

POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE REVIEW

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A review and analysis of worldwide population control activity

Natural Family Planning Takes Hold in Africa But Population Controllers Ignore NFP in Their Push for Contraceptives

Anne Morse and Steven Mosher

IT SEEMED LIKE your typical family planning conference. It was sponsored by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Health Organization's Department of Reproductive Health and Research. It had the typical title: "Is Access Enough? Understanding and Addressing Unmet Need for Family Planning." It even seemed to have the usual group of presenters ready with their cherry-picked findings to lobby for even more money to be spent on the contraception and sterilization of African women.

But, this time, in the small town of Nanyuki, Kenya, which sits right on the Equator, something different happened.

Three researchers—one from Geneva, one from Paris, and one from Burkina Faso—presented a paper which called into question several of the basic premises of

the population controllers. They found that natural family planning methods not only work well, but that they are successfully used by large numbers of women. They also found that, because previous surveys completely ignored NFP, the so-called "unmet need for contraception" has been grossly overestimated.

The researchers came to their remarkable conclusions in the course of a study conducted in Ouagadougou, the capital city of the West-African country of Burkina Faso, and published in the journal *Studies in Family Planning* this June.

They took a novel approach: Instead of simply using the standard health questionnaire that ignores NFP, they decided that their survey would include questions to the women about their use of natural methods of family planning.

They found that surprisingly large numbers of women used NFP. Of the women surveyed, almost 25% reported that they used a natural method for family planning. That is to say, previous health surveys carried out by USAID and other population control-minded organizations had completely ignored



African women are quite capable of regulating their own fertility without the help of USAID. Image courtesy of Wikipedia.

the fact that one-quarter of the women were using some form of NFP.

Because of this error—which some would call deliberate—previous health surveys have been way off the mark. They record that only 35% of Burkina Faso women used artificial contraception and wrongly conclude from this that the other 65% have an "unmet need" to be put on the pill, injected with Depo Provera, or sterilized.

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Why We Fight

A Letter from Steven Mosher

Dear PRI Supporter,

We recently received a call from a woman who was forcibly sterilized at the age of nine. Yes, you heard me right. She was only nine years old, still years away from reaching puberty, when they tied her tubes! And it happened not in some dark, far-away land, but right here in these United States. And it destroyed her dream of becoming a mother and her hope of raising a family forever.

She was calling because she had heard about Population Research Institute and our work on behalf of victims of population control programs like herself. Even though it was too late for her, she said, she was heartened to know that other girls might be saved by our ongoing pro-life work.

As we do our day-to-day work of exposing the grisly parade of horrors wrought by population control, as we work to defund such barbarities, we always remember who we are fighting for. We are fighting for the mothers, the fathers, and the children whose lives have been shattered, or even ended, by that twisted ideology.

We remind ourselves each sterilization and each forced abortion not only affects one life but countless lives, that it not only harms people in the here and now but has eternal consequences as well.

Every victim of these inhumane programs is a unique individual, each created for a purpose, each part of the divine plan. This is precisely why we fight; we recognize the value of each and every human life. The wealthy and the poor, the healthy and the disabled, the very old and the very young – all have infinite value in the eyes of God.

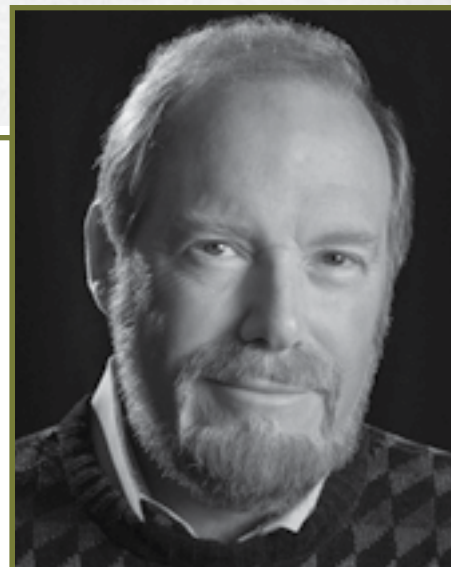
I have told you before that our pro-life efforts are entirely dependent upon you and your prayers, so I won't belabor that point here. But I do want to stress that we thank God every day for the blessing of you, a steadfast friend of PRI.

Working together, we can bring America and the world back to Life.

Sincerely yours in the Lord of all Life,



Steven Mosher



 POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE
REVIEW

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Nigerian Women Don't Want What the U.S. is Peddling

Steven W. Mosher

WITH A POPULATION of 177 million, Nigeria has long been a target of population controllers. It is listed in NSSM 200, the infamous Nixon/Kissinger document which launched the war on people, as a country of special concern. As such, it has gotten more than its share of the abortifacients, sterilizing agents, and contraceptives that the American government has poured into Africa over the past few decades.

Still, it is not enough, at least according to the Obama administration, which wants to increase the current shipments. [1] Their excuse is that maternal mortality in Nigeria is still too high, and if they could only chemically or surgically sterilize more women, then fewer women would die in childbirth.

Now it is true that Nigeria accounts for 13% of all cases of maternal mortality found in the world.[2] But it does not follow that the way to save women from dying in childbirth is to prevent them from having any children.

International organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) are up in arms over the fact that only about 12 or 15% of sexually active women use contraception. These organizations say that this rate is too low and that Nigerian women desperately want artificial contraception but have no access to it.[3]

Politicians like Nancy Pelosi eat this explanation up, since it fits in with their "war on women" narrative, but it is simply not true. Nigerian women aren't begging for artificial contraception from the West. In fact, about a third have tried it, and decided against continuing to use it.[4]

When asked why they don't use contraception, Nigerian women commonly give "politically incorrect" answers, such as they are "opposed to contraceptive use" or they "want as many children as possible." Even among Nigerian women who have six or



more children, less than half of them want to limit or stop childbearing.[5]

Such answers are simply incomprehensible to the gender feminists who staff USAID's overseas offices. They simply don't take the views of Nigerian women seriously. They can't actually want all those children, they think to themselves. Besides, it's bad for the planet.

But history shows that Nigerian families were spacing their children long before the gender feminists arrived. A paper published in the *Journal of Population Studies* discussed the natural and historical methods of spacing children in Nigeria, particularly among the Yoruba, saying, "In Yoruba society, and in most of sub-Saharan Africa, fertility is reduced . . . by postpartum sexual abstinence, which exceeds the period of lactation." [6]

When the researchers asked Nigerians why they use abstinence to space childbearing, over four-fifths of all respondents, and "practically all" Nigerians living in the countryside, said they space childbearing

through abstinence for the health of the child and the mother. Rural Nigerians take the responsibility to space children so seriously that failure to abstain is seen as "tantamount to a physical assault on the baby, even to the extent of murder." [7] Traditional Nigerian cultures strongly support abstinence postpartum as a means to space children.

Sadly, demographers studying Nigerian culture observe that the practice of abstaining to space children is eroding. The authors explained that "this [erosion] is largely explained by the existence of social groups unknown in the traditional society who are often assisted in the early resumption of sexual relations by contraceptive methods also previously unknown [by the Nigerian people.]" [8] And funded and promoted by the West, we would add.

The West seems determined to change Nigeria's sexual culture to resemble its own, with contraceptives sold on every street corner, sex with whomever and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Exposed!

The Biggest Lie Ever Told About the Catholic Church

WE'RE OFTEN BOMBARDED with huge lies about the Church, including the Inquisition . . . Pope Pius XII and the Jews . . . the Church and Galileo . . . and many more. But the real whopper used by Catholic-haters is the lie about the Church and the Crusades: That the Crusades were 700 years of vicious, Papal-ordered assaults on peaceful Muslims, along with Church-sanctioned attacks on Jews.

That anti-Catholic lie is shattered in the CD I'd like to send you. From Catholic Answers, it's *The Real Story of the Crusades* by acclaimed Church historian and Christendom College Lecturer Steve Weidenkopf. In this 2-hour CD you'll learn . .

. . . The three major anti-Catholic myths about the Crusades and how to shred those falsehoods whenever anyone – innocently or otherwise – repeats them . . . the four essential ingredients of the Crusades . . . the various types and objectives of the Crusades . .

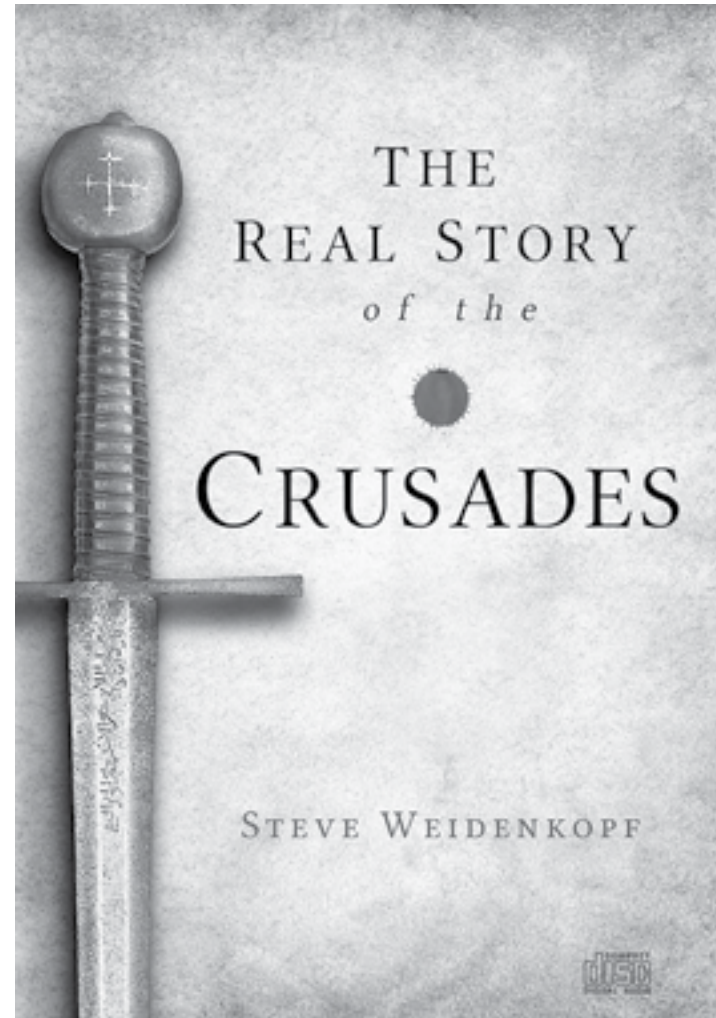
. . . The main reason men went on Crusades . . . what the Church promised each and every Crusader, in addition to spiritual and temporal privileges . . . the public vow that every Crusader took . . . how Hollywood is among the biggest perpetrators of anti-Catholic Crusade lies, with specific examples . .

. . . How Crusaders spiritually and materially prepared for their missions . . . the astounding casualty rate suffered by Crusaders . . . why the Crusades were acts of defense and not aggression, as illustrated by what Muslims did to 12,000 Crusaders near Jerusalem on Good Friday in the year 1065 (you really must hear that story as it's told on this CD!) . . plus so much more that demolishes the biggest lie ever told about the Catholic Church.

As I said, this 2-hour CD is by Christendom College Lecturer Steve Weidenkopf, an exceptionally gifted speaker whose presentation will rivet you! May I send you *The Real Story of the Crusades* with thanks for your much-needed gift of \$50 or more?

One more thing: as you listen to *The Real Story of the Crusades* you'll learn why militant Islamists committed the atrocities they did during the Crusades – and then it will become crystal clear why they're still doing it today in Syria, Iraq and other countries!

Please use the enclosed Gift Reply to request your copy of *The Real Story of the Crusades* . .



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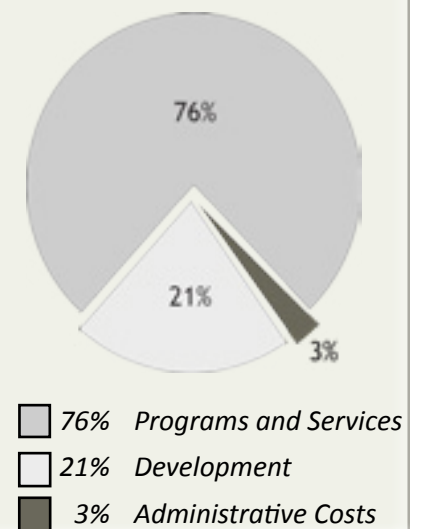
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"NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING TAKES HOLD IN AFRICA," FROM PAGE 1

The new study shows that 1 in 4 women in Burkina Faso cannot possibly have an "unmet need for family planning," since their "needs" are already being met by the use of a safe, effective, healthy and free natural method. The authors conclude that past surveys have overestimated the "unmet need for contraception" by a whopping 25%.

All this is to say that the population controllers hold natural methods of family planning in such disdain that they wrongly view the 25% of women who use NFP as deluded.

As for the other 40%, it is by no means certain that they are eagerly lining up to be contracepted or sterilized either. USAID's "experts" also cite Burkina Faso's high birth rate as evidence that—regardless of what the women themselves say—they obviously have an enormous "unmet need" to be contracepted and sterilized. According to the Demographic and Health Surveys

(DHS) carried out by USAID, the average woman in Burkina Faso gives birth to 6 children over her lifetime. Because this is slightly more than their average desired fertility of 5.2 children, the population controllers conclude that the average

"...they can ensure that they reach their desired family size."

woman in Burkina Faso is having more children than she wants.

But it doesn't take a Ph.D. in demography to figure out why Burkina Faso women are having children. Child mortality rates are so high that the probability of having 5 children who all live until their 5th birthday is only 50%. And just 25 years ago, when women who are now ending their reproductive lives were in their early twenties and just starting to have children, the probability of having 5 children who all survive until their 5th birthday was

less than 30%. Simply put, the women of Burkina Faso are giving birth to more children than they say they want because so many of their children die young. Having an "extra" child or two is insurance. It's the only way they can ensure that they reach their desired family size.

At the end of the day, population controllers really don't care what the women of Africa want. Instead, they are determined to dictate to them what their fertility will be regardless. And it's no wonder that they exaggerate "unmet need," since this number is one of the principal justifications for USAID's billion-dollar population control budget. "Look at how many hundreds of millions of women have a crying need for more contraceptives," its lobbyists tell Congress. "We need more money."

The authors of the new study suggest what we at PRI have been saying for years, namely, that future surveys must ask questions to accurately include the large proportion of women who use

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Humanae Vitae Watch
A Brief History:
How the Courts Overturned the Constitution's Protection of Life

Dr. Christopher Manion



"In questions of powers, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." ~Thomas Jefferson, 1798(1)

THESE DAYS THE simple truths of Humanae Vitae are constantly challenged by an avalanche of conflicting and confused federal court decisions that assail life, marriage, and the family. We have a right to be bewildered, and we have a duty to understand how the once-flourishing legal field of freedom and the rule of law got turned into a fetid swamp. Let's start with a simple question: Where does the Constitution confer on the federal government the power to meddle with marriage, or abortion, or health insurance? The answer, of course, is simple: it doesn't. But beginning more than 100 years ago, judicial restraint began to give way to hubris and arrogance.

"The Constitution is what the judges say it is," wrote New York Governor Charles Evans Hughes in 1907.(2) His was not an idle boast. He put it into practice, and into law, during his seventeen years on the United States Supreme Court, eleven of them as Chief Justice. Congress could easily have reversed this power grab, but it didn't. And by 1958, Chief Justice Earl Warren could smugly declare it a "settled doctrine" that the whim of five justices was now the "Supreme Law of the Land."(3) This is the perverse principle that allowed the Supreme Court to overturn "The Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" fifteen years later in Roe v. Wade. By 1992, the Supreme Court didn't even bother to pretend that its members were "bound down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." In Planned Parenthood v. Casey, Justice Anthony Kennedy, affirming Roe v. Wade, sounded a trumpet call for nihilism as the foundation of the Supreme Court's new jurisprudence: "At the heart of liberty," he wrote, "is the right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life."(4) In practice, of course, the Supreme Court gets to define that liberty – and no higher law can overrule it. Pope Benedict XVI dismissed this empty pomposity in a meeting with visiting American bishops in 2012: "At the heart of every culture," he said, "whether perceived or not, is a consensus about the nature of reality and the moral good, and thus about the conditions for human flourishing. In America, that consensus, as enshrined in your nation's founding documents, was grounded in a

worldview shaped not only by faith but a commitment to certain ethical principles deriving from nature and nature's God."(5) Justice Kennedy's opinion clearly articulates the unbound ego of the Culture of Death. In contrast, Benedict identifies the truth that makes us free and sustains and protects the Culture of Life. Ignatius of Loyola portrays this conflict vividly in his Spiritual Exercises: "See a great field of all that region of Jerusalem, where the supreme Commander-in-chief of the good is Christ our Lord; another field in the region of Babylon, where the chief of the enemy is Lucifer. Christ calls and wants all under His standard; and Lucifer, on the contrary, under his..."(6) There's nothing new under the sun. In every age, the "Two Standards" stake out the battleground for the soul of every country and the heart of every human being.

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1) 1798 Jefferson: <http://www.constitution.org/cons/kent1798.htm>
2) 1907 Hughes: <http://www.bartleby.com/73/328.html>
3) 1958 Warren: Cooper v. Aaron [358 US 1 (1958)].
4) 1992 PP v. Casey: Planned Parenthood v. Casey [505 U.S. 833 (1992)]
2012 Benedict:
5) http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/january/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120119_bishops-usa_en.html
6) Ignatius: Spiritual Exercises, Week Two, Day Four: Mediation on two standards

#

FROM THE COUNTRIES

Global Monitor

(South China Morning Post) Recent studies show that current demographic trends could slow the long-predicted economic rise of China substantially. China's working age population shrank for the first time in 2012, and dropped by 3.45 million people last year alone. This decrease in working-age population will put a strain on the Chinese economy, as working-age citizens retire and decrease China's enormous manufacturing pool. As a contrast, sub-Saharan Africa will see the proportion of its working-age population (population aged 15-64) rise substantially, if current trends continue: from 53.5% in 2010 to 64.6% in 2100. In China, conversely, this number will fall from 73.5% to 56.6% over the same time period. An International Monetary Fund (IMF) paper declared that these demographic changes in Africa represented "a window of opportunity, which if properly tapped, can be transformational." Economic leaders, sensing these trends, are looking to Africa as a new locus of international power in the 21st century. Chinese trade with Africa has risen substantially in the last ten years, increasing twelvefold from \$18 billion in 2003 to \$210 billion in 2013. See the Source: <http://www.scmp.com/business/economy/article/1580413/changing-tides-could-shift-focus-china-africa>

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South Korea

(Wall Street Journal) According to a simulation conducted by the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea will go extinct by the year 2750 if current demographic trends continue in the country. The simulation, which assumed that South Korea would maintain a fertility rate of 1.19 children, found that South Korea's current population of 50 million will drop to 20 million by the end of the century. South Korea has one of the lowest fertility rates in the world; the average South Korean woman currently bears about 1.25 children. Only Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau and Singapore have lower fertility rates, according to the Central Intelligence Agency. While South Korea's fertility rate has rebounded slightly from its all-time low of 1.08 children per woman in 2005, its fertility rate is still well below the replacement rate of 2.1 necessary to maintain population stability. The South Korean government's campaign against fertility, which began in the 1960s under President Park Chung-hee and continued well into the 1980s, appears to have proven too effective. See the Source: <http://blogs.wsj.com/korearealtime/2014/08/25/south-korea-to-go-extinct-by-2750/>

#

Thailand

(Associated Press) A recent Interpol investigation uncovered a "baby factory" in Bangkok established by 24-year-old Thai businessman Mitsutoki Shigeta. Police raided a condominium in the Thai capital of Bangkok, where they found

nine children fathered by Shigeta being cared for by nannies. They later discovered that Shigeta had already fathered seven other children through surrogate mothers, and allegedly was planning to father hundreds more. Shigeta is trying to regain custody over the children he fathered, claiming that he did nothing illegal. Through a lawyer, Shigeta claimed that he had the desire and means to support a large family. Mariam Kukunashvili, the founder of a fertility clinic whom Shigeta originally worked with, claimed that Shigeta wanted to win elections with his large family and the best thing he could do for the world would be to have many children. See the Source: <http://wtop.com/233/3686965/Man-with-16-surrogate-babies-wants-hundreds-more>

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"NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING TAKES HOLD IN AFRICA," FROM PAGE 5

natural methods, and that health clinics actively promote natural fertility awareness methods. The current surveys that miscategorize a quarter of the women serve the purposes of the population controllers and the pill manufacturers, not the women themselves. The authors also concluded that women aren't refusing hormonal contraception because of "problems of access," but because of "dislike for modern methods [of contraception]." If you've ever wondered why USAID insists on shipping container loads of contraceptives to places like Burkina Faso, where they rot in warehouses and gather dust on the shelves of family planning clinics until they are thrown away, well, now you know.

#

PRI Employee Leaves for Higher Calling



STEVEN WOOD is truly the most joyful person I have ever worked with. I know that he will be excellent at bringing the light of Christ to everyone around him!

~Susannah Cavanaugh
Marketing Coordinator

STEVEN IS A living model of sanctity – cheerful, helpful, and incredibly devoted to serving God and his fellow man. He was loved by everybody, because it was so clear that he loves everyone he knew. He will be missed deeply here, but we will always be united

with him in prayer and service.

~Paul Wilson
Development Specialist

STEVEN WOOD is a co-worker you want to keep forever. He always has a smile and awesome attitude about everything. As much as I will miss him though, I know he is answering a

greater calling and vocation. God Bless you Steven!

~Mary Harrington
Donor Relations Coordinator

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” ~Ephesians 2:10

Editor’s Note: Steven Wood began working at PRI in the summer of 2013, shortly after his graduation from Christendom College. He worked at PRI for one year, in which he was a valued member of the staff, working as a development specialist and then development coordinator for a short period of time. He was taken up to Mount Angel Seminary, Oregon, in a Honda after spending some time with his family in California. Please keep him, his vocation, and all vocations in your prayers.

STEVEN IS A man of genuine Christian joy. God keep you Steven. Our prayers for your continued growth in the Lord Jesus.

~Joel Bockrath
Executive Vice President

HOLY IS THE best word to describe Steven Wood and I pray that he will always maintain that devotion that has made him one of the best men I know and a true friend of both God and man. You will be missed, Steven. Our prayers go with you as you go to restore all things in Christ!

~Matthew Camp
Editor



PRI will miss you, Steven.

PRI in the News

(*Washington Post*) “Allowing China to participate in the Rim of the Pacific naval exercise, the world’s largest, puts our navy in the cross hairs of Chinese intelligence — and may one day soon put our seamen in harm’s way. China’s continued territorial aggression in the East and South China seas may well lead to armed conflict. So why are we giving it a firsthand look at our naval capabilities and tactics?”

It is past time that we realize China’s Communist leaders have been playing us for fools. The country’s accession to the World Trade Organization and other international bodies did not mean that it would evolve into a “responsible stakeholder” in the U.S.-dominated world order, only that it was committed to advancing its interests. China does not share our democratic values and institutions. It remains a totalitarian-minded dictatorship bent on relentlessly pursuing its hegemonic ambitions. Its smaller, weaker neighbors — many of whom have been bullied by Beijing of late — recognize this. It is past time that the United States does, too, and starts seriously countering Beijing’s power play before it is too late.”

—Letter from Steve Mosher, published in *The Washington Post*, July 11, 2014

See the Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/us-needs-to-block-chinas-power-play-not-give-it-an-assist/2014/07/11/c2637b62-06a1-11e4-9a71-264773a2ffc8_story.html

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“Nigerian Women Don’t Want What the U.S. is Peddling,” from page 3

whenever one chooses, and abortion for any babies that may be “accidentally” conceived. That’s why USAID, UNFPA and their surrogates are spending tens of millions of dollars on media campaigns to undermine Nigeria’s values.

A study conducted by the Demographic and Health Surveys in 2008 found that the men and women of Nigeria learn about artificial contraception through foreign-sponsored family planning media programs. About 40% of women and 60% of men in Nigeria have heard family planning messages on the radio, and one in ten women says she has seen advertisements for contraceptives in a newspaper or magazine—a remarkable statistic in a country where half of the women are illiterate. Nigerians also say they see contraceptive messages on the television (about a quarter of women and about one third of all men).[9]

The messages promote a false sexuality and discourage childbearing. They tell Nigerians, “For the love of your family, go for child spacing today.” In addition, the family planning “information” ignores its potential side effects. Among Nigerian women who have had a contraceptive intrauterine device inserted, one in five say they were not informed about possible side effects, and among women who have received a contraceptive hormone injections, two in five say they weren’t informed of possible side effects.[10]

And this is why—despite the incessant pro-sex, anti-child propaganda that they are subjected to—one-half of Nigerian women who have ever used modern contraceptive drugs or devices are no longer using them. Nigerian women are reclaiming their culture while still crying out for real health care for themselves and their children.

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[1] “Department of State and Other International Programs.” Presidential Budget: FY 2015 (2014): n. Web. <<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/www.pop.org/files/omb/budget/fy2015/assets/sta.pdf>>.

[2] Chukwu, Onyebuchi. “Articles.” Nigeria Accounts for 13% Global Maternal Mortality Rates,. This Day Live, 12 July 2014. Web. 06 Aug. 2014. <<http://www.thisdaylive.com/articles/nigeria-accounts-for-13-global-maternal-mortality-rates/183394/>>.

[3] “1st National Family Planning Conference: 22nd to 24th November, 2010 at Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Abuja, Nigeria.” 1st National Family Planning Conference: 22nd to 24th November, 2010 at Sheraton Hotel and (n.d.): n. pag. United Nations Population Fund. Web. <<http://nigeria.unfpa.org/pdf/nfpconf2010.pdf>>.

[4] National Population Commission (NPC) [Nigeria] and ICF Macro. 2009. Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2008. Abuja, Nigeria: National Population Commission and ICF Macro

[5] Ibid.

[6] Caldwell, John C., and Pat Caldwell. “The role of marital sexual abstinence in determining fertility: a study of the Yoruba in Nigeria.” *Population Studies* 31.2 (1977): 193-217.

[7] Ibid.

[8] Ibid.

[9] National Population Commission (NPC) [Nigeria] and ICF Macro. 2009. Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey 2008. Abuja, Nigeria: National Population Commission and ICF Macro.

[10] Ibid.

#

Pope Visits Cemetery for Aborted Children in Korea

Steven Mosher

IN MANY WAYS, South Korea is a great success story. Regular, peaceful elections have been held since the country transitioned to democracy in the 1980s, in sharp contrast to the despotic—some would say psychotic—regime in the north ruled by dictator-for-life Kim Jong-Un. Samsungs and Hyundais continue to roll off the assembly lines and are shipped to consumers around the world, providing the South Koreans with one of the highest living standards in Asia.

And the number of Christians continues to grow. Nearly one-third of the population of 50 million—some 15 million people—now profess a belief in Jesus Christ. Of these, one-third are Catholic, part of the Pope’s worldwide flock, and the principal reason for his visit.

But this country—a success story in so many ways—hides a secret shame: South Korea has the highest abortion rate in the world. Nearly half of all pregnancies end in abortion. Each year, almost as many Korean children are aborted as are allowed to see the light of day.

This Pope understands that actions speak louder than words. (Think about his participation in Rome’s “March for Life” last year.) He knows that his visit to a “Cemetery for Aborted Children” will call attention to this ongoing tragedy.

The sheer dimensions of this South Korean holocaust are stunning. One source gives a figure of 340,000 abortions for 2012, a year in which the entire country only saw 440,000 live births.[1] Perhaps 20 million children have been aborted over the last half century, a huge number for a country which is only the size of Indiana or Portugal—and over six times the number of military and civilian casualties the country suffered during the Korean War.

The number of abortions is little more than a guesstimate, however. No one knows the actual death toll with any precision, since nearly all of the abortions performed



Cemetery in Seoul, South Korea. Photo by: Jordi Sanchez Teruel on Flickr.

in South Korea are technically “illegal.” The country’s laws only permit abortion in cases of rape or incest, when a woman’s health is in danger, or when a pregnant woman or her spouse has certain communicable or hereditary diseases. No one keeps records of “illegal” abortions.

The restrictions have been in place since 1953, but they are almost completely ignored in practice. Abortionists openly advertise their services in big cities like Seoul and Pusan. Many Korean women have had repeat abortions. And the authorities, for the most part, turn a blind eye.

So what is going on? Why is the world’s worst abortion holocaust taking place in a country where most abortions are illegal?

The answer in two words: population control.

Back in the late 1960s, South Korea came under tremendous pressure from the United States to reduce its birth rate on the grounds that it was “overpopulated.” (It wasn’t “overpopulated,” of course, it was merely poor.) The South Korean government went along with Uncle Sam and adopted a two-child policy. In reality

it had little choice, since in those early years the U.S. forces were the only thing standing in the way of continued North Korean and Chinese aggression.

Anti-child propaganda was quickly introduced into the schools. Couples with more than two children were publicly criticized, while government officials with more than two children lost their jobs. And, most tellingly, laws restricting abortion became dead letters.

Abortion quickly became the primary means of birth control, as couples sought to conform to the new two-child norm. The abortion holocaust had begun.

Today, a half century later, many Koreans understand that the two-child policy was a tragic mistake. Bishop Peter Kang U-il of Cheju, for example, who serves as president of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Korea, said recently that the nation faces “a national disaster” because of “government policies over the years.”

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Editor’s note: This article originally appeared on *Aleteia.org*, August 15, 2014.

PRI Saves Baby from “Therapeutic Abortion Protocol” in Peru

Paul Wilson

THROUGH THE GRACE of God, PRI has saved the life of an unborn child in Peru who was slated to be aborted for so-called “therapeutic” reasons.

Doctors in a Peruvian hospital had decided to give a woman with breast cancer an abortion, claiming that the abortion was necessary to save her life. In fact, they were primarily worried that their plans to put the woman on chemotherapy would cause the child to be born with birth defects. Rather than undertake alternative treatment, they decided to simply do away with the child.

Problem solved, right? Wrong. Peru’s Therapeutic Abortion Protocol was never intended to be used to justify an abortion where the mother’s life was not in immediate danger.

When PRI heard about the doctors’ deadly plans, we quickly intervened.

Carlos Polo, the president of PRI in Latin America, first called the head of the cancer department who wanted the abortion performed, and told him that this would be a violation of the law. When the doctor balked, we upped the ante. Using our connections in the Peruvian legal system and government, we brought in an attorney and a legislator to talk to the doctor. These managed to persuade the unwilling oncologist and his colleagues to call off the abortion by threatening them with criminal prosecution.

The abortion that the doctors were originally bent upon was never medically necessary. The mother is currently receiving alternate treatment for her cancer in the form of chemotherapy that does not harm her unborn child. Mother and child are doing well.

Here we have a perfect example of how the pro-abortion movement uses

Therapeutic Abortion Protocols to push for ever more abortions. In this case, it was used as an excuse to pressure parents into agreeing to an abortion that was neither medically necessary nor legally permitted. Worldwide, the “health of the mother” exception to many pro-life laws is one of the principal justifications for executing unborn children. It becomes in effect, a license to kill.

Until recently, Peruvian doctors would never have dared to propose performing an abortion under these or any other circumstances. The right to life was protected from conception by the Peruvian constitution.

But the “therapeutic abortion protocol” adopted in Peru this past June has blurred the lines. Doctors are now allowed to perform abortions when “it is the only means to save the mother’s life or to prevent serious and permanent damage to the mother’s health.”

Some doctors are taking this exception to be the new rule, and are performing so-called “therapeutic abortions” under a wider and wider array of circumstances. Unless this trend is stopped, abortion-on-demand is just around the corner.

One of the dirtiest tricks in the pro-abortion arsenal is their penchant for exploiting the urgent need to protect the lives and health of mothers by using this to justify aborting their unborn children. First, laws and regulations instituting abortion for reasons of health are established. Then, exceptions permitting abortion to ensure “the health of the mother” are expanded in practice until they become the norm, and abortion-on-demand becomes the order of the day.

Some call this health care. We call it homicide. And we intend to stop it whenever and wherever we can.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Steven W. Mosher,

I would like to express my appreciation to you for your presentation to the students of Manistee Catholic Central during your recent visit to Manistee, Michigan. The insight you shared from your research and more importantly life experience was enlightening to the students and teachers present and generated much follow up discussion.

In retrospect, Paul Ehrlich's research was the foundation for my freshman biology at the University of Detroit in 1970. I know your presentation helped students who are trying to discern Respect Life issues and reinforced those already committed to respecting the dignity of all human life.

Thank you as well for your donation of *A Mother's Ordeal* for the MCC library.

Respectfully, Edward Kolanowski, BA. MSCTE

Assistant Principal



Editor's Note: We received the following letter from a prison inmate who had contacted us requesting books. Please keep both us and him in your prayers.

Dear PRI,

I cannot begin to express my sincere gratitude for the two books you sent to me via Fr. Tom, not to mention the prayers and kind words in your letter. Quite often, incarcerated people are forgotten and dismissed as "undesirables" by our society, so it is comforting to know that you and your organization do not participate in that way of thinking.

Please know that I will be offering my prayers and rosaries to the mission of your organization, and will forward the two books to the other Catholic inmates after I have finished them.

Thank you for all the great pro-life work you do!

Sincerely,
Matthew

Editor's Note (Left and Above): Steve recently spent some time, "Arming the next generation of pro-life warriors with facts at the Dallas-Fort Worth Pro-Life Boot Camp."

