

# POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE REVIEW

Volume 26, Number 1

January-February 2016

*A review and analysis of worldwide population control activity*

## Out of Africa Comes a Cry for Help Against the Culture of Death

**Emboldened by Pope Francis, African Bishops Denounce “Ideological Colonization”**

**By Steven W. Mosher**

Arriving in the Philippines last January, Pope Francis warned his millions of listeners to resist “ideological colonization.” This destructive assault on families, the Pope continued, included efforts to “redefine the very institution of marriage, by relativism, by the culture of the ephemeral, by a lack of openness to life.”

Africans, above all, know what he is talking about. After all, their continent has been the playground of Western imperialists for the past two centuries. Their bodies were enslaved, and their countries were colonized. Now the target is their very minds.

The assembled African bishops—all 40 or so of them—recently denounced this new kind of colonialism. Their joint declaration, drafted in June but only released this month, begs wealthy Western nations “... to end the filthy campaigns that promote a civilization of death on our continent.”

The Declaration continues:

“[There is] a terrifying resurgence of a colonialist spirit under the guise of the appealing names of liberty, equality, rights, autonomy, democratization and development. Condoms, contraceptives, sex education programs fabricated elsewhere, purely technical and deprived of moral content, so-called ‘safe abortions’, have become commodities that are more accessible to Africans than the way of delivering integral development, of which we have such a vital need.

It can no longer be denied that under the euphemism of ‘sexual and reproductive health and rights,’ such programs are plainly imposed as a condition for development assistance. Such is also the case of the so-called ‘gender perspective,’ according to which motherhood, the filial and nuptial identity of the human being and the family based

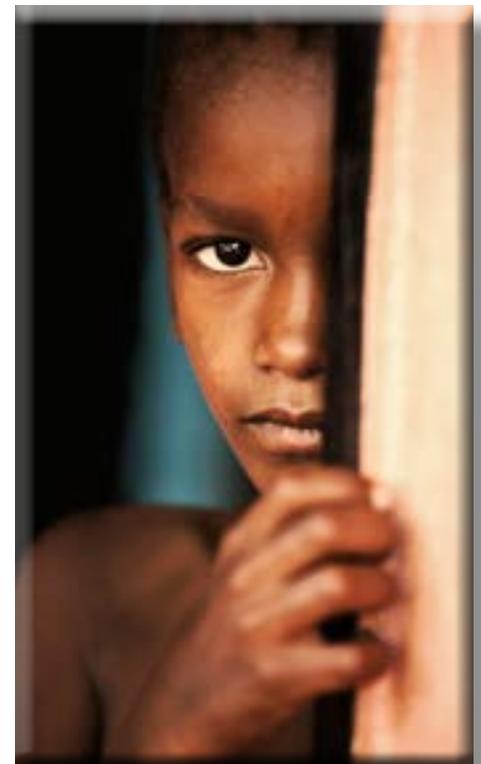


Photo Credit: iStock

on marriage between a man and a woman would be ‘discriminatory stereotypes.’ No! Women and men in Africa are not mere individuals, autonomous from their parents, spouses, children: women, men, children, we are all persons, created out of love and for love, and we all belong to a family and a community, vitally, ontologically and emotionally united!

Africans are becoming aware of the ongoing manipulation. Africa is

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# President's Page

Many Americans are outraged over Planned Parenthood's lawless behavior at home. The buying and selling of fetal body parts, the use of partial-birth-abortion techniques to deliver babies intact so their organs can fetch top dollar, the fact that this organization receives near \$500 million in your tax dollars and mine—all of these things infuriate normal Americans.

But Planned Parenthood's activities overseas are equally horrific. Working through front groups, and using deceptive advertising and illegal lobbying, it seeks to undermine pro-life laws wherever it goes.

In fact, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) spends a hefty \$40 million a year in an effort to expand its empire of death around the world. The Catholic countries of Latin America are a particular target.

Because abortion remains illegal in most Latin American countries, neither IPPF nor PPFA is eligible for local government funding for their abortion-related activities. Indeed, some of their activities fall on the wrong side of the law.

In order to get around this, PPFA and IPPF engage in various kinds of subterfuge. The most common ploy is to dress up the pro-abortion programs they are running and funding as "education programs" or "health programs."

They claim that the goal of these programs is to protect and promote "human rights" or, more specifically "women's rights." Other times they disguise their activities as "anti-discrimination initiatives" which are designed to "protect vulnerable groups, such as women or LGTBs."

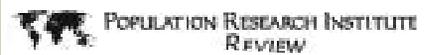
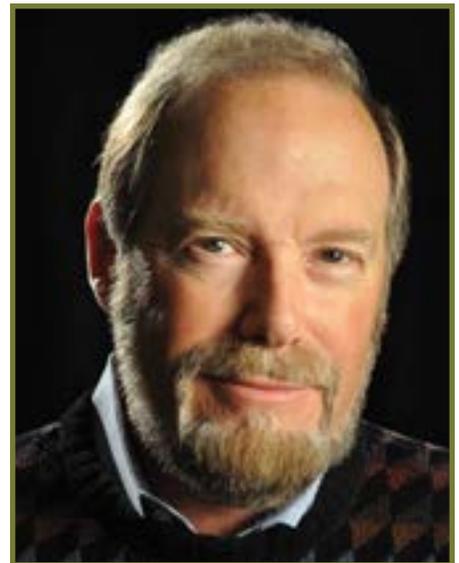
All of this is little more than window dressing. Despite their claim to be carrying out programs for the poor, Planned Parenthood spends very little money on real things for real people. Instead, two-thirds of the funding goes to staff and consultancy services, while most of the rest is spent on office expenses.

The not-so-covert mission of the staff and consultants hired by Planned Parenthood programs is to undermine pro-life laws and legitimate abortion on demand in the countries in which they work. The day-to-day work of these NGOs is to lobby members of parliament and other political decision makers to change Latin American laws protecting the unborn.

For example, PPFA gave one of its local partners in Peru a grant to fund the filing of a lawsuit against the Peruvian government in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for refusing to legalize and dispense the abortion-causing morning-after-pill.

PPFA is directly involved in efforts to overturn local pro-life legislation in other ways as well. It is the principal funder of the Latin American Legal Conference on Reproductive Rights, an annual event that brings together pro-abortion groups from throughout Latin America to strategize on how to legalize abortion. Planned Parenthood gave US \$164,747 to a Peruvian NGO called PROMSEX to help organize this event in the years from 2011 to 2014.

At the 2013 meeting, held in Cuernavaca, Mexico, PPFA President Cecile Richards was herself present. PRI has obtained copies of a video showing the American abortion leader encouraging her



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*Population Research Institute Review* is published bi-

monthly by: Population Research Institute

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Latin American partners to redouble their efforts to promote abortion.

Other questionable activities engaged in by PPFA's front groups include setting up so-called "abortion hotlines" in various Latin American countries. Those women who call the hotline are instructed in how to chemically abort themselves. They are told not only exactly

where to purchase the human pesticides required, but also how to administer them to themselves to cause an abortion.

We believe that, in funding these groups, and through them various abortion-related activities, PPFA/IPPF may be violating the law in a number of Latin American countries.

Resistance to Planned Parenthood’s activities in Latin America is growing, and PRI and other groups have begun publicly denouncing the organization through the mass media and social media.

Planned Parenthood’s affiliates in the region have been running for cover. They claim that they have nothing to do with the PPFA scandal involved the sale of fetal body parts.

This is nothing more than one more attempt at deception. No one is accusing them of being involved PPFA’s ghoulish marketing of the babies it aborts. What they, and their financial backers stand accused of is violating the pro-life laws of the countries in which they operate.

PRI is currently working with local pro-life groups throughout Latin America to document cases where Planned Parenthood may be violating the law and bring these to the attention of local authorities.

Planned Parenthood is on the defensive at home; now is the time to set the organization back on its heels abroad as well.



# GLOBAL MONITOR

**New York Times**—Doctors at the Cleveland clinic in Weston, Florida are preparing to perform the first uterine transplant in the United States. If successful, the experimental surgery would allow women with damaged or missing uteri to bear children, although natural conception would for the present time remain impossible.

Sweden is the only other country in which similar operations have proven successful. Nine women have had the operation, four of whom have given birth. Two of the Swedish transplants were unsuccessful, and operations in Saudi Arabia and Turkey also failed. In Sweden, donor uteruses were procured from live, postmenopausal donors. In the United States the doctors performing the experiment will use a uterus from a deceased woman, which is safer and faster than taking the organ from a living woman.

Since the recipient’s fallopian tubes will not be connected to the donor uterus, the transplant recipient will have a waiting period of 1 year before undergoing in vitro fertilization. Any resulting pregnancies will automatically be categorized as high-risk pregnancies.

See the Source: [www.nytimes.com/2015/11/13/health/uterus-transplants-may-soon-help-some-infertile-women-in-the-us-become-pregnant.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/11/13/health/uterus-transplants-may-soon-help-some-infertile-women-in-the-us-become-pregnant.html)

## Huffington Post—

In 2012 DC-based family planning group FP2020 launched a campaign to prevent population growth by dramatically increasing contraceptive usage in South Asia and southern Africa. The effort was launched in a total of 69 countries and has prevented an estimated 80 million pregnancies. Since 2012 the number of people using contraceptives in those 69 countries has risen by 24.4 million. This number is 10 million fewer than FP2020 had aimed for, a gap they intend to bridge in the next four years.

FP2020 credits much of its initial success to Kenya’s distribution of injectable contraceptives and to Zambia’s increased family planning budget. Some of the 69 countries have not shown a marked increase in contraceptive usage, including India, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

See the Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/a-record-290-million-women-girls-in-poor-nations-are-using-contraception-report\\_5644c577e4b08cda3487bac8](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/a-record-290-million-women-girls-in-poor-nations-are-using-contraception-report_5644c577e4b08cda3487bac8)



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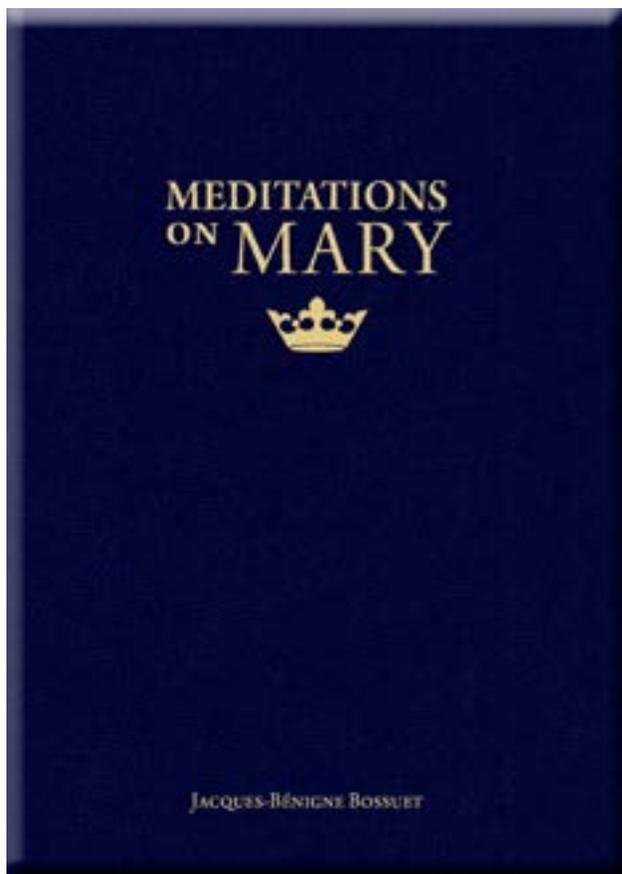
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not developing in harmony with her soul. The agents of the civilization of death are using ambivalent language, seducing decision-makers and entire populations, in order to make them partners in the pursuit of their ideological objectives. They are co-opting a great many in partnerships of which they are, in reality, the masters. They take advantage of poverty, weakness and ignorance in order to subject peoples and governments to their blackmail.”

To the Western reader, all this may sound a little overwrought. Is it really true that “agents of the civilization of death”—the United Nations and Western governments—are really “seducing decision makers” and “subject[ing] peoples and governments to their blackmail?”

Sadly, yes. Enormous sums of money are being spent in sub-Saharan Africa in order to promote Western ideologies like “sexual and reproductive health” (abortion on demand), “gender identity” (homosexuality) and “sustainable development” (population control).

In 2010, for example, the Obama administration spent an estimated \$23 million illegally lobbying Kenyan lawmakers and bribing opinion makers to legalize abortion in their country—and succeeded. I think that qualifies as “seducing decision makers.”

Then there is the U.N.’s so-called Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which routinely rails against African countries that refuse to ditch laws protecting life. Last November, Senegal was on the receiving end as CEDAW demanded they “legaliz[e] ... abortion in cases of rape, incest and severe foetal impairment.”

CEDAW also arrogantly demanded that Senegal produce statistics on maternal mortality from “unsafe” abortions. The U.N. committee obviously hoped these numbers would provide a further justification for legalizing abortion, despite the fact that, as recent studies have shown, liberalizing abortion laws has no effect on maternal mortality rates.

Another Western ideology that is being forced on the African people is homosexuality and other sexual aberrations. President Obama has made LGBT issues a priority of U.S. foreign policy, instructing all “agencies involved with foreign aid, assistance, and development” to promote them, and promising “swift and meaningful” consequences for nations that do not comply.

Here the “blackmail” that the African bishops have complained about has been even more blatant. In 2011, the Administration withheld almost \$350 million in foreign aid to Malawi as punishment for a Malawian law criminalizing sodomy. One of the poorest nations in the world, with an annual per capita income of only \$790, the Malawians soon agreed to do their bidding.

These new imperialists are so determined to impose their ideology around the world that they are willing to kill for it. I do not exaggerate. When Nigeria passed a law protecting marriage, the U.S. government threatened to cut back its funding for lifesaving malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

And then there is the perennial fixation of Western donors on population control in Africa. In 2014 alone, The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) spent almost \$160 million in Sub-Saharan Africa promoting and

distributing contraceptives, including abortifacients.

The goal is to drive down the birth rate. One of the UN’s principal targets is Kenya. In its recent report on that country, UNFPA set a target to reduce Kenya’s total fertility rate (TFR) from 4.6 to 2.6 by 2030.

In an interview with *Aleteia*, Bishop Emmanuel Badejo, Chairman of Communications for the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM) and Bishop of the Diocese of Oyo in Nigeria, spoke of the West’s “inordinate alarm about the exploding populations in Africa. And anything that can be done to decrease or limit the growth of the population in Africa is quite welcome.”

And he is tired of it. He and other African bishops, in the new Declaration, denounce this ideological colonization as “a new type of slavery! ...the hour has come to demystify what global governance calls “national ownership” and “country-driven” initiatives. No, these agendas are by no means African! They are, from A to Z, piloted by agents external to Africa.”

Two generations ago, Africa finally escaped the bondage of colonialism, which had kept its peoples enslaved for two centuries or more. Now comes a new and more insidious form of colonialism, one which enslaves not their bodies but their minds. The African bishops are right to speak out against it.

We here in the U.S. must do our part in support of our Catholic brothers and sisters in Africa. We must work to end foreign aid programs that promote the culture of death, whether in Africa or in any part of the wider world. Achieving that goal will require new pro-life leadership in the Congress, the White House, and the Supreme Court.

# The Social Justice Tyrants

By Dr. Christopher Manion

This past November, students from Catholic colleges from around the country spent a weekend in Virginia discussing a problem they all have in common: while their professors routinely deride *Humanae Vitae* and other Catholic moral teachings, their classes are riddled with Leftist propaganda.

Yes, this is true of college campuses everywhere. But Catholic campuses offer academic charlatans a unique claim: that their radical political agenda has the Church's imprimatur.

Their watchword? "Social Justice."

This political slogan has little to do with the time-honored Catholic tradition of justice as applied to the social sphere. Instead, the contrived caricature has become the bumper sticker of the dissident Catholic Left, whose agenda appears in various forms throughout the academic curriculum: in the Humanities, History becomes a tiresome narrative of oppression of the poor by rich white Christians; Classical Literature

is discarded in favor of feminism's tales of woe and persecution; Political Science demands that religious liberty be subjected to the whims of Caesar's secular bureaucrats; Philosophy rejects any foundation for truth at all, especially Catholic truth. Constitutional Law tells us that there is no standard by which we can ethically condemn Stalin and Hitler, because their millions of murders were legally authorized.

And Theology? That's easy. *Ex corde ecclesiae*, the teaching of Saint John Paul II, requires that theology professors teach their courses in harmony with the Faith—and gives the diocesan bishop final say over the matter. Presto—the "Theology" department quietly disappears, rebranded as "Religious Studies."

Many students on Catholic campuses are browbeaten by professors who insist that conservative, orthodox beliefs violate "Social Justice," and thus Catholic teaching. Students whose objections persist are guaranteed a poor grade (unjustly, of course). Moreover, many are accused of being bad Catholics, even though *Lumen Gentium*, the Vatican II Constitution of the Church, grants to the laity the right and the duty to address political and social issues. We can even disagree with one another without sinning!

What can faithful students do? Not much. Appeals to the dean fall flat—after all, the brazenly anti-Catholic Leftie professor enjoys "academic freedom," even though his student clearly doesn't.

The "Social Justice" agenda peddled by these academic frauds replaces voluntary charity with government coercion.

In the noxious logic of the Left, "Social Justice minus Government Force equals Zero." Free individuals cannot be trusted to be "socially conscious;" hence, self-appointed morally superior academics must have the right to force them to be good.

And if the student manages to keep her head down until graduation? Consider this: Georgetown University, a "Social Justice" stalwart, boasts a "School of Foreign Service," preparing students for a career in international government agencies.

But those agencies advocate population control worldwide. Their tenured bureaucrats are so powerful that it doesn't matter what political party is in power.

What is the faithful Catholic student to do when the career of her dreams demands that she manage the distribution of contraceptives and abortifacients—that she trumpet "universal and free access to abortion," and the other foreign-policy goals of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton?

Will she get help from the Catholic Church? Unlikely: our bishops receive hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars from those same agencies every year, while—according to Timothy Cardinal Dolan—our beloved bishops have for decades had "laryngitis" regarding the moral truths of the Faith contained in *Humanae Vitae*.

In November, Archbishop Carlo Viganò, Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S., told American bishops gathered in Baltimore that their first priority must be to restore the Catholic identity of our educational institutions. Let us pray that they succeed.



Photo Credit: iStock

## FROM THE COUNTRIES

### Germany

*LifeSiteNews*—The vehicles of two pro-family activists were set on fire by vandals after they and three other pro-family leaders were portrayed as zombies in the pro-homosexual play “Fear” by gay activist Falk Richter. Pro-family activists were identified with larger-than-life head-shots and public statements. Throughout the play, pro-family activists were ridiculed, depicted as Nazis and zombies, and mutilated. At one point, violence against pro-family types is advocated for: “the zombie dies only when you shoot directly into his brain and his brain dies. That’s the only way. The zombie seeks world domination.”

Shortly after the play’s debut, vandals set fire to the automobile of Beatrix von Storch, a conservative member of the European Parliament representing the Alternative for Germany Party. Storch has been a prominent opponent of gay marriage. A week later, pro-family activist Hedwig von Beverfoerde had her vehicle and business torched. Beverfoerde’s organization, Demo For All, has been on the forefront in gathering together coalitions in Germany to oppose the implementation of aggressive and graphic LGBT curriculum in schools. In response to the pro-LGBT vandals Beverfoerde wrote on Demo For All’s Facebook page that, “the complete, even physical, destruction of their enemy is the goal they want to achieve.”

See the Source: [http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/pro-family-leaders-attacked-by-arson-after-german-play-depicts-them-being-m?utm\\_source=LifeSiteNews.com+Daily+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=d8385ce2ec-LifeSiteNews](http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/pro-family-leaders-attacked-by-arson-after-german-play-depicts-them-being-m?utm_source=LifeSiteNews.com+Daily+Newsletter&utm_campaign=d8385ce2ec-LifeSiteNews)

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### The United States

*National Catholic Register*—On November 4th 2015, Republican Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick introduced the E-Free Act to Congress in an attempt to remove the Essure sterilization device from the market. The bill is in response to thousands of complaints sent to the FDA by women suffering from adverse side effects of the device. The Essure device causes scar tissue to form in the fallopian tubes, effectively sealing them. The device was approved by the FDA in 2002. Since then, the FDA has received more than 5,300 complaints by Essure users. These women complained of device migration, breakage, malposition, abdominal pain, irregular menstrual cycles, weight fluctuation, debilitating sharp chronic pain or cramping, hair loss, chronic bloating, headaches, mood swings, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, chronic back pain, fibroids, painful intercourse, and perforated organs. The device has even lead to the deaths of four women, and 5 unborn children.

Essure is manufactured by Bayer, whose company spokeswoman claims the device is backed by 10 years of research, and that the positive benefits of Essure outweigh the risks. In July 2015, the FDA updated the warning label on Essure to include the side effects from filed complaints, but has done nothing else. According to the Facebook page “Essure Problems,” more than 23,000 are suffering from

device complications. Congressman Fitzpatrick believes that “if the FDA or manufacturer aren’t willing to act in the best interest of these women, Congress must.”

See the Source: <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/new-bill-would-take-controversial-birth-control-coils-off-the-market/>

<https://www.pop.org/content/fda-review-concerns-essure-sterilization-procedure>

### North Korea

*Radio Free Asia*—In response to falling birth rates, North Korean leaders recently passed a law forbidding all medical professionals from performing abortions and birth control procedures, such as the insertion of intrauterine devices. Due to the elevated costs of child-rearing and education, most North Korean couples have only one child.

The ban is aimed at boosting the nation’s birth rate. Currently, that rate stands at a mere 14.52 births per 1,000 people, down from 20.43 per 1,000 people in 2000. Gynecologists will now be heavily fined for performing abortions, and non-gynecological doctors will face a maximum of three years in prison. Since the new law doesn’t address the underlying economic problems that married couples face, a source in North Hamgyong province believes that the law will simply increase the number of abortions and contraceptive procedures done in the secrecy of doctor’s homes.

See the Source: <http://www.rfa.org/english/news/korea/north-korea-forbids-doctors-to-perform-abortions-implant-birth-control-devices-10142015145920.html>

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# PRI Attacked by the Radical Southern Poverty Law Center

Written by PRI Staff

What could be as innocuous as a world gathering to promote family life and values? Is there anything less threatening than kids being raised by a loving mom and dad?

Not according to the radical left-wing Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). No, for SPLC marriage and family values are hateful and homophobic.

In a smear piece released prior to the World Congress of Families (WCF) in Salt Lake City, SPLC attempts to malign a whole array of pro-life and pro-family organizations at the star-studded event which counted among this year's many speakers the Most Reverend Emmanuel Badejo, Bishop of the Diocese of Oyo, Nigeria and the Governor of the State of Utah, Gov. Gary Herbert.

The World Congress of Families, a project of the Howard Center for Family, Religion, and Society, seeks to bring together social scientists and religious, civic, and pro-family leaders to exchange ideas on ways to strengthen the family in society. Steven Mosher, the President of Population Research Institute, spoke on a number of panels at the event.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has made a name for itself targeting pro-family leaders and organizations. Once a reputable law firm, SPLC has had a long history pursuing civil rights against a panoply of real hate groups like Neo-Nazis, white supremacists,

anti-Semites, and other violent racist ideologies. But lately, SPLC has also busied itself targeting pro-life and pro-family organizations as well as a number of Christian and conservative figures who dare to uphold the same definition of marriage that has been maintained for all human history. In the eyes of SPLC, believing that kids do best when raised by their mom and dad is tantamount to being a Nazi!

The list of pro-family groups targeted by SPLC is long and includes



Photo Credit: iStock

such unlikely candidates as the

American College of Pediatricians. SPLC once even labeled now-2016 Presidential Candidate and world renowned brain surgeon Dr. Ben Carson as an "extremist."

In 2012, SPLC successfully sued Jews Offering New Alternatives for Healing (JONAH) making it illegal in the state of New Jersey for support groups to offer assistance to kids wanting help coping with unwanted homosexual attractions.

SPLC's incessant targeting of Christian groups is so divisive that

it inspired an LGBT activist to commit an act of domestic terrorism at the Family Research Council headquarters in 2012. Thankfully no one was killed, but a security guard was shot in the attack. The terrorist claimed he had identified his target by using SPLC's "hate map." Reportedly, the FBI and the U.S. Army have both since distanced themselves from SPLC, and no longer use the firm as a resource investigating domestic hate crimes. And while SPLC cannot be held directly responsible for the

attack, the rhetoric against Christians is reckless. Even Dana Milbank of the *Washington Post*, no conservative, chastised SPLC saying "the Southern Poverty Law Center should stop listing a mainstream Christian advocacy group alongside neo-Nazis and Klansmen."

In its diatribe against pro-family,

people of faith (which SPLC characterizes as persons who ascribe to "homophobia and sexism"), the Southern Poverty Law Center (Montgomery, AL) enlisted the support of the liberal research group Political Research Associates (Somerville, MA) and the radical abortion device manufacturer, Ipas (Chapel Hill, NC).

Political Research Associates, among their many key issues, supports abortion and the redefinition of marriage. They have been known to criticize Archbishop of Salvatore

Cordileone of San Francisco for maintaining that educators in Catholic schools must not openly and publicly contradict Church teaching. We'll bet the Political Research Associates would feel the same way about their employees not openly contradicting their mission to redefine marriage.

Ipas, the manufacturer of the manual vacuum aspirator (MVA) abortion device, regularly attempts to exploit loopholes in abortion laws in an effort to increase access to abortion worldwide. Ipas has distributed hundreds of thousands of MVA devices in developing countries, intentionally placing them in the hands of "midwives, nurses, and other midlevel providers, rather than relying only on doctors," a practice that places women at higher risk of complications. If this doesn't constitute back-alley abortion, we're not sure what does.

But in general, SPLC has a poor understanding of pro-family, peace-loving Christians that offer nothing but good-will to everyone, even towards groups that seek to marginalize them.

Speaking about "demographic winter," SPLC and company claims that we maintain that "demographic shifts will result in 'global catastrophe,'" a curious assertion that we do not ascribe to. The last time we checked, the world is not currently trending for any sort of demographic "global catastrophe"—and this is precisely the reason why radical and coercive population control programs are irrational.

While we are not approaching a demographic Armageddon, declining populations are creating challenges and unfavorable consequences for many Western and Far Eastern nations. If these challenges have been amply "repudiated" as non-existent as SPLC claims, the Chinese government would not have loosened the one-child policy to a two-child policy, due to the labor shortages that have resulted from decades of below replacement level fertility. Nor would Japan be dealing with the challenges that come with rapid aging, the emptying of rural areas, and the consequent economic shrinkage.

SPLC also offensively claims

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that "demographic winter warnings are...ultimately rooted in white supremacy"—an assertion that holds absolutely no validity. Just ask the Episcopal Conferences of the African bishops. According to the African bishops, it is rather the supremacist imposition of Western values through population control programs and the redefinition of marriage that constitute what they call an "ideological colonization" from the West.

Is SPLC providing "research" or simply peddling thinly-camouflaged

propaganda? They certainly seem to ignore any facts that might muddle their message. Over the past 25 years, PRI has defended the human rights of all peoples around the globe including in places as diverse as China, India, Latin America, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Vietnam, the Caribbean, and in many nations across Africa. And we understand as well as anyone the benefits that migration and multiculturalism bring to economies where migrants are welcomed and find assimilation easy. In fact, it is because of immigration that the effects of population decline are being mitigated.

SPLC has a fundamental misunderstanding of the family and the people who support it. It is our belief that we should be supportive and compassionate towards persons who may feel something missing when they are deprived of their mother or father due to different life circumstances. But it cannot be denied that children do best when raised by their mother and father and on this point the research is unequivocal. For this reason, public policy should be supportive of marriage and family life and no child should be intentionally deprived of their mother or father.



# PRI's Strategic Analysis Course Trains Pro-Life Leaders Across Latin America

Written by PRI Staff

This October, a group of the most prestigious pro-life and pro-family leaders in South America, North America, and Europe met at a conference, titled “Towards a Culture of the Family in Colombia,” to help develop strategies for greater participation from pro-life citizens in local government. The conference, held in Bogotá, Colombia, was the first Strategic Conference in Latin America.

The Strategic Conference was organized by Monsignor Juan Vicente Córdoba the Episcopal Conference of Colombia and the Department of Defense of Life and the Family. Monsignor Ettore Ballestrero, Apostolic Nuncio to Colombia and a conference participant, gave a talk titled “Synergy Between the Catholic Church and Civil Society Organizations: Union is Strength.”

The long list of pro-life leaders who attended the Strategic Conference included Maria Crespo (Fundación Familia y Futuro–Ecuador), Luca Volonté (Novae Terrae Foundation–Italy), Maria Hildingson (European Federation of Catholic Family), Julia Regina de Cardenal (Fundación Sí a la Vida–El Salvador), Luis Fernando Fernández (Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana de Medellín), Greg Scott (Alliance Defending Freedom–EEUU), Ligia de Jesús (Ave Maria Law School –United States), Luis Fernando Calvo (Opciones Heroicas–Costa Rica) and Carlos Polo (Director of the Latin

American Office of the Population Research Institute).

The Population Research Institute's Latin American office contributed by offering their Strategic Analysis course to conference attendees.

The Strategic Analysis course—based on *Scenario Analysis*, a book co-authored by Carlos Polo, Director of PRI's Latin American office and Carlos Beltramo, Director of PRI's European office—is a twelve hour class that equips pro-life professionals with the tools necessary to confront political adversity. It begins by explaining what politics is really about and how it works. It debunks some of the most common myths about power, like the belief that politics is always corrupt, that political pressure is immoral, and that our political adversaries are always unethical and therefore unbeatable. It also discusses common theoretical and tactical errors committed by Christians and pro-lifers. The course explains how to create and implement a long-term political strategy.

Since their founding, the Latin American and European offices of the Population Research Institute have

trained nearly a hundred important pro-life and pro-family organizations. PRI has provided training for over 1,600 pro-life advocates, offering 58 Scenario Analysis courses in 35 cities and 17 countries. PRI's work continues to facilitate pro-life citizen's participation in local government. The Strategic Analysis course has already assisted course graduates in developing strategies for influencing the United Nations, elected officials in the United States, and local political organizations in the U.S. and Latin America.

Ruben Navarro, Alliance Defending Freedom Director of UN Advocacy in Geneva Switzerland and a Strategic Analysis course graduate, told us: “The pro-life and pro-family movement has not always been as successful as it could have been, not for lack of determination, effort, or work, but perhaps from a lack of strategy.” Then, recalling the wisdom of Seneca, he said: “When a man does not know to which port he is sailing, no wind is favorable.” Our Scenario Analysis course has been instrumental in providing a clear objective for his pro-life work.



# Development Desk

**Happy New Year!** Are you having fun making resolutions? Are you looking for resolutions you'll stick to all year? Here's a perfect way to keep your resolution to be more charitable: Become a PRI Sustainer! Automating your monthly donation helps you keep your resolution, and helps Population Research Institute. When we know how much money we will have each month, we can better plan our research investigations, and how many educational material we can produce in the coming year—so we can keep our commitment to



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promote and support the cause of life. The PRI Sustainers program is an easy way to give!

Here are some of the advantages to becoming a PRI Sustainer:

- You don't have to remember to write a check during the month. You've already taken care of it when you check the Make this a monthly gift box on the reply sheet! ✓
- You will use fewer stamps. Save money for yourself. ✓
- You will receive an Annual Giving Statement in time for tax preparation, each year. ✓
- You give extra support to PRI's programs by lowering the processing costs of mailed checks. ✓ This means big savings for PRI, which can be used for our life-saving projects!
- And, if your automatic monthly gift replaces our monthly appeal mailings, you reduce PRI's postage, paper, and other mailing costs. Saving this paper is a great way to give more to both PRI and the people we serve, and the environment! ✓

You'll also continue to receive the *PRI Review*, six times a year, to keep you up-to-date on what your support means to people around the world: in China, India, Peru, Kenya, the Caribbean...worldwide!

“From the Countries” Continued

## Colombia

*Aciprensa*—On November 4th, the highest court in Colombia ruled that same-sex couples can now adopt children. The court argued that their verdict was substantiated by the nation's Constitution and international human rights treaties. In 2013, same-sex unions in Colombia were granted most of the benefits married couples are entitled to without explicitly calling same-sex unions “marriage.”

Alejandro Ordóñez, the Attorney General of Colombia, argued on behalf of the state for protecting the interests of children by not placing them with same-sex couples. “Motherhood and fatherhood are not simply dependent on the choice of adults,” Ordóñez said, “but rather [motherhood and fatherhood are] condition[s] that come[ ] with the sexual identity given to each person.”

Many pro-family advocates are saying that the ruling is a direct

violation of Article 42 of the Colombian Constitution, which states that the family is a composed of the voluntary union of one man and one woman.

<https://www.aciprensa.com/noticias/corte-constitucional-de-colombia-aprueba-adopcion-gay-85063/>



## PRI IN THE NEWS

### World Congress of Families

—Speaking at the World Congress of Families in Utah:

“Planned Parenthood does not just violate the laws of the United States by engaging in fetal trafficking and other crimes, it also violates the laws of other countries. In Latin America, its front groups lobby to legalize abortion, attempting by various questionable means to overturn laws protecting life that are supported by the vast majority of the population. This is an organization that deserves not only to be de-funded, but to be abolished.”

~Steven Mosher, President, Population Research Institute

### Life and Family National Conference

—Together with our Family Life International partners down under, Population Research Institute is co-sponsoring the Life and Family National Conference, which is the largest pro-life conference in Australia. It will take place from January 21st to January 24th. Conference topics will include: Anti-Discrimination Laws used to Silence Dissent from Popular Ideology; Campaigning for the Faith and Family—Defence of Traditional Marriage; Reason and Law—the Contemporary Debate About Marriage; Latest Gardasil Updates; Breast Cancer Prevention & Abortion—Breast Cancer Link; Abortion and Euthanasia, and many more. Speakers will include Archbishop Julian Porteous, Bishop Cesare Bonivento, Dr. Angela Lanfranchi, Vice Jon Batarelo, and our own Steven Mosher.

**One News Now**—The Bill Gates Foundation will be giving 120 million dollars to programs that provide contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs to poverty stricken countries. Steven Mosher argues that helping women terminate and prevent pregnancy is not the best way to aid people in developing countries:

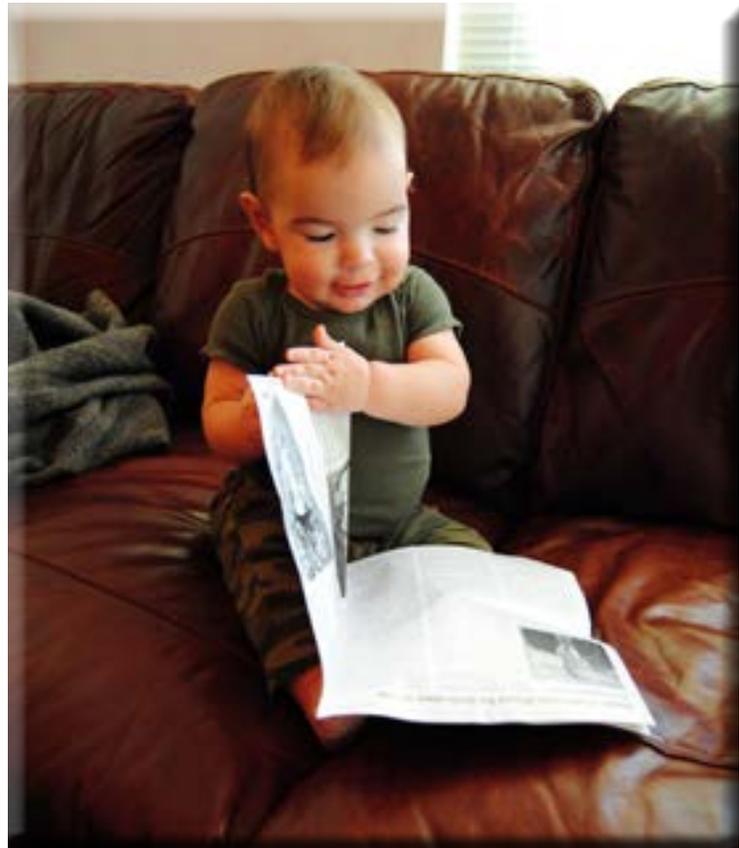
“My big objection is that if you want to reduce the birthrate in the developing world, the best thing to do is to help babies survive infancy and childhood. If you do that, if you reduce the infant and child mortality

rate, then couples naturally have fewer children[...]Many of these couples have five or six children because they know some of the children will likely not survive to adulthood.”

Mosher says that it would be wiser to put the 120 million towards bettering healthcare and medical infrastructure.

See the Source: <http://www.onenewsnow.com/pro-life/2015/11/23/money-spent-on-birth-control-doesn-t-improve-third-world>

### Our Youngest Reader



*Our youngest reader just turned one year old! He enjoys reading the PRI Review over a warm bottle of milk and some animal crackers. His favorite part of the Review are the pictures of other babies. He resides in Colorado with his mother and father and his stuffed animals, Winnie the Pooh and Piglet.*