Population Research Institute Review

Volume 27, Number 2 *March-April 2017*

A review and analysis of worldwide population control activity

China Offers Free IUD Removal to Cries of Outrage

Chinese Party-State's offer to remove the IUDs it forcibly implanted in women is too little and comes too late for those who have already lost their children, their health and, in some cases, their lives.

By Jonathan Abbamonte and Steven Mosher

Photo Credit: Getty Images

The same Chinese government that has forced IUDs on tens of millions of Chinese women after the birth of their first child has decided that some of these women will be allowed to have a second child.

In the wake of a rapidly aging population, with too few working-age adults to support the elderly, the Chinese Communist Party has decided to increase the birth rate. Last year, officials relaxed the one-child policy and Chinese couples were allowed to have up to two children.

There is only one problem with Beijing's move to increase China's anemic birth rate: tens of millions of women have been forcibly sterilized and are now physically unable to conceive another child. Tens of millions more have been forced to wear IUDs–IUDs deliberately designed to be hard to remove.

Beginning in the early 1980s, women across China were forced to wear an IUD after the birth of their first child. From 1980 to 2012, the Government carried out over 308 million IUD insertion procedures, according to official statistics reported by the China National Health and Family Planning Commission.

To get these IUDs out of the way, and get the women forced to wear them back into the business of reproducing, Beijing is now offering free IUD removal for all women who are eligible to have another child.

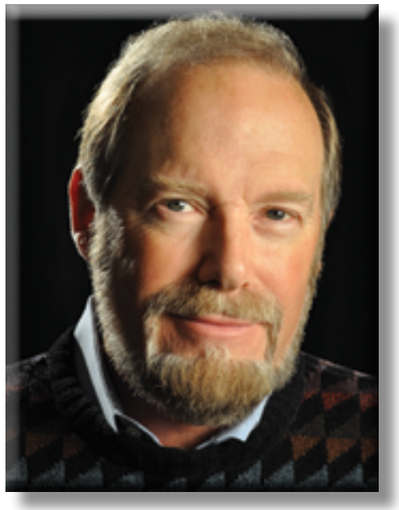
This new policy has—understandably—been met with outrage. Documentary film-maker Ai Xiaoming, now 63, said she was forced to have an IUD fitted, but then left with it for decades with no further check-ups.

"In the eyes of the Chinese government, women are seen as having a job to do," Ai said. "If they

Continued on page 5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Gorsuch for the Supreme Court



Steven W. Mosher

Not long ago I had dinner with Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, who was everything that friends had told me about him. He was thoughtful and humble, with a fine legal mind and a deep faith.

Yet at his Senate confirmation hearings in 1991, this fine man was publicly humiliated at great length by the Party of Abortion. All manner of false allegations were levied against him simply because he was a pro-life Black conservative. At the end of his scourging by Senate Democrats, he described the painful experience as a "hi–tech lynching."

As vicious as those attacks on Justice Thomas were 25 years ago, we can expect that President Trump's new nominee to the nation's highest court, Judge Neil Gorsuch, will face even worse attacks. Planned Parenthood and other abortion groups will demand nothing less from "their" senators.

You see, Judge Gorsuch feels so strongly about the Life issues that he has written an entire book opposing the practice of assisted suicide. In it, he states unequivocally that "all human beings are intrinsically valuable and the intentional taking of human life by private persons is always wrong."

How long do you think Roe v. Wade will stand once he is on the Court?

As an added bonus, Gorsuch is close to Justice Anthony Kennedy, who has famously wavered on past pro-life cases before the Court. Gorsuch clerked for Kennedy early on in his legal career, so there is a good chance that he can perhaps "help" Kennedy stand tall for life the next time the issue comes before the Court.

Whether the issue is religious freedom, respect for marriage, or the First Amendment, Gorsuch can be counted on to take an Originalist (that is, conservative) position. Remember that he ruled for the Little Sisters of the Poor in their lawsuit against Obama's contraceptive mandate (which is really also an abortion mandate, since it involved abortifacient drugs that cause early term abortions.)

More broadly, Trump's nominee opposes what he calls "judicial activism." He has written that "American liberals have become addicted to the courtroom, relying on judges and lawyers rather than

Continued on page 3

Steve Mosher and his wife Vera at a small, private dinner with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

109 East Main St.,Front Royal VA 22630, USA • (540)-662-5240 • pri@pop.org
www.pop.org •

Founder: Fr. Paul Marx, OSB, PhD (1920-2010) • President: Steven W. Mosher

Executive Vice President: Joel Bockrath
Research Analyst: Jonathan Abbamonte
Editor, *PRI Review*: Moriah Bruno

Development Coordinator: Karen Shannon
Director, PRI Latin American Office: Carlos Polo
Director, PRI European Office: Carlos Beltramo

The *Population Research Institute Review* is published bimonthly by: Population Research Institute

"Gorsuch" Continued

elected leaders and the ballot box as the primary means of effecting their social agenda."

In short, on every front in the ongoing culture wars, Gorsuch is the liberals' worst nightmare.

This is why the Senate minority leader, Chuck Schumer, has promised to fight his confirmation "tooth and nail."

I thought Schumer's choice of words very appropriate, since the Party of Abortion excels at knock-down-drag-out cage matches. High-minded and reasoned debate on the issues of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" will be in short supply at the upcoming Senate hearings.

Instead, Schumer and other pro-abortion Senators will go low, pulling out all the stops to try and destroy the judge's sterling reputation. They will always delay the process as long as they can, and ultimately launch a filibuster when his confirmation finally comes to a vote.

They realize what is at stake: their power to continue to legalize the killing of innocents at the beginning and end of life.

I hope that we in the pro-life movement understand this as well.

Let us do all we can to help his confirmation. Use social media to spread the word. Call or write your Senator to express your support for Trump's nominee. And, above all, let us all pray for this good man and his family, that God may strengthen them for the ordeal that they have now embarked upon.

Millions of lives are at stake. Maybe even your own.

Sister Lucy's Letter

Dear Steven Mosher,

For the PRI newsletter.

I am very much interested in your Population Research Insistiute so please keep me in your mailing list. I am unable to support you with monetary gifts so I told my family to send money and they have. I will also share your organization with my pro-life friends so that my friends will support you in your needs. God bless America. God bless Trump. God bless Republicans. God bless you, Steven. Daily I pray that God will protect our country from degeneration, disaster, and war. God is Love and Love is eternal. God bless you and thank you.

Sister Lucy

Dear Sister Lucy,

Thank you, Sister Lucy, for your kind letter. The most important thing that you can do to support our work is to pray for its success. We have a generational opportunity to get the U.S. government out of the business of promoting, performing, and lobbying for the legalization of abortion around the world. Pray that we will be given the wisdom to know how best to proceed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Steve Mosher

Global Monitor

Mercatornet—Proponents of overpopulation would have us believe that the human person is no more than a "mouth to feed [...]a destroyer of the planet, [...] and a user of resources." The reality though, is that we are resource producers, thinkers, innovators, artists, philosophers, each of us contributing to society in her or his own way. As economist Julian Simon puts it, "minds matter economically as much as or more than hands or mouths. Human beings create more than they use, on average. It had to be so, or we would be an extinct species." Oxford philosopher, Dr. Toby Ord put it this way, "These upsides may even outweigh the downsides, making a larger population a good thing overall. One example is the rapidly growing information economy. If someone makes a hammer, only a few people get the benefit, but if someone records a new song, writes a computer program, or invents a new technology, everyone can benefit. These activities thus produce more value the more people we have. With twice as many people doing jobs like these, we could all get roughly twice the benefits (more art, culture, science, technology), or they could work roughly half as many hours. A larger population thus has the potential to make life much better."

Mercatornet—https://www.mercatornet.com/demography/view/the-up-side-of-a-growing-population/19242

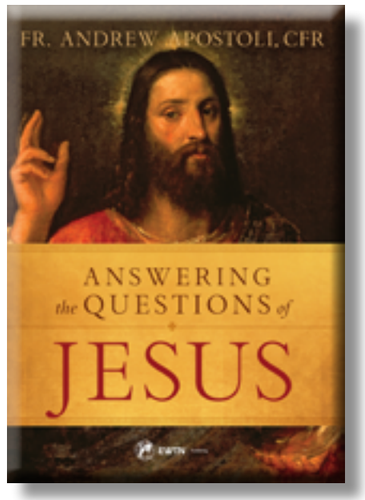
Would You Like to Have Deeper Conversations with Christ?

This gift will help you do exactly that! It will also help you learn more about Christ's ministry . . . His time on earth . . . and it will help you better know Him as a friend through a close look at 12 questions He asked as He spread the Gospel.

From EWTN Publishing, it's *Answering the Questions of Jesus* by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, host of EWTN's "Sunday Night Prime." Ordained by Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Fr. Apostoli is the author of *Fatima for Today, Following Mary to Jesus* and many other books.

Here are the 12 questions Fr. Apostoli closely examines in Answering the Questions of Jesus . . .

- Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?
- What do you seek?
- Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?
- Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?
- Who do men say that the Son of Man is?
- But who do you say that I am?
- Will you also go away?



- Do you love me?
- What were you discussing on the way?
- Do you know what I have done to you?
- For what can a man give in return for his life?
- Could you not watch with me one hour?
- Spiritual insights of St. Teresa of Avila, and so much more!

Let's look briefly at just one of the 12 questions explored in *Answering the Questions of Jesus*. It's perhaps the most searching of all the questions: **"Could you not watch with me one hour?"** . . .

. . . Fr. Apostoli explains how this question relates to Archbishop Fulton Sheen's three reasons to make a habit of Eucharistic adoration . . . the multiple ways that prayer fortifies us (many of which we often forget) . . . the three types of transformation we must seek through prayer . . . plus so much more.

Each chapter concludes with questions for reflection. And these are tough questions that will really have you looking inward, questions like these . . .

- "Do I make time every day to be with the Lord in prayer, or do I make excuses?" AND . . .
- "How would I respond to this question of Jesus if it were addressed directly to me: 'Could you not watch with me one hour?'"

Answering the Questions of Jesus is **probing** . . . **incisive** . . . **concisely written** . . . thought-provoking and more. It will be an important addition to your Catholic library. May I send you a copy today, to thank you for your gift of $40 or more? This gift will help PRI save more babies!

Please visit https://pop.org/donate/prir use the enclosed Gift Reply to quickly receive *Answering the Questions of Jesus*

"China Offers" Continued

tell you to have a baby, then you have to have one. If they don't need babies, you can't have one."

It hasn't helped that the Chinese government has never apologized for the way it has brutalized women. Nor has it ever, not even now, offered to compensate women forced to use the device.

"To say they are offering free removal as a service to these tens of millions of women—repeatedly broadcasting this on state television as a kind of state benefit—they have no shame, second to none," Han Haoyue, a popular columnist, posted on Weibo, according to the *New York Times*.

"The failure of Xi Jinping's government to even apologize for forcing IUDs on women only further confirms that the Chinese Communist Party has absolutely no regard for women's rights," says Population Research Institute President Steven Mosher, "the Chinese Party-State treats women like breeding machines whose fertility they can turn on and off at will, like flipping a switch."

Despite rampant human rights abuses in China's family planning program, the U.S. government in recent years has sent over $30 million a year to fund the United Nations Population Fund, a U.N. agency that has for decades maintained a family planning program in cooperation with the Chinese Government.

The IUDs sold in the U.S. and other Western countries are designed to be removed easily. Not in China. An inert stainless steel IUD ring was the government's IUD of choice throughout the 1980s. By 1990, 90% of all women in China using IUDs were using this device, primarily because it was extremely difficult to remove. In order to remove the ring, a doctor must use a long metal hook to fish it out. If that fails, or if the device becomes embedded in the uterus, the doctor must resort to surgery.

In China's drive to control its population, women's health came in a poor second. In a testimony before the U.S. Congress, Ma Dongfang told lawmakers her personal story after she was fitted with an IUD without her knowledge: "I soon became very sick as a result of the IUD and endured months of horrible pain and discomfort. I suffered excessive bleeding, weight loss, and fatigue. I begged the doctors to remove the device, but they refused to do so. If they had it removed, they would be breaking the law."

> **"An inert stainless steel ring was the government's IUD of choice...primarily because it was extremely difficult to remove."**

The steel-ring IUD that women were forced to use often caused prolonged bleeding and were, for many, a source of great pain and discomfort. During the 1990s the steel ring was replaced with copper-bearing IUDs, which were more effective in preventing pregnancy, but more painful to use.

The Communist Party's mandatory IUD policy not only forced women to endure years of physical pain, but also forced upon them the emotional trauma of being denied more than one child. These are women who have had their rights repeatedly trampled upon.

Under the one-child policy, women were required to report to the local family planning clinic for periodic invasive pelvic examinations and sonograms to ensure that their IUD was securely in place. Women who did not have an IUD in place or failed to report for routine examinations could be punished with heavy fines. In the late 1990s Harry Wu testified to this stringent IUD policy before the U.S. House Committee on International Relations saying:

If you do have IUD in your womb, every quarter the government will inform you…you have to go to the office of inspection. If you do not appear, you pay the fine, 50 yuans, every day. If over 1 month, the fine is 2,000 yuans. If 6 months passes, there has been no IUD inspection; then sterilization is required.

Communist propaganda displayed along busy streets and other public places made the cost of noncompliance clear. One such sign, strung high over a busy street, read: "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!"

In some cases, women who failed to report for a pregnancy screening had their homes destroyed by rampaging Planned Birth police.

For the women who suffered under the rules of the mandatory IUD policy, the latest policy shift comes too late: they are now past their childbearing years. And because of that, these women are not covered by the Government's IUD-removal policy. They are left to pay out of pocket if they want their state-issued IUD taken out. As usualy, the Chinese Government is concerned only with women who can satisfy their reproductive objectives.

Trump: Our Most Pro-Life President?

The following are excepts from an interview between Francesco Paloni and Steven Mosher for the Catholic newspaper Knwerelderlk *in the Netherlands.*

What was your role in the institution of the Mexico City Policy?

Until the presidency of Ronald Reagan, abortion was being used as a method of population control. As the first Western eyewitness for forced abortions and forced sterilizations in China's one-child policy, I was a witness to the fact that coercion in state-run population control programs is very common. My reports on the Chinese situation encouraged the pro-life movement in the U.S. to do two things. First, to argue that abortion should not be used as a method of controlling population growth because human life begins at conception. The second was to refuse to fund countries or organizations which engaged in a practice of forced abortion or forced sterilization. Thus the Mexico City Policy and the Kemp-Kasten Amendment came into being. It established a "way of separation' between taxpayer money and abortion.

Why is the Mexico City Policy (MCP) so important?

President Trump's Executive Order combines these two pro-life policies into one and, better yet, strengthens them. U.S. taxpayers do not want to, and should not be forced to, pay for abortions overseas. They should not be forced to fund programs that violate the rights of women through forced abortions and sterilizations. This is not only a pro-life policy, it is a pro-woman policy as well. This is a vital step in the journey to make America great again, recognizing and affirming the universal ideal that all human beings have inherent worth and dignity, regardless of their age or nationality. I am very pleased that President Trump has issued this executive order, keeping with his campaign promise that he will protect taxpayers from having to pay for abortions. Funding foreign groups that promote or participate in abortion violates the principle that there should be a 'wall of separation' between taxpayer money and abortion.

Would the MCP also be sustainable for non-religious people or people who are not pro-life?

Abortion is controversial even among people who are not religious. It is a biological fact that life begins at conception. Moreover, few people would argue in favor of forced abortion or forced sterilization, which were both found to be "crimes against humanity" by the post-WWII Nuremberg Tribunals.

> **"On many fronts, President Trump is moving faster and further than anyone thought possible...God does work in mysterious ways."**

What are the financial interests behind the promotion of abortion worldwide?

Billions of dollars are provided by governments, foundations, and wealthy individuals to promote abortion around the world. This financial support comes from those who would "liberate" women from childbearing (even if they don't want to be "liberated"); protect the planet from people (even though many people try to be good stewards of the environment), and who are afraid that the population bomb will explode (even though the "bomb" theory has been debunked).

You stated that the MCP is not 100% perfect. What needs to be done to make it better?

The new, strengthened Mexico City Policy is a good start, but it now needs to be enforced. We at PRI will be gathering information from around the world about U.S.-funded groups that are performing, promoting, and lobbying for the legalization of abortion, or who are engaged in a program of forced abortion or mandatory sterilization. When we find such groups, we will ask the Trump administration to end their government support. We will begin and sustain this work thanks to our organization's supporters, to whom we owe all of our success.

What other pro-life promises has Trump made?

When pro-life and pro-family Justice Antonin Scalia died last February, opening a vacancy in the Supreme Court, Trump promised on numerous occasions that if he were elected he would appoint pro-life justices to the bench. When Trump was asked in the final presidential debate if he wanted the court to overturn the 1973 abortion decision Roe v. Wade, he said that it would happen "automatically" because of his appointments.

By choosing Neil Gorsuch for the Supreme Court, President Trump has, once again, followed through on his promise to nominate a pro-life judge.

Trump has also promised to defund Planned Parenthood in the U.S.

After a 2015 video investigation

"Trump" Continued

uncovered evidence of Planned Parenthood's involvement in the illegal sale of aborted baby body parts. "I've seen the videos," he said. "I think it's a disgrace, and the answer is I would vote to defund." Legislation to do just this has already been passed in the House.

Our new President has also promised to repeal the "Johnson Amendment." That law bans charities and churches that have tax-exempt status from engaging in "political campaign activity." Pro-life and pro-family leaders say that the law stops them from communicating their message and fully serving as leaders in the pulpit. This will help us and other nonprofits to spread our pro-life message without fear of government censorship.

Finally, President Trump has called Obamacare "disastrous" and promised to repeal it. I and other pro-life leaders have vigorously protested Obama's health law which forces employers, including Catholic colleges and hospitals, to pay for contraception, including abortifacient "emergency" contraception and sterilizations. Even Catholic communities of nuns, such as the Little Sisters of the Poor, were forced to provide contraception and abortifacients to their staff. He has already signed an Executive Order to start the process of phasing out this unjust law.

On many fronts, President Trump is moving faster and further than anyone thought possible. He has surrounded himself with committed pro-lifers, to whom he has delegated much authority.

As unlikely as it may sound, I believe that he may turn out to be our most pro-life president ever.

God truly does work in mysterious ways. And He will never abandon us.

Double Your Sacrificial Giving—It's Free!

One of the things we love letting you know is that many companies have a Matching Gift program. When someone who works for them makes a charitable donation, they will donate that same amount to "match" that gift. They will often even match the gifts of employees after they've retired! So, in effect, you are giving twice a much!

With a few easy steps, you can get your employer to match your gifts to this important work we do together! Here's how:

1. **Go to https://www.pop.org/donate-matching-gift**
2. **Type your employer company name into the search.**
3. **If your employer appears in the results, excellent! Click the name for more information.**
4. **Use that contact information to tell your employer about your donation . . .**

They'll help you take care of the rest, and your gift can have even more impact at **no cost to you!**

If you don't see your employer company name on our list, you can check with your company's Corporate Giving department and encourage them to add PRI. They usually will.

Photo Credit: Getty Images

Turning the Constitution Right Side Up

Dr. Christopher Manion

My father, a Professor of Constitutional Law at Notre Dame for thirty years, often quoted the words of William Penn, Pennsylvania's Founding Father: "Those who refuse to govern themselves by the laws of God will be ruled by tyrants."

Yes, the lust for power is as old as mankind itself. "Ye shall be as gods," Satan told Eve in the Garden. He promised Christ In the desert (Luke 1: 1-13) the power over "all the kingdoms of the world," if Christ would merely fall down and worship him.

In the City of God, Augustine tells us that the lust for power (*libido dominandi*) is the motivating force of the City of Man, whose ruler is Satan.

And Saint Thomas More famously rebukes his foul betrayer in *A Man For All Seasons*: "Why Richard, it profits a man nothing to give his soul for the whole world. But for Wales?"

Our Founding Fathers knew all too well the lure of the lust for power. They crafted the Constitution to limit government power in every possible way, lest federal officials fall prey to Satan's favorite temptation.

They limited the terms of the Congress, the Senate, and the President, assuring that they would often have to answer to the "virtuous people." But in separating the judicial power from the executive and the legislative, they sought to ensure its independence by allowing federal judges to serve for life. Recognizing that these jurists would not be answerable to the people, the Founders sought to limit their power most severely.

The *Federalist Papers* appeared in 1787 as op-ed newspaper columns written to "the People of New York" to persuade them to vote in favor of adopting the Constitution. The average New York voter of that era had only a fourth-grade education, but in those days education was solid–and Biblical. Those voters understood well the Federalist's arguments regarding the dangers of power, especially power placed in the hands of unelected judges appointed for life.

> **"Our Founding Fathers crafted the Constitution to limit government power in every possible way, lest federal officials fall prey to Satan's favorite temptation."**

In *Federalist No. 76*, Alexander Hamilton assured New Yorkers that this would not be a problem. Why, he exclaimed, the judiciary would be the "least dangerous branch" of the federal government!

Of all the Founders' efforts to limit government, Hamilton's lame assurance regarding the powers of the courts has fared the worst. Since 1787, the "virtuous people" of the Founding period have strayed from Jefferson's "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" to the moral relativism that prevails in the popular culture today; alas, members of the federal judiciary have not been immune to this collapse.

So today we are faced with countless judges and justices who have been appointed not for their virtue of judicial prudence, but for their radical political views.

Of all the coming Senate debates regarding appointments to the federal bench, beginning (but not ending) with the nomination of Circuit Judge Neil Gorsuch, those concerning the judiciary will be the most divisive.

Why? Because the Constitution has been turned upside down.

Congress–meant to be the most important, responsive, and representative branch, is now the weakest. The Constitution's limits on the executive branch in Article Two have been shredded in the past quarter-century, with huge bureaucracies and presidential "executive orders" defying Congress and the laws of the land with impunity.

But it is "the least dangerous branch" that has become most powerful, assuming to itself unlimited powers–first, to declare null and void any actions of all other government branches, federal, state, and local; and second, to create out of thin air new laws that must now be obeyed throughout the land, without recourse and without opposition.

As a result, it is the Founders' "virtuous people" who must today be silent—at work, at school, in public, even in church—while the radicals loudly seek out new victims to vilify and destroy for their "phobias" and their "hate."

From The Countries

The United States

On January 24, 2017 the House of Representatives voted 238 to 183 to permanently ban all taxpayer funding for abortion! The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act means that federal money cannot fund abortion through Medicaid. The Act makes permanent the Hyde Amendment, which was renewed by Congress every year. It will also require health care plans to be transparent on whether or not they cover abortions. Rep. Chris Smith R-NJ who introduced the bill, said that the unborn are treated "as tumors, warts to be exorcised." Rep. Trent Franks, R-AZ, called abortion the "greatest human genocide" in history. We agree, and we pray that this is the first of more pro-life victories to come!

Japan

One of the many downsides of depopulation is the lack of younger family members to care for aging relatives. Dying Japan, which has had a below replacement birthrate since 1964, now has a problem with "granny dumping." Granny dumping typically occurred in feudal Japan. It is the practice of abandoning elderly relatives on the top of mountains. Many Japanese are overwhelmed by caring for their elderly relatives, especially when a relative suffers from severe dementia.

Of Japan's 127 million people, a quarter of those people are over the age of 65, and that's not the worst of it. Demographers predict that there will be "an explosion of further pensioners around 2025 when the post-war baby boomers reach their mid-70's." At the same time, the Japanese population is falling at its fastest rate ever, bringing the native population down to records not seen since the twentieth century. The problem of granny dumping is so pervasive that some charities have established "senior citizen postboxes," whereby Japanese will hand over their elderly relatives to the charities, and the charities will place the elderly into a senior care facility.

Poland

Last year, a bill banning all abortions in Poland was rejected by the Law and Justice Party. Now pro-lifers are hoping to ban abortions performed for eugenic reasons. Polish law allows abortions in three circumstances. "The first is when a doctor suspects that the baby has a severe and irreversible handicap or an incurable and life-threatening disease [...] Second, when the woman's life or health is endangered, there are no legal limits as to the time when an abortion can be performed. Finally, when the pregnancy is a result of a criminal act, abortion is permitted until the 12th week." The half a million Polish citizens who supported an abortion ban law are now hoping to use an Open Letter to convince the Minister of Health, Konstanty Radziwiłł, to issue an executive order requiring all hospital to perform autopsies on aborted babies. This would serve to confirm an irreversible handicap or incurable life-threatening disease among those aborted. "In 2015, 996 of 1,040 unborn babies were aborted because doctors suspected a health problem." The Open Letter does not mention any sort of repercussions for doctors. This type of mandate for hospitals, were it to be enacted, would hold doctors accountable for performing abortions only in extreme cases, and not in cases of minor disabilities or no disability at all.

Russia In the last four years, the number of abortions performed in Russia has been cut in half. Except for last year, there was an average of an eight percent drop in the numbers of abortions occurring in Russia from year to year. The number of abortions that occurred in 2016 dropped by a whopping 13% from 2015. That's 96,300 babies that were not aborted! Minister of Health Veronika Skvortsova hopes to see the trend continue, and has plans to decrease the infant mortality rate as well by opening prenatal centers in areas of Russia where the rate is highest.

The United States—https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-u.s.-house-votes-to-permanently-ban-taxpayer-funding-of-abortion?utm_source=lifesitenews&utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=takeover
Japan—https://www.mercatornet.com/demography/view/granny-dumping-revived-in-japan/19270
Poland—https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/undaunted-polish-pro-lifers-come-up-with-a-idea-to-counteract-gvmts-rejecti?utm_source=Daily%20Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20Headlines
Russia—http://www.pravoslavie.ru/english/100624.htm

Empowering Women in Chile

By Carlos Polo

Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, with the backing of the international abortion establishment, is seeking to legalize some forms of abortion in Chile. She is trying to push through a bill that would allow abortion when the life and health of the mother is at risk, or in cases where the unborn baby has any sort of disability or malformation. These are the same "exceptions" that the abortion movement always uses to legalize abortion. Not surprisingly, it has the backing of several powerful, U.S.-funded organizations including International Planned Parenthood Federation, the Center for Reproductive Rights, Ipas, and Catholics for Choice. The Chilean Senate voted in favor of the bill with 20 in favor, 15 against, and 2 abstaining. In March, the Senate will reconvene to discuss the language of the bill.

If pro-life laws are being assaulted in the usual way, the resistance to Bachelet's proposed bill is something new. A group of young Chilean citizens—led by Tania Córdova—have taken it upon themselves to protest this legalization of abortion.

Córdova, who serves as president and spokeswoman for the group, launched the #MiVotoValeVida (#My Vote Values Life) Campaign as a way to educate Chilean Christians about the various candidates who are vying for the Presidency in the October 2017 election. Their hope is to encourage pro-lifers to vote, and vote in large numbers, for the candidate who will best respect the right to life. As in the U.S., voting in Chile is purely voluntary, but about 65% of those eligible to vote don't. Encouraging more Christians to go to the polls in October is essential to electing a pro-life candidate. Tania Córdova and her group of citizen activists could change the future of Chile.

Tania Córdova is a young Chilean mother of 4 children, the youngest of whom is a mere 12 weeks gestation. Perhaps there is no one better than her to defend the many unborn children in Chile who are at risk of being placed outside the protection of the law.

Tania Córdova (far right) and her friends protesting inside Chilean Congressional building.

Tania Córdova speaking inside the Chilean Congressional buildling on behalf of the unborn.

Many pregnant mothers joined Córdova in protests before the Congress of Chile. Some of these women had fetal heart monitors with them, and used loudspeakers to amplify the heartbeats of their yet-born children. Chilean politicians might close their minds to pro-life arguments, but they could hardly ignore the beating hearts of the pro-life movement's tiniest protesters.

Some months ago, Córdova and other young Chileans came to the Latin American Office of PRI for help. Full of enthusiasm, they lacked an understanding of politics. We helped them to understand the rhetoric that politicians use to advance their positions and win votes. We explained the electoral process to them, specifically the way each party chooses its candidate leading up to the election, as well as each party's platform.

Córdova and her friends understood and immediately set to work. She initiated the #MiVotoValeVida Campaign which was soon picked up by the "Chile es Vida" coalition of pro-life organizations fighting against

"Thank You" Continued

Bachelet's abortion bill. Córdova's campaign went on to receive the support of the Catholic Church as well as many other Christian churches.

Sergio Burga of PRI traveled to Chile to meet these Chilean pro-lifers and help them to get organized. His visit coincided with the "Celebration for Life," a mass demonstration that Burga helped orchestrate using his experience from the highly successful Marches for Life that we hold in Lima each year. The Celebration for Life attracted more than 100,000 people, including the Archbishop of Santiago, Cardinal Ricardo Ezzati, and various pastors of other Chilean churches.

With the backing of the Catholic bishops and the "Chile es Vida" coalition, the campaign #MiVotoValeVida has held additional events throughout Chile. The movement has been successful in getting Chilean politicians to pledge themselves to passing pro-life laws.

It was you, through your support for our work at PRI, that empowered these women to stand up for generations of children to come. Because of you, they are fighting everyday to protect the defenseless. They are working hard to elect a Presidential candidate who will respect the sanctity of all life. God willing, they will put a stop to the assault on human life in Chile once and for all. They—and we—say, "Thank you."

• • • • •

Truth is More Than the Mainstream Media Says it is

By Carlos Beltramo and Steven W. Mosher

In 1922, Professor Walter Lippmann asserted in his book, *Public Opinion*, that the media have an important role to play in the construction of reality. They are the ones, according to Lippmann, that paint pictures of the world, and every day people rely on those images when determining how to react and respond to situations at home and abroad.

Lippmann was right. Those of us who believe that our judgments are reached independently on the basis of our own thoughts are often laboring under a delusion. For the majority of us, what we consider to be "our" world-view is actually a "secondhand reality," one originally created for us by the mass media.

There was a time when the media prided itself on publishing the truth, regardless of the political stance of the newspaper's editors or ownership. Those days are long gone.

Nowhere is this exemplified more clearly than by the way in which President Trump is portrayed by the mainstream media. Trump is painted as irredeemable, as someone who is always wrong by definition, whatever the objective merits of his position. His mistakes and faults are exaggerated. And all of these things are written in a fashion that inspires panic.

According to Carlos Beltramo, the situation in Europe is worse. There is hardly a single journalist who does not believe that Trump is the embodiment of all that is evil. Every day, in everything they write, they try and convince other Europeans of the same thing.

When Trump announces a new appointment, his nominees are attacked as "radical", "rigid," "ultra-conservative," "KKK sympathizer," and so on. There is not a single positive comment to be found in the European press. Not one! Even well-intended bishops and pro-life Catholics believe they have an obligation to condemn and fight against Trump.

Meanwhile, you would be hard-pressed to find mention of any pro-life victory he and his administration have achieved. The Mexico City Policy goes un-noted. The withholding of funds from Planned Parenthood goes unmentioned Even the March for Life in D.C. received little mention. In Spain, where Carlos Beltramo lives, the Spanish bishops own radio network completely ignored the March for Life, yet the Women's March was covered at length.

The cause of life is—in fact—winning under the new Trump administration. But many of our natural allies outside the United States do not understand this because they are cut off from objective media sources.

As far as news is concerned, we need to turn to other, more reliable sources. That's why we at PRI are very active on social media in both English and Spanish. Sign up for our Weekly Briefings, join our Facebook group, subscribe to our Twitter feed, and urge others who are concerned about the future of Life and Family to do the same.

• • • • •

PRI in the News

LifeSiteNews—Stanford Biologist Paul Ehrlich was invited to speak at a Vatican conference held from February 27th to March 1st. The conference was sponsored by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. Ehlrich planned to address the "imbalance between the world's population and what the earth is capable of producing." He is known as the father of the population control movement and is a known proponent of sex-selective abortion and mandatory sterilization. He has called the Catholic Church's opposition to contraception "truly evil," and Pope Francis' *Laudato Si* "raving nonsense." He has since urged Pope Francis to "heed his comments on the Church's 'obsession' with contraception and abortion, and assume a leadership position in support of women's rights and family planning."

LifeSiteNews has asked the Holy See, as well as the Pontifical Academy of Sciences why an anti-life scholar as radical as Ehrlich has been invited to speak at the Vatican. They received no response. Ehrlich told *LifeSiteNews* that he was "thrilled with the new Pope [for] moving the Church in the right direction." "Of course Professor Ehrlich is thrilled," says Steven Mosher, President of PRI. "Why wouldn't he be? The same Church he has denigrated for decades is now seemingly open to his apocalyptic views."

LifeSiteNews—The Indian Minister of Education, Health, and Finance, Himanta Biswa Sarma, is pushing for a bill that would create a two-child policy for all government employees within the northwestern province of Assam. The bill, which is being proposed now, would result in the loss of employment for any government worker who has a third child. If passed, Assam would become the eighth state in India to adopt a two-child limit for government employees. Local elected representatives are already barred from having a third child in Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, Gujarat, and Uttarakhand.

According to Jonathan Abbamonte, research analyst for the Population Research Institute, the results of these laws are threefold. The laws have, of course, resulted in more abortions, but they have also resulted in more sex-selective abortions of baby girls, since India maintains a cultural preference for sons. Additionally, the two-child policies have lead to an increase in divorce. "In many places where a two-child policy is in effect, male elected representatives have abandoned or divorced their spouses in order to be in compliance with the policy," Abbamonte stated. And, "because men in India often decide the number of children couples will have, some female elected representatives have been forced from their posts due to their husband's desire for a third child."

LifeSiteNews—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has signed an executive order mandating the immediate and full implementation of the controversial Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012 which would increase the distribution of and referrals for contraceptives, and encourage the use of birth control. The Act was blocked by the Philippine Supreme Court in 2014 on the grounds that the Food and Drug Administration of the Philippines had violated drug approval protocols for a number of contraceptive drugs. The Court also expressed concern that several artificial contraceptives approved for distribution under the Act were abortifacient in nature.

Because the Constitution of the Philippines explicitly protects life from the moment of conception, abortifacients are prohibited under Philippine law. PRI's research analyst, Jonathan Abbamonte, states that "while contraceptive prevalence in the Philippines has increased in recent years, artificial contraception remains relatively unpopular throughout much of the overwhelmingly Catholic country. For many Filipino Catholics, artificial methods of contraception are contrary to their religious beliefs and constitute a violation of human dignity by rejecting an openness to life and by commoditizing children and spouses."

LifeSiteNews—https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/exclusive-interview-pro-abort-population-controller-thrilled-with-direction
LifeSiteNews—https://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/indian-state-proposes-a-two-child-limit-for-government-employees
LifeSiteNews—http://www.lifenews.com/2017/01/17/philippines-duterte-ignores-supreme-court-orders-action-on-controversial-reproductive-health-law/