, March 15, 1993.
- ²⁶ *ibid*.
- ²⁷ Robert T Michael, “Why did the U.S. Divorce Rate Double within a Decade”, *Research in Population Economics*, Vol. 6. pp. 367-399. 1988.
- ²⁸ Trevor Stammers, “Teenage Pregnancies are Influenced by Family Structure”, *Letters British Medical Journal*; 324:51, January 5, 2002
- ²⁹ *Ibid*, cites Morgan P. “Marriage Lite: The rise of Cohabitation and its Consequences”. Institute for the Study of Civil Society (CIVITAS): London, 2000:13
- ³⁰ Mercedes Arzú Wilson, Love and Family: Raising a Traditional Family in a Secular World, pg 122; 1996
- ³¹ Trevor Stammers, “Teenage Pregnancies are Influenced by Family Structure”, *Letters British Medical Journal*; 324:51, January 5, 2002
- ³² Jeffery Jones M.D. et. al., A Special Report Commissioned by the Consortium of State Physicians Resource Councils, January 7, 1999.
- ³³ Peggy Kirby and Louis Paradise “Fertility Appreciation for Families: Evaluation report for the Family of the Americas Foundation; October 1, 1987.
- ³⁴ *National Prayer Breakfast*, Washington, D.C. February 3, 1994
- ³⁵ Muggeridge, Malcolm – “The Humane Holocaust”, *Human Life Review*, Winter 1997, Volume 23, Issue 1 pp. 83-84
- ³⁶ *Ibid*, p. 94.