

POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE REVIEW

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A review and analysis of worldwide population control activity

“Better to be a Criminal in China than a Pregnant Mother” Those who violate the one-child policy are more harshly punished than those who violate other laws

Steven W. Mosher

THE CHINESE MINISTRY of State Security must have been asleep on the job. The email that appeared in my inbox read: “It is better to be a criminal in China than a pregnant mother.”

Now, I knew that women who get pregnant outside the state plan are often browbeaten or bullied into abortions and sterilizations. But as my mysterious correspondent noted, there are a whole range of other punishments for violators of the family planning policies of the PRC, who are treated worse than criminals.

First, she said, if you’ve had a child outside the plan, very few people will hire you. Most “work units” (i.e., businesses) require ap-



Pregnant women in China are locked up indefinitely until their families can pay a huge fine or their child is aborted.

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plicants to submit their “Family Planning Certificates” to prove that they have not had an “illegal” child.

Even criminals—burglars, rapists, and the like—are allowed to apply for jobs after they have been released from prison. But the parent of an “illegal” child without a “Family Planning Certificate” is not even allowed to apply!

Second, even criminals enjoy certain basic human rights, as laid out by Article 37 of the PRC Constitution. They cannot be detained without probable cause,

they cannot be tortured or subjected to corporal punishment, and they have the legal right to file suit if their rights have been violated.

Those who violate the one-child policy are stripped of their dignity as human beings and enjoy no rights. They can be illegally detained for an indefinite period of time by the Family Planning Bureau. They can be forcibly aborted or forcibly sterilized. And, if they try to take legal action, they will find out that

The One-Child Policy has Destroyed the Chinese Family

More and more Chinese, denied children, are rejecting family life altogether

Steven W. Mosher

It wasn't so long ago that the ideal Chinese family was large, consisting of multiple generations, and sometimes multiple families, living together. In fact, author Lao She entitled his bestselling novel about life in Beijing under Japanese rule, *Four Generations Under One Roof*.

But that was before the one-child policy decimated Chinese families, discouraging the young from marrying and having children, aborting and sterilizing hundreds of millions of expectant mothers, and leaving the elderly bereft of the children and grandchildren who would have loved and supported them in old age.

The upheaval caused by the Party-State's intervention into the private lives of its citizens is reflected in a new report from China's National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC), the bureau charged with enforcing the one-child policy. Not surprisingly, the report shows that family size is shrinking rapidly, from 5.3 people at the time of the Communist Revolution to only around three today.

The primary driver of this decline is, of course, the one-child policy, which allows urban couples only one child and rural couples two. This trend has been accelerated as the young flee to the cities in search of economic opportunity, leaving villages peopled by the very old and the very young.

There are now tens of millions of unmarried young workers living in and around the cities, along with large numbers of couples who have delayed having children or decided to remain childless. Then there is China's huge and growing

population of elderly, living alone or as couples.

Although the report, written by the population control enforcers themselves, doesn't blame these trends on the Party-State's policies, they are clearly to blame in every case. Take the tens of millions of unmarried young workers, for instance, who range in age from their mid-teens to their late twenties.

The report blames the young for delaying marriage to pursue career goals, save up for down payments on cars or houses, fulfill lifestyle choices, or wait to find the right mate. It ignores the primary reason why young people are waiting to marry: early marriage is against the law. The rules state that men can't marry until they are in their mid-to-late twenties, while women can't marry until they reach the age of 23 to 25.

And don't forget that, because of the selective abortion and infanticide of tens of millions of girls, there are an equal number of young men who will never marry, since the girls they would have married have been killed.

The constant barrage of anti-people propaganda has also had an anti-natal effect. When they are finally allowed to marry, many young couples choose to delay having their only child, or decide to opt out of the child-raising altogether. The number of married couples with children has, according to the report, declined "significantly", while the number of dingke families, (a Chinese transliteration of DINK, or which stands for families with "dual income, no kids"), has been on the rise.

Finally, there is the rapid and ongoing aging of the Chinese population, which



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is again a direct consequence of the Party-State's policies of restricting the number of babies born. True to form, the report discusses the fact that millions of young Chinese now work in cities far from home, or choose to live in their own apartments rather than with their parents. It blames the epidemic of loneliness among the elderly on the selfish young, castigating them for not taking the time to visit their elderly parents.

But wait a minute. When you only allow couples to have one, or at most two,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Another U.N. Committee Runs Amuck

The "Committee on Torture" Considers Catholic Teaching to Be "Torture"

By Carlos Beltramo and Steven Mosher

BELIEVE IT OR not, the 10-member UN Committee Against Torture spent two days, May 5-6, 2014, attacking the Catholic Church and its teachings.

It's not as if this is any surprise. Last January, the chairwoman of another UN committee, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, "demanded" that the Holy See change Catholic doctrine to accept gay marriage, abortion, contraception, etc., because the current position of the Church supposedly violates the human rights of children. The Church was also roundly attacked for "allowing" priests to abuse children, ignoring the Holy See's significant steps to end these crimes. Indeed, at the time both Fr. Lombardi and Msgr. Tomasi, who serve in the Mission of the Holy See to the UN's Human Rights Commission, noted that

the accusations not only exaggerate the problem, they ignore the numerous actions already taken by the Holy See to correct any abuses.

Now the same thing is happening again, this time under the auspices of another committee of the Human Rights Commission. The Committee Against Torture is criticizing the Holy See's initial report under the "Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment." The problem, according to the "Solidarity Center for Law and Justice", is that the Committee against Torture relies upon information that it receives from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights ("OHCHR") and various anti-Catholic NGOs.

What NGOs? The Center for Reproductive Rights, to name just one. And the CRR, as it is called, is at the forefront of

groups that maintain that the position of the Catholic Church on contraception and abortion constitutes torture.

The chairman of the Committee on Torture, Claudio Grossman, has a long history of abortion and population control activism. In 1994 he participated in a conference that examined possible strategies for ensuring that reproductive rights are respected in practice at the local, national, and international levels. (Gilbert, Lauren, Ann Shalleck, and Claudio Grossman. "Conference on the Interventional Protection of Reproductive Rights: Preface." American University Law Review 44, no. 4 (April 1995): 963-967.)

Such are the ideologues who are trying

"The chairman of the Committee on Torture... has a long history of abortion and population control activism."

to influence the Committee on Torture to find that the Holy See is guilty of "torture." Like the Committee on the Rights of the Child, they are focusing on sexual abuse by priests (old news) and Catholic doctrine in the areas of abortion, contraception, and "gay marriage."

For instance, among the "Shadow Reports" available we find one by the so-called Child Rights International Network (CRIN) called "Sexual Abuse of Children by Catholic Clerics as a Form of Torture or Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment." The report accuses the Church of transferring priests who were accused of abuses, a policy which was eliminated over a decade ago. They demand that representatives of civil society be allowed to participate in the Commission the Vatican has set up to address this kind of crime, ignoring the fact that the leading activist against sexual abuse, Marie

Collins, has long served as a member of this commission.

Another example is the report submitted by the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) on behalf of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP).

And, finally, there is this from the Center for Reproductive Rights:

"Urge the Holy See to review its position on abortion in order to permit abortion for women and girls, including when their lives and physical or mental health are at risk, when there is a non-viable fetus, when they are the victims of sexual violence, or any other circumstance in which they experience severe physical

or mental pain or suffering.

"Urge the Holy See to refrain from negatively interfering publicly or privately in women's

and legislator's decisions concerning access to contraception and to support states as they attempt to align their policies on women's reproductive rights with their obligations under the Convention against Torture."

Clearly, such groups are virulently opposed to the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church relating to the issues of life, abortion, sexuality, sexual orientation, marriage, family, bioethics, or euthanasia. Some members of the Committee against Torture are as well, and are unable to impartially review the Holy See's report.

While these groups and individuals fabricate accusations against the Catholic Church and stretch the meaning of "torture" to absurd dimensions, real people continue to suffer real torture.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

May I send you this gift?

**This is exactly the kind of book
the anti-family, anti-marriage
forces fear!**

I'd like to send you a copy.

Those who attack the sanctity of marriage and the traditional family will justifiably hate this book – and I hope you'll let me send you a copy. It's *The Seven Big Myths About Marriage*. One-by-one, it demolishes the false notions most often used to undermine of Church teaching on marriage and family, including these myths . . .

- Children are irrelevant to marriage
- All reproductive choices are equal
- Love is simple
- Marriage is a fifty-fifty contract
- Love alone makes a marriage
- Cohabitation is just like marriage
- Premarital sex is no big deal

Here's a small sample of the insights you'll find in this new Ignatius Press book . . .

. . . The two irrefutable arguments proving that sex outside of marriage blocks the happiness found in loving God and neighbor . . . how children help their parents get to Heaven . . . the three kinds of love and the ways they differ from one another . . . the four kinds of marital friendship . . . the differences between erotic love and sexual attraction . . .

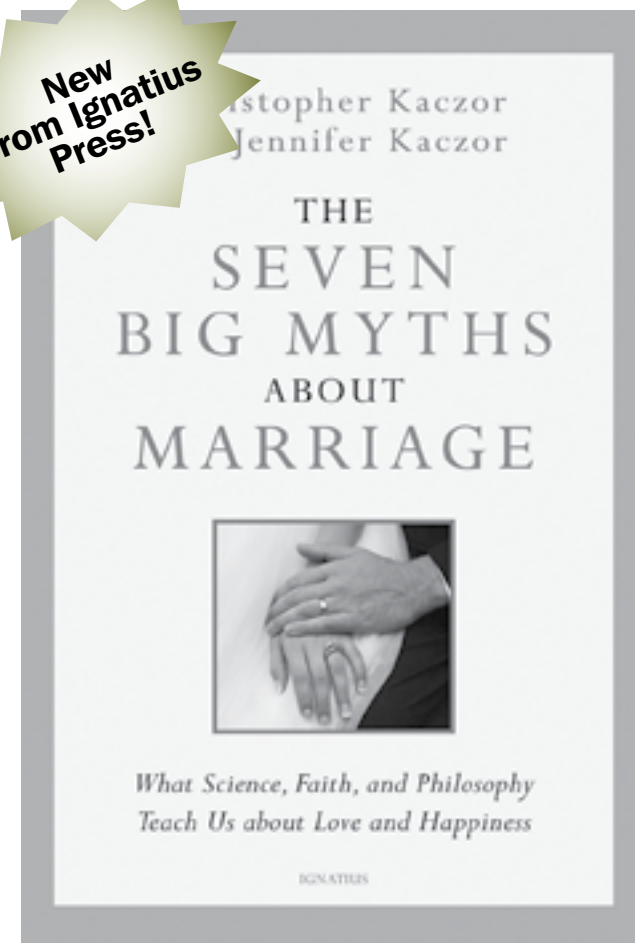
. . . Proof positive that natural family planning is as effective in preventing unplanned pregnancies as contraception. . . facts that confirm the immense harms caused by cohabitation. . . the three elements of *agape*. . . how to argue against polygamy (don't laugh – polygamy will be one of the “new frontiers” of what constitutes marriage) . . . shocking facts the anti-marriage crowd doesn't want you to know about pre-marital sex . . . plus still more that's sure to send the anti-marriage forces into a frenzy!

Peter Kreeft, author of *Jacob's Ladder: Ten Steps to Truth*, hails *The Seven Big Myths About Marriage*, saying that “If I were a pastor, I would make this book required reading for engaged couples in all my marriage classes.”

The Seven Big Myths About Marriage is a book you'll probably read in one sitting (yes, it's that insightful!). May I send you a copy with sincere thanks for your renewed support of \$50 or more?

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to request your copy of
The Seven Big Myths About Marriage . . .**

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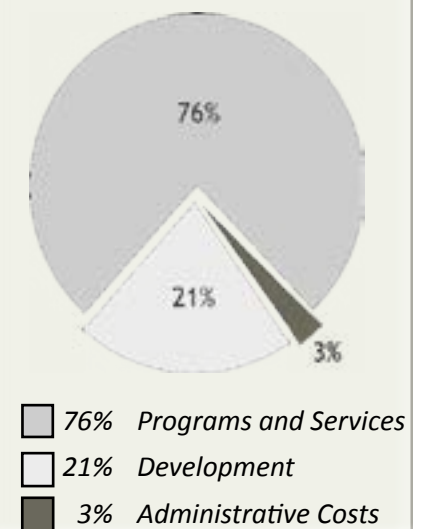
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“BETTER TO BE A CRIMINAL”, FROM PAGE 1

no people's court at any level will touch cases involving family planning issues.

Third, according to Article 37 of the PRC Constitution, a person suspected of a crime can only be arrested after an arrest warrant is issued by the People's Procuratorate or the People's Court, and the arrest can only be carried out by members of the public security bureau. A person suspected of a crime also has the right to hire an attorney to defend her from the charges during the trial. And she will not

be charged “room and board” for the time she spends in prison awaiting trial.

But here Zhejiang province, the Family Planning Bureau operates outside the law. It violates civil liberties by arresting and detaining whomever it wants, whenever it wants. Husbands and other family members are locked up on its own authority. Its victims are not allowed to

seek legal counsel. They are even forced to pay 20 or 30 Yuan a night for the “privilege” of being incarcerated.

Fourth, the law protects the unborn

**“... if they are unable to pay the fine
for conceiving an illegal child, the child
will be aborted or, if born, it will be sold.”**

child of a criminal, even if that criminal has been sentence to death. The authorities wait until the child has been born before carrying out the sentence.

The unborn child of a woman who becomes pregnant outside the one-child policy has no legal protection. Instead, the baby is sentenced to death. No matter what the reason, those who get pregnant

without permission must terminate the pregnancy.

Finally, no matter where a criminal is detained, in a local jail or a state prison, they are permitted to communicate with their family. On the other hand, a pregnant woman and her family members can be held incommunicado for however long the Family Planning Bureau wishes to hold them. And if they are unable to pay the fine for conceiving an illegal child, the child will be aborted or, if born, it will be sold. She will never see her child again in this life.

So you see, it is better to be a criminal in China than a mother pregnant without government permission.

Signed by a grieving Chinese mother.

#

Why We Need to Teach *Humanae Vitae*

Pope Paul VI's Encyclical on Life and the Family

By Dr. Christopher Manion

In coming months, the Church will focus on the Magisterium's timeless teaching on human life, marriage, and the family.

This coming July 25th *Humanae Vitae*, the beautiful encyclical written by Pope Paul VI in 1968, will celebrate the 46th anniversary of its promulgation.

The world should join in: *Humanae Vitae* is a great gift to all humanity that explains what it means fully to be a member of the human family.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI knew that the world was in thrall to the "sexual revolution," propelled by the contraceptive mentality that slammed the door on life and turned to the Pill for an easy exit from responsibility and maturity.

Rampant abortion, divorce, disease, and cultural decline followed – as Pope Paul VI predicted.

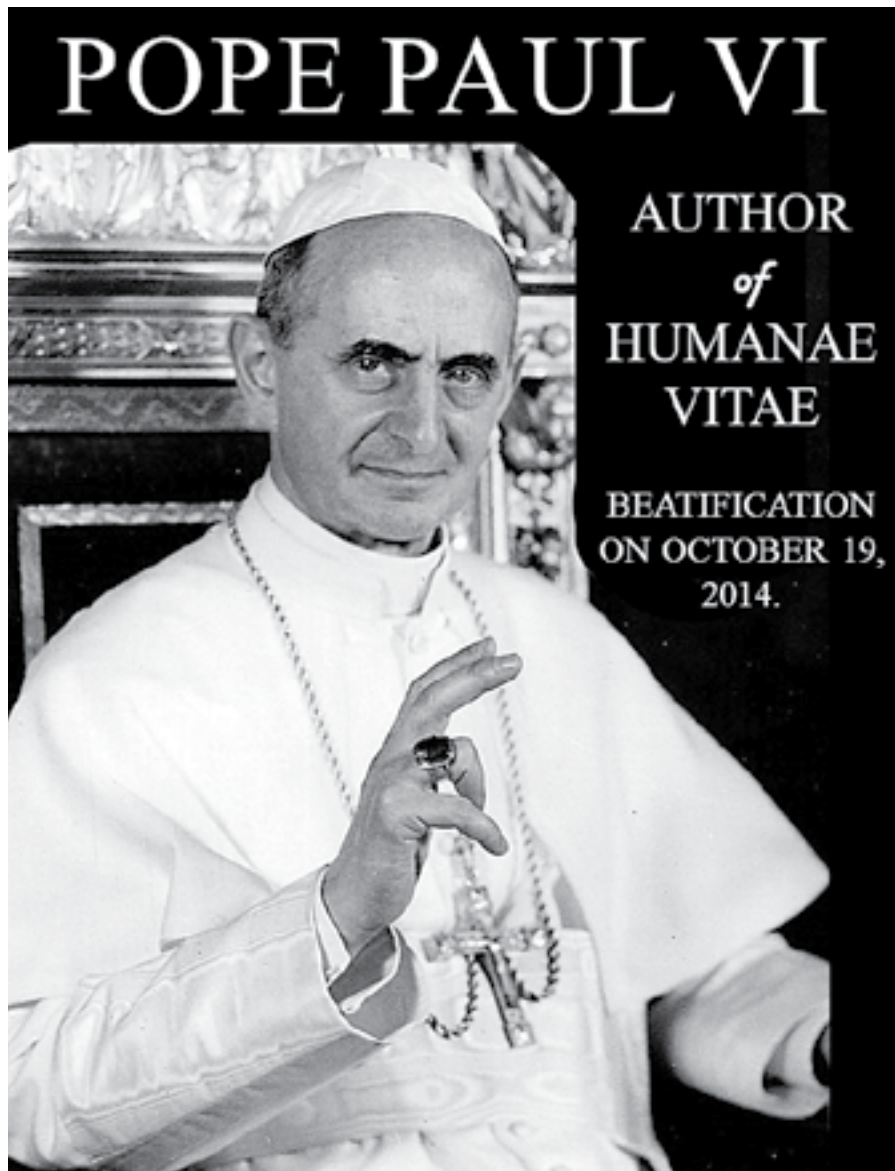
In reaffirming the long-standing moral teaching of the Church and the Natural Law, Pope Paul VI knew that he was challenging the leaders of the Dictatorship of Relativism worldwide.

Yet he clearly foresaw the consequences of society's rejection of the Gospel of Life.

Not only did he warn how women would become mere sex objects, and how the family itself would come under fire from the secular elites, he predicted the day when governments would regulate marriage, sex, and childbirth.

Perhaps Pope Francis had those predictions in mind when he not only scheduled Pope Paul VI's Beatification as a hero of life this coming October, but also designated the family as the focus of the historic synods of bishops to be held in Rome this year and next.

In *Humanae Vitae*, Pope Paul VI literally pleads with bishops, priests, teachers,



and parents to join in his valiant defense of life, the family, and yes, even civilization itself. But his pleas were ignored not only by the secular elite and the general public, but by many of his own bishops as well.

Two years ago, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York and President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, made a remarkable confession to the *Wall Street Journal*.

When confronting the Obama administration's contraception mandate,

the Cardinal explained, "We've grown hoarse saying this is not about contraception, this is about religious freedom."

But why would the Church abandon the moral teaching and appeal to a legal principle, when the courts have been increasingly hostile to religious freedom?

The Cardinal's response is blunt: leaders of the Church have not been teaching moral doctrine "since the mid and late 60s," he said. "We have gotten

Humanae Vitae, continued on page 13

YOU MUST ABORT!

China's one-child policy in pictures

By Steven Mosher and Anne Roback Morse

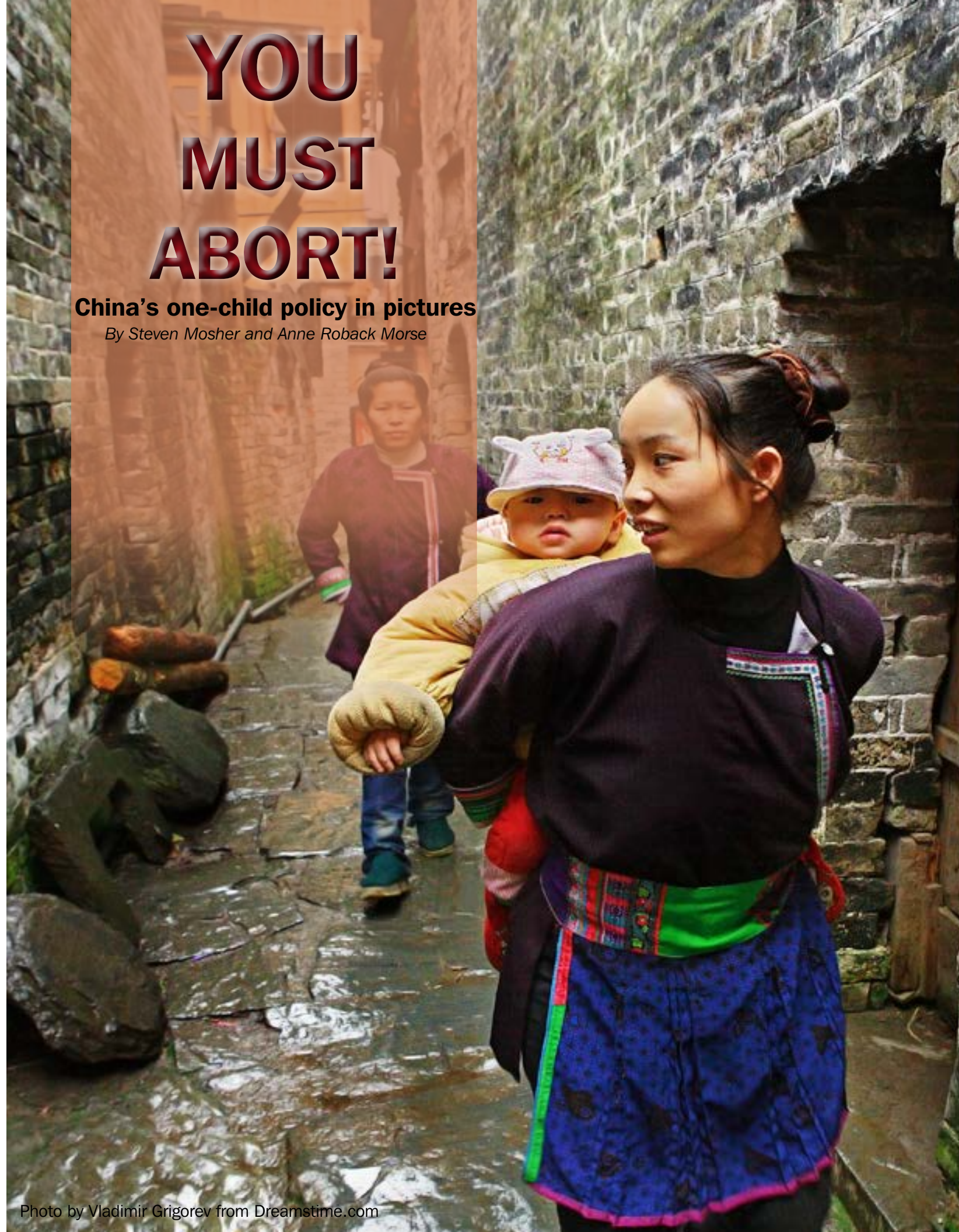


Photo by Vladimir Grigorev from Dreamstime.com

IT IS HARD for persons in democratic societies to grasp how China's party-state can control the fertility of China's millions. The effort starts with a barrage of anti-child propaganda in the schools and workplaces, and then moves to open intimidation in banners and slogans posted in public places. Here are some pictures of the kind of public threats the authorities make against those women who may be pregnant with "illegal" children.



Above- Translation: "Call back those who are located far away, dig out those who are hidden, Those who are pregnant outside the policy absolutely must have labor induced. Those who should be sterilized absolutely must be dragged down."



Right- Translation: "Those of you who don't abort or get sterilized, and are happy to have excess births and pay fines. . . [image unclear]."



Left- Translation: "If it should be aborted and is not aborted, your house will be destroyed and your cow will be taken."



Above- Translation: "If you are supposed to wear an IUD but don't, or are supposed to have your tubes tied but don't, you will be arrested on sight!"



Above- Translation: "Even if you bleed enough to make a river, you must not give birth to an extra child!" (Hunan Province)

Right- Translation: "If you should get sterilized and you don't, you will be detained and prosecuted. If you should abort and do not abort, your house will be torn down and your cattle will be led away."

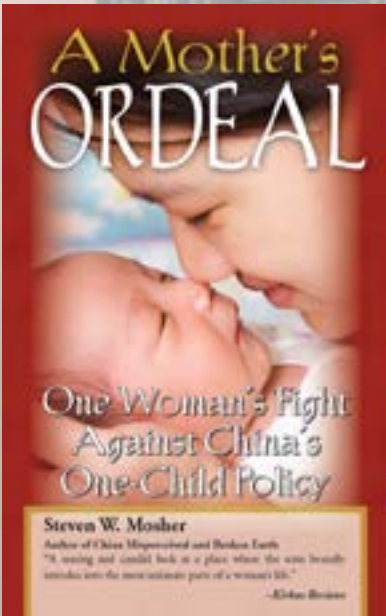


This kind of in-your-face propaganda, combined with strong-arm tactics on those who hold-out, brings most women to heel. Then there are group pressure tactics, used in Liaoning province in northeastern China and elsewhere. In these provinces, second births are allowed only if there no illegal births. If even one illegal child is born, no second births are allowed, and women carrying second children are aborted.

Steven Mosher, who lived in China for several years and witnessed forced abortions commented, “It is hard to imagine the intense hostility, even hysteria, that these group pressure tactics would generate in a small, tightly knit rural community towards anyone who threatened to break the rules.”

On the streets or in the workplace, on the television and in the newspapers, the Chinese people are bombarded with anti-people propaganda. Day after day this softening up process continues, so that when the midnight knock on the door comes, many pregnant mothers and their husbands do not even try to fight back.

To learn more about China’s relentless war on population, read Steve Mosher’s book- *A Mother’s Ordeal*. *A Mother’s Ordeal* is the gripping tale of Chi An, a Chinese woman who experienced firsthand China’s brutal one-child policy, both as an enforcer and as a victim. Steven Mosher helped Chi An win asylum in the United States when she rebelled against the Chinese government’s attempt to force her to abort her second child.



To order your copy call PRI toll free at (888) 774-1531 or order online from either PRI at: pop.org/store, or from Amazon.

The Population Research Institute is a non-profit research group whose goals are to expose the myth of overpopulation, to expose human rights abuses committed in population control programs, and to make the case that people are the world’s greatest resource. Our growing, global network of pro-life groups spans over 30 countries.

Background picture of Shanghai from Wikimeida Commons.

FROM THE COUNTRIES

Armenia

Tert.am – Armenia’s Ministry of Healthcare is considering introducing a measure to ban fetal gender determination until the 30th week of pregnancy. The measure is designed to halt the practice of sex-selective abortion, since Armenians have a cultural preference for boys over girls.

The director of the UNFPA in Armenia, Gavik Hayrapetyan, said that the sex ratio between male and female infants at birth was 114:100 in 2012. The normal ratio of males to females at birth is 105:100; rates much higher or lower than this are not found naturally and are usually the result of targeted abortions.

<http://www.tert.am/en/news/2014/05/20/project/?sw>

#

United Kingdom

UK Doctors “Presigning” Abortion Consent Forms

In February 2012, a government commission in the United Kingdom discovered 67 English doctors in 14 hospitals pre-signing the official forms required for women in Great Britain to undergo an abortion. The British House of Lords recently took note of this flagrant violation of the law. On April 3, Baroness Knight of Collingtree and several other peers asked the British Government, which has left corrective action in the hands of a medical professionals association, to prosecute this violation.

The debate included peers from all three major political parties with widely differing opinions on abortion. The

discussion covered several other topics, including sex-selective abortion. While there was evident disagreement as to whether or not British abortion law bans sex-selective abortions, all peers who spoke on the topic condemned gendercide strongly. The debate concluded with a response from Earl Howe of the Department of Health.

The 50-minute debate raised questions about the status of the unborn in Parliament, where such discussions are few and far between. Britain has had virtual abortion-on-demand since the passage of the Abortion Act in 1967. The four grounds on which abortion is allowed are always loosely interpreted and sometimes—as the investigation showed—totally ignored.

Abortion activists make much of the relationship between a patient and her doctor. In the UK abortion business, however, as the presigned consent forms show, there is no relationship.

#

Spain

(Mercator.net) A report from the pro-family Institute of Family Policies (IPFE) asserts that Spanish family life is in crisis, and blames a collapse in the number of marriages, economic crisis, and an epidemic of broken marriages as reasons for the collapse of the Spanish family.

There are 51,997 fewer marriages in Spain today than there were in 1990, despite the fact that Spain has a higher population now. The total fertility rate in Spain is shockingly low; the total fertility of 1.32 children per woman is among the worst in Europe. Spanish economic decline has only exacerbated this trend, and

families with 3 or more children have faced a 19% drop in income since 2007.

See the Source: http://www.mercatormet.com/family_edge/view/14093

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Where is their outrage against the cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of tens of thousands of Christians who are suffering around the world in countries like China and Iran? Where is their concern over the killing, kidnapping, or forced conversion of Christians in places like North Korea, Pakistan, and Nigeria?

How can any reasonable person support the actions of the Committee on Torture against the one institution- the Catholic Church- that more than any other over the centuries has helped to eliminate, or greatly reduce, slavery, human trafficking, prostitution, and violence by teaching us that all human beings have an innate dignity and worth?

The Committee on Torture has fallen into the hands of those who are so blinded by their anti-people ideology and anti-Catholic bigotry that they no longer understand that all human rights are based on the first freedom: freedom of conscience.

By attacking the Catholic Church, the progenitor of freedom of conscience, they are undercutting the very ground that they should be standing on.

If this is the best that the Committee on Torture can do, it ought to be disbanded.

#

PRI exposes China's one-child policy, in pictures

(World Net Daily) "The Population Research Institute, an organization dedicated to showing the planet is not threatened by the world's population, has posted a series of images online that demonstrate how China controls the number of children born.

It begins with "anti-child propaganda" in schools and workplaces, "then moves to open intimidation in banners and slogans posted in public places," the organization says.

The communist government threatens women who have "illegal" children with the demolition of their homes and the confiscation of their assets.

The sign in the image above is translated by PRI: "If you should get sterilized and you don't, you will be detained and prosecuted. If you should abort and do not abort, your house will be torn down and your cattle will be led away."

See the Source: <http://mobile.wnd.com/2014/04/china-threatens-women-who-have-illegal-children/#3xCtYqBgyR3bOy.99>

#

PRI president discusses China "easing" its one-child policy

(Washington Times) "It was announced with great fanfare as a momentous shift in China's 35-year-old population control policy: The long-awaited "adjustment" in the country's one-child policy has raised hopes that 10 million "extra" babies will be born in the next five years.

But the early returns suggest the relaxation of the one-child limit may not produce the baby boom that many expect.

...

"Barriers to childbearing in China include high costs of housing, education and care for children; 35 years of social messaging about how "one child is best"; and China's many rules about childbearing that are enforced — sometimes ruthlessly — by its massive family planning bureaucracy."

See the Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/apr/20/10-million-new-babies-chinas-hope-for-boom-likely/?page=all>

#

Pregnant women in China treated worse than criminals

(Family Research Council) "Steven Mosher from the Population Research Institute recently received this anonymous letter from a grieving mother in China who said, "It is better to be a criminal in China than a pregnant mother."

...

Unlike Chinese criminals, illegally pregnant women are forced to pay for their own imprisonment, forbidden to communicate with their family, and forbidden from hiring an attorney.

...

"It is a tragedy that pregnant women whose only "crime" is wanting to keep their children are treated so inhumanely in China. If a woman is too poor to pay a fine for having more than one child, she is subjected to cruel treatment that destroys the life of both the mother and her child. Even criminals have more rights in China than pregnant women."

See the Source: <http://www.frcblog.com/2014/04/chinese-woman-speaks-out-it-better-be-criminal-china-pregnant-mother/>

#

PRI calls on bishops to stop pro-abortion politicians from receiving Communion

(Lifesitenews.com) "At the first annual Rome Life Forum in Vatican City today, fifty-two pro-life leaders from sixteen nations called on the bishops of the Catholic Church to deny Holy Communion to pro-abortion politicians in a spirit of love and mercy.

The leaders signed a declaration noting that it is out of concern, and indeed love, for those same politicians that the pro-life leaders ask for this wake-up call to invite pro-abortion politicians back to authentic faith."

The Rome Life Forum called upon Catholic bishops to uphold Canon 915 of the Catholic Church's Code of Canon Law, which states that men and women "obstinately persevering in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to Holy Communion."

Carlos Polo, Director of PRI's Latin American Office, was among the signers of the declaration. Polo declared, "This is an act of real Christian charity for some people who have misunderstood Catholic teaching. If you eliminate the consciousness of sin, including very grave sins, you are eliminating the consciousness of the presence of God. Both God and sin illuminate each other. To those who fight for Life and witnesses the tragedy of each and every abortion, the loss of the sense of sin- the eclipse of the pres-

PRI in the News, continued on page 14

Humanae Vitae, from page 6

gun-shy . . . in speaking with any amount of cogency on chastity and sexual morality."

"The flashpoint was *Humanae Vitae*," Cardinal Dolan continued. "It brought such a tsunami of dissent, departure, disapproval of the church, that I think most of us—and I'm using the first-person plural intentionally, including myself—kind of subconsciously said, 'Whoa. We'd better never talk about that, because it's just too hot to handle.'" Our bishops had "laryngitis," he said.

Nonetheless, Cardinal Dolan admitted that "he sees a hunger, especially among young adults," for *Humanae Vitae*. Furthermore, he said that the youth are now demanding that the Church speak authoritatively on issues of sexuality. "They will be quick to say, 'By the way, we want you to know that we might not be able to obey it... But we want to hear it. And in justice, you as our pastors need to tell us, and you need to challenge us!'"

How curious. Our young people want to hear it the truths of *Humanae Vitae*, but many of our bishops desperately avoid addressing the morality of contraception — even when opposing the "Contraceptive Mandate"!

The same "laryngitis" afflicts their opposition to homosexual "marriage." Instead of taking the opportunity to highlight the Church's moral teachings on the immorality of homosexual acts, they avoid it like the plague — as Cardinal Dolan candidly admits, albeit with a sigh.

As a result, in confronting both of these moral challenges, the bishops have thrown themselves on the mercy of Caesar's secular courts.

Even there, they do not demand that the courts acknowledge the Declaration's "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," the foundation of all of our freedoms. Such an argument would be clear, forceful, and final, regardless of what the Supreme Court's political majority might decide. After all, Holy Mother Church can never abdicate to any secular court the authority to define morality. More importantly, Cardinal Dolan is right. The world hungers for the truths of *Humanae Vitae*.

Let us pray that, in this historic year, our bishops will hearken to the call of Our Lord: "Feed my sheep!"

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Quotes by Cardinal Dolan from: *The Free Library. S.v. Cardinal Dolan says church failed to teach against contraception..*" Retrieved Jun 06 2014 from <http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Cardinal+Dolan+says+church+failed+to+teach+against+contraception.-a0290292213>

Editor's Note: Dr. Chris Manion is the Director of PRI's *Humanae Vitae* project and is available to speak to your parish, school, or organization on this or other related life topics. Call PRI at (888) 774-1531 for details or to set up a speaking engagement.

Dr. Christopher Manion



Christopher Manion: Christopher Manion is Director of PRI's *Humanae Vitae* project. He earned a Ph.D. in government from Notre Dame University, and has taught in departments of Politics, Religion, and International Relations at Boston University, the Catholic University of America, and Christendom College. For many years he was the staff director of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, chaired by the late Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.).

For 10 years, Christopher Manion was a weekly columnist and contributing editor for *The Wanderer* newspaper. He has been a contributing editor and music critic for *Saturday Review* and *High Fidelity* magazines, and his op-eds and book reviews have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *National Review*, *The Journal of Economic Development*, the *National Catholic Register*, and *Western Horseman*.

He serves on the board of the American Foreign Policy Council, and was a founding Fideicomisario (Trustee) of Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala. He is a Knight of Magistral Grace in the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta. He and his family reside in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia.

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children, you are going to have a problem with elder neglect. A certain amount is simply baked into the policy.

For thousands of years, elderly Chinese had lived with their children and grandchildren, but that is rapidly changing too, as young people leave their hometowns for education and employment opportunities. According to the report, 90 percent of China's elderly live at home instead of assisted living facilities. But their children and grandchildren often choose not to live with them, or cannot live with them. The problem is particularly acute in rural areas: Millions of young farmhands have left for factories and construction sites, while rural social security and healthcare resources are comparatively sparse, leaving many elderly to fend for themselves in squalid conditions.

A nascent social security safety net is being built in rural areas, but is not yet particularly sturdy. According to the report, over 40 percent of senior citizens above the age of 80 live alone. The report cites another study that shows 37.5 million elderly Chinese citizens lacked the ability to care for themselves in 2013.

A quarter of all elderly lived below the poverty line. In a survey released by the NHFPC, 80 percent of Chinese households say they are worried about supporting their elderly relatives.

Responding to the report on social media, Chinese web users expressed concerns about the future of Chinese families and what it means for the country's economic and social development. Zhi Xiefei, a professor at Nanjing Information Technology University in wealthy Jiangsu province, wrote that China "would not be able to achieve sustainable growth" based on these demographic trends. Many blamed China's longstanding family planning policy, which restricts millions of urban families to only one child per couple. Despite a major reform to the policy in December 2013 that allowed certain urban couples to have two children, bureaucratic red tape remains thick, and the cost of raising children may prove prohibitive to some couples.

To be sure, there is one bright spot in the report, at least for enterprising real estate developers with an eye on the long term. The report projects that China will have 500 million households in 2040,

compared to 430 million today, because of the trends toward smaller families. That could mean more demand for urban housing units in the decades to come.

For everyone else, the report is likely to stoke concern. It shows anxieties about the expense of caring for children and parents weighing on Chinese families; that, in turn, is likely to reduce their propensity to spend, just as the Chinese economy becomes increasingly reliant on a burgeoning consumer culture to bolster its growth. For Chinese policymakers, this may be the wake-up call they need to continue to reform the country's much-maligned family planning policy. It may get increasingly rare for four Chinese generations to live in one home. But neither need there be so many families of one.



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ence of God- is the only way to explain how someone could perform an abortion or conspire to kill an innocent baby. This is not intended to be a punishment for pro-abortion people, but rather a call back to faith and reason. This is a way of calling them back to the Love and Life of God."

See the Source: <http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/declaration-urging-bishops-to-deny-communion-to-pro-abortion-politicians-si>

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Aborto Cero: Ground Zero in the Abortion Wars

Carlos Polo, Director of PRI in Latin America, is among the most influential Spanish-speaking Pro-Lifers

By PRI Staff

Aborto Cero ("Abortion Zero") is the title of the most important pro-life book ever published in the Spanish-speaking world. It brings together 22 of the most well-known and influential personalities of the pro-life movement, including our own Carlos Polo. It includes experts in the fields of science, law, theology and, in Carlos' case, political action, all offering their own impassioned critiques of the tragedy of abortion.

The book has been a phenomenal hit in Spain, where the ongoing debate over the defense of the unborn's right to life has become a key political issue.

Carlos' article is entitled "The resurgence of a pro-life conscience in the world." It examines how, across the globe, a citizen-driven movement for the respect of life from conception to natural death has taken off. It has grown up

despite the lack of attention paid to it by the mainstream media, and has reached dimensions that make it simply impossible to ignore. Its members are young, energetic, and determined to effect the political process in a positive way.

The March for Life in USA, La Manif Pour Tous in France, the March for the Family in Spain, and the March for Life Lima 2014 are each examples of how hundreds of thousands of people are taking to the streets in a dozen countries to express their support of the pro-life and pro-family movement. As Carlos remarks, "The most dynamic social movement in the world today is the pro-life movement. It crosses borders and continents, bringing together people of pro-life sentiments from around the world."

Other contributors to *Aborto Cero* include Mgrs. José Ignacio Munilla the

Bishop of San Sebastian, Ignacio Arsuaga the Chairman of the civic organization, Hazteoir.org, and María San Gil and Esperanza Oña, the leaders of the "Partido Popular" (Popular Party).

The book has stirred opposition as well. Recently, several pro-life activists were physically attacked while they were promoting the book in a University of Madrid seminar. The pro-life politicians who contributed articles are being hampered by self-styled feminists.

The controversy has led the publisher, Stella Maris, to place thousands of billboards and posters on city streets in Spain. The billboards show the cover of the book with a banner across it saying, "The book that many do not want you to read."

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Global Monitor

World

(*The Telegraph*) Oxford economist Ian Goldin warns that 70 percent of the world's population, specifically in Western and emerging countries, is living in areas facing looming population declines. Professor Goldin cites growing urbanization and levels of women's education as a factor, noting that as the costs of having children increase in urbanized societies, children are viewed by couples as a burden rather than an asset.

Goldin warns that this birth dearth potentially has massive negative repercussions for the world economy. "More people means more creativity, more geniuses. More and more people means more and more extraordinary things for the planet. When we ask if the planet is too full we are questioning whether people in the future have a right to exist. And I am not sure anyone would say that about their own grandchildren."

See the Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/hay-festival/10853567/World-needs-more-people-to-stop-population-crash.html>

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Africa

(Allafrica.com) – The British medical journal *The Lancet* has published a series of papers demanding unified international action to reduce the high infant mortality rate in Africa.

9 of the 10 highest infant mortality rates in the world are found in Africa. The country with the highest rate is Sierra Leone, which has 49.5 deaths for every 1000 live births. Many of

these deaths are preventable. Lead author Joy Lawn argued that "over 70 percent of newborn deaths are preventable with currently available techniques." The studies claim that many steps to reduce infant mortality, such as "kangaroo care" [skin-to-skin contact between a newborn and a caregiver], neonatal resuscitation, and breastfeeding, can be implemented at the rate of \$1.15 per person per year.

A number of groups – the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Children's Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and Save the Children – have endorsed these initiatives as "the clearest picture to date of a newborn's chance of survival and the steps that must be taken to end preventable human deaths." One hopes that these groups will prove as active in preventing the deaths of newborns as they have been in forcing contraceptive pills and injections on their mothers.

See the Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201405200001.html?viewall=1>

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From the Countries, from page 11

Italy

(*The Local*) According to The National Institute for Statistics (Istat), Italy's main supplier of official statistical information, the number of Italian births has dropped dramatically in recent years. 515,000 children were born in 2013 – 64,000 fewer births than in 2008. Italy also has the second-oldest population in Europe – there are 151.4 people over the age of 65 for every 100 people under 15 years of age.

The Italian economy contracted in the first quarter and Italian GDP (gross domestic product) is projected to grow by less than 1% in 2014. Istat is planning

to include estimated sex trade and drug trafficking revenues in future calculations for the year 2015, according to *The Local*, "in a move expected to boost its economic results."

See the Source: <http://www.thelocal.it/20140528/italys-birth-rate-hits-record-low>

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Ukraine

(*FiveThirtyEight.com*) - Like many of its European counterparts, Ukraine is shedding population at a frightening rate. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1990, the population has declined by 6.3 million people to 45.6 million in 2012, this according to Ukrainian government figures. This downward trend shows no signs of slowing: the United Nations predicts that, according to its most likely projection, Ukraine's population will fall to only 34 million by 2050.

Several factors are driving Ukraine's depopulation, chief among them low birthrates, high mortality, emigration, and tensions with Russia. The impact of low birthrates are heightened in Ukraine because medical care is less advanced and life expectancy is shorter than in many other developed countries such as Japan.

One is tempted to say that, if the Ukrainians don't start having children, they might as well simply hand over their country to Russia, since they obviously don't care enough to populate it.

See the Source: <http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/ukraines-other-big-challenge-is-a-demographic-one/>

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