



The Ugly Face of Facebook

BY STEVEN W. MOSHER

Proof that Social Media Giant Is Suppressing Pro-Life Voices

In George Orwell's dystopian novel, *1984*, the fictional government's "Ministry of Truth" was dedicated to spreading propaganda about the regime and its leaders. The censors who worked there, personified by the main character Winston, were constantly distorting reality to prop up the current party line.

Mark Zuckerberg, who controls Facebook with its two billion users, is attempting something similar. Only this master of the high-tech universe is not using human censors like Winston, but warehouses full of computers. He has had his computer software engineers design complex computer algorithms—a sequence of unambiguous instructions written in computer code—that direct his computers, on their own and largely without any human intervention,



Photo illustration/Getty Images

to promote posts by certain groups while suppressing others.

Zuckerberg is a leading member of the coastal elite, so it is no surprise that his new algorithm suppresses the voices of "deplorables" like us who believe in the sanctity of life. Since the algorithm was introduced in early 2018, the Population Research Institute's main page has seen a 41 percent decline in the reach of our posts. That means that our

pro-life "Weekly Briefings" are now reaching only a little more than half of the people they reached just a few months ago.

The effect on other pro-life groups, such as *LifeSiteNews*, has been equally dramatic. In fact, every group we know has seen their reach and influence on social media platforms suddenly diminished. The reason is that Facebook, along with

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Target Africa

This important gift tells you how Western population controllers are working overtime in Africa, pushing an anti-life, pro-LGBT agenda. See page 4



The Way The Pill Kills— This One Makes No. 5

by Steven W. Mosher

Over the transom comes a note from my good friend, Dr. Angela Lanfranchi, who tells me that we now know *five* different ways that “the Pill” kills women.

The first four mechanisms by which the Pill kills have been known for some time. The Pill (1) causes blood clots resulting in heart attacks, strokes and pulmonary embolisms, (2) increases susceptibility to lethal infections of HIV and HPV, (3) increases breast, cervical and liver cancers, and (4) increases likelihood of dying a violent death from intimate partner violence. (The Breast Cancer Prevention Institute, which Dr. Lanfranchi directs, has a great brochure summarizing these ways, which can be found at the BCP website: <https://www.bcpinstitute.org/brochure---the-pill-kills.html>.)

So what is the fifth way the Pill kills?

The title of the study, which comes from the November 2017 issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, says it all: “**Association of Hormonal Contraception with Suicide Attempts and Suicides.**”

The study followed nearly 500,000 Danish women who took hormonal contraceptives for an average of 8.3 years. The hormonal contraceptives included the common estrogen-progestin combination drugs such as the Pill, the patch, vaginal (Nuva) ring, Mirena IUD, and oral progestin-only pills.

The study found that not only were women on the Pill more likely to attempt suicide, they were much more likely to succeed in killing themselves. Among these women there was a 97% statistically significant increase in suicide attempts and a striking 200% statistically significant risk of suicide.

Another striking finding was that the most likely time for a suicide attempt to oc-

cur was after just two months of hormonal contraceptive use.

We have long known that the Pill causes alteration in moods and often causes depression. Now we know that this depression—not surprisingly—in some cases leads to suicide. We also now understand that young women are most vulnerable to suicide within a short time after going on the Pill, probably because their bodies, and their minds, are struggling to adjust to the dangerous, mood-altering drugs that they are now taking.

The study controlled for previously diagnosed psychiatric conditions and other confounding factors, proving that it was the Pill itself, not pre-existing psychiatric problems, that was the cause of the suicidal behavior.

But Dr. Lanfranchi did point out one flaw: Induced abortion was not considered as a confounder, i.e., something that might cause an erroneous statistical analysis.

“Since over half of women who seek an induced abortion have used contraception in the cycle that they got pregnant, and a previously published study on Finnish women by Mika Gissler found a three-fold increase in suicide among women with an abortion history, the study may have omitted induced abortion as an important confounder. [Gissler] recommended that women who have an induced abortion be monitored for possible mental health disorders to prevent these suicides.” (*Breast Cancer Prevention Institute Report*, April 2018)

To summarize, the Pill can lead to death in multiple ways, by blood clots, cancers, infections, and partner violence. Now we learn it can also lead to death by one’s own hand.

POPULATION
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



Review

The Population Research Institute Review is published bimonthly by:

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Global Monitor

■ U.S. Blasts Four Countries For Human Rights Abuses

WASHINGTON, D.C. – President Donald Trump's administration has called out China, Iran, Russia and North Korea as “forces of instability” for human-rights abuses of their own citizens and others.

The State Department released its annual global human-rights reports in April and decried the four countries for restricting the freedoms of speech and assembly and allowing or committing violence against religious, ethnic and other minority groups. The report described countries that undermine the fundamental dignity of people as “morally reprehensible” and says they harm U.S. interests.

“The governments of China, Russia, Iran and North Korea, for example, violate the human rights of those within their borders on a daily basis and are forces of instability as a result,” wrote acting Secretary of State John Sullivan in an introduction to the reports—one for each country and territory in the world. He said the U.S. aims to lead by example

and promotes good governance, anti-corruption efforts and the rule of law.

The reports, which are mandated by Congress, have replaced the section on “reproductive rights” with one on “coercion in population control” at the urging of pro-life groups, including PRI.

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had added the “reproductive rights” section in 2012, and it had remained a part of each country's report until this year. That section had previously called out countries for failing to promote contraception.

■ UN Leaders Push Abortion, Contraception in Africa

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Catholic News Agency reports that African Catholics remained concerned with Western leaders who are pushing abortion and contraception in their continent in the name of economic development, especially as the United Nations Commission on Population and Development began its annual meeting in April.¹

“‘Reproductive health’ is the phrase that is the battleground of every UN Commission meeting we attend,” said

law professor Teresa Collett, attendee at the 51st session of the UN Commission on Population and Development.

“Now ‘reproductive health’ as a phrase doesn’t sound that bad,” continued Collett, “The problem is that it is ‘diplomat speak’ for abortion on demand. It’s diplomat speak for contraception,” Collett explained last week at a conference at the Catholic University of America marking the 50th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*.

The UN preparatory document implicitly recommends policies to reduce the birth rates in Africa: “In much of Africa and parts of Asia, numbers of children and youth are rising rapidly. Policies ... to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services are critical to achieve further reductions in maternal and child mortality. Typically, such policies lead also to a reduction in the birth rate.”

According to the CNA report, Pope Francis has repeatedly warned against Western “ideological colonization” of developing countries in which aid money comes tied to contraceptives, abortion, sterilization, and gender ideologies.

¹ <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/africans-stand-for-life-in-un-battles-over-reproductive-health-59621>

Steven Mosher’s May Travel Itinerary Includes Vatican Meetings

May 7-8, 2018	Presentation: “The China Threat,” for Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.
May 10, 2018	Talk on “Finding God in China,” to Legatus Chapter, Lexington, Kentucky.
May 14-15, 2018	Meetings in the Vatican Secretariat of State about the persecution of the Catholic Church in China.
May 16-17, 2018	Presentation on “The True Understanding of Conscience,” for Fifth Annual Rome Life Forum, organized by the Voice of the Family.
May 19, 2018	Participation in Rome March for Life.
May 21, 2018	First Annual Meeting, John Paul II Academy for Human Life and the Family. Steven Mosher will be attending as a member of the Academy.
May 22, 2018	Meetings in the Vatican Secretariat of State about the persecution of the Catholic Church in China.

How population controllers inflict abortion and other misery on Africa

Population controllers wish this book had never seen the light of day, and with good reason: It hangs their dirty dealings in Africa out for all to see. In grim detail it reveals the suffering of Africans at the hands of population controllers.

New
from
Ignatius
Press!

The book is *Target Africa*. It's published by **Ignatius Press** and I hope you'll let me send you a copy today because this book is THAT important!

Target Africa names names as it thoroughly documents the atrocities inflicted on Africa. In very readable detail, it puts the blame squarely where it belongs: On the International Planned Parenthood Federation . . . the U.S. Agency for International Development . . . Melinda Gates, the "Catholic" wife of multi-billionaire Bill Gates . . . multiple UN agencies . . . plus other well-known and not-so-well-known population control criminals.

Let me tell you more about *Target Africa* . . .

- This explosive book reveals how population controllers use economic blackmail—"foreign aid with strings attached"—to impose Western "solutions" that are 180 degrees opposite the moral and cultural values of Africans.

Abortion is a prime example. *Target Africa*, for instance, reveals that only four African countries allow abortion-on-demand while virtually every other African country places heavy restrictions on abortion.

- The number of Africans opposed to abortion is an astounding 77% on the low end and up to 92% on the high end, depending on the country. So population controllers resort to "foreign aid with strings

attached" to impose abortion as a "solution" to Africa's economic problems.

- *Target Africa* also reveals how population controllers aggressively target young Africans with sex "education" . . . condoms and other contraceptives . . . and "reproductive health services."

And there is more . . .

- This exceptionally important book also tells you how Western population controllers are working overtime in Africa, pushing radical feminism and acceptance of homosexuality.

The author of *Target Africa* has witnessed and studied these population control horrors first-hand. She is Obianuju Ekeocha, a native Nigerian woman and founder of Culture of Life Africa, an organization defending the sanctity of life through research, education and sound information. Obianuju Ekeocha is also an internationally acclaimed pro-life speaker. She has been featured on numerous broadcast networks, including BBC television and radio.

Such is the importance of *Target Africa* that acclaimed pro-life authority Professor Robert George of Princeton University has written the foreword!

Target Africa is an eye-opener. Put it on your "must read" list and then let me send you a copy with sincere thanks for your support of \$40 or more—support that will help PRI save more babies!



Please use the enclosed Gift Reply to request your copy of
Target Africa . . .

The Ugly Face of Facebook, *continued*

YouTube, Twitter and Google, are deliberately suppressing pro-life, pro-family views while freely promoting left-wing ideology.

This ideologically driven censorship has hammered not just pro-life groups but conservative organizations in general, including giants like Breitbart News and *PragerU*. According to a report in *The Outline*, Breitbart News' Facebook engagement has dropped by 28 percent while *PragerU*'s has fallen by 32 percent. Both are publishing more content these days—as we at PRI are—yet are seeing an increasingly muted response.

But it is clear that the primary target is not pro-life groups like us or even the conservative news giants. The real target is our pro-life president and the populist movement that propelled him into the presidency. We are just collateral damage.

As Breitbart's Allum Bokhari has noted, Zuckerberg's new algorithm follows on the heels of "a year of pressure from left-wing employees and the mainstream media for 'allowing' the president to win the general election."

Given all this, it comes as no surprise that Facebook's cleverly redesigned algorithm has hit Trump's Facebook posts the hardest. Our president has seen engagement on his Facebook posts drop by a staggering 45 percent since the new algorithm was introduced. At the same time, the levels of engagement on the Facebook pages of left-wing icons Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders have remained unchanged.

Facebook's response to these seismic shifts in user engagement has been to deny any ideological bias. In-

stead, it claims that it has simply decided to promote only "quality news" from "broadly trusted" news sites.

This is clearly just a dodge. What Facebook is promoting are the views of Mark Zuckerberg and other liberal coastal elites. Articles from the relentlessly anti-life and anti-family *New York Times* and *Washington Post* will now pop up on your news feed, whether you want them to or not. Articles from us, or from other pro-life, conservative-leaning news outlets such as *LifeSiteNews* or *Breitbart*, will not.


We at PRI feel betrayed. We created an account on Facebook years ago on the promise of an open platform where we would be able to air our views on issues we cared about without censorship by gatekeepers or political elites.

Now that the platform has become an essential means of communication, Zuckerberg has decided that he—acting like the Ministry of Truth in Orwell's 1984—is going to impose his views on the rest of us, by dictating what is allowed to be posted and promoted on Facebook. It feels like a massive bait-and-switch operation.

Unless and until something is done about Facebook's abuse of power, what should you do?

The good news is that there is a way to stay current with the issues you care about, but you have to be even more proactive and engaged.

Be sure to "like," "comment," and "share" all the posts of the groups you want to follow. This will help to overcome the bias of the algorithm and

 We at PRI feel a sense of betrayal. We created an account on Facebook years ago on the promise of an open platform where we would be able to air our views on issues we cared about without censorship by gatekeepers or political elites.

force it to show such posts in your news feed more often.

To date, Facebook has not blocked actual subscribers from receiving posts from us. This means that you can override the algorithm by electing receive "Notifications" for all of our posts, along with those of other groups you want to be sure to receive. Just go to our page, and under the "Follow" drop down menu, hit "on" under "Notifications."

For the past couples of decades, the internet has been used very effectively to promote respect for life. Now those Masters of the Universe who have come to dominate it have decided to impose their views on the rest of us.

I don't want my views to censored by a tech geek, whether it be Mark Zuckerberg or one of his faceless censors silently working in the bowels of his Ministry of Truth. If our movement is to prevail, the masters of the high-tech universe must not be allowed to succeed.



Rohingya Muslims, who crossed over from Myanmar into Bangladesh, walk through muddy field after collecting aid from a distribution center near Balukhali refugee camp, Bangladesh, October 2, 2017./Getty Images

When Population Control Becomes Genocide

Burmese government drives down Rohingya birth rate, while driving them out of the country

BY JONATHAN ABBAMONTE

Northern Myanmar—the country we used to call Burma—is the site of a brutal and ongoing ethnic cleansing campaign. It is well known that the Rohingya, a Muslim ethnic minority from the northwestern Burmese state of Rakhine, are systematically persecuted and that large numbers are fleeing across the border to India.

What is less well known is that they are also being subjected to a rigorous population control program designed to reduce the birth rate among those who remain.

Local Buddhist monks and hard-line Buddhist-nationalist politicians in the state of Rakhine see the Rohingya as a threat to their ethnic and religious identity. Even though Rakhine Buddhists outnumber Rohingya Muslims by approximately 2-to-1, there is concern among some Rakhines that the population increase of Rohingya threatens to displace them.

The findings of an investigative commission established in 2012

by Myanmar President Thein Sein makes this clear:

“The population growth of Rohingya Muslims is 10 times higher than that of the Rakhine...Overpopulation is one of the causes of tension,” a spokesman for the Rakhine state government was reported to have said.

In response, local officials in Rakhine have implemented a variety of measures to reduce the Rohingya population, including a rigorous two-child policy and onerous marriage restrictions.

For over a decade, Rakhine townships have placed a strict two-child policy on Rohingya. While Rakhine is home to several ethnic groups, the policy only applies to Rohingyas. Couples who exceed their two-child limit can be punished with imprisonment for as long as six months for violating an order of a public servant under Section 188 of Myanmar’s penal code.

In order to have a marriage license approved, newlywed Rohingya couples are required to sign a docu-

ment stating that they will not have more than two children. Previously, Rohingya couples were allowed up to three children, but in 2007, the limit was decreased to two.

Much like China’s two-child policy, over-quota children under the Rakhine policy are considered illegal and are ineligible for birth registration. Without registration and a government ID, these “illegal children” are not able to attend school, own property, apply for travel permits, or to get married later in life.

Some Rohingya parents resort to paying off government officials with repeated bribes in order to evade penalties. Some women, to escape fees and penalties, flee to Bangladesh to give birth to an over-quota child and are subsequently forced to leave their children behind when they return.¹ Others opt to hide their children from the authorities or register them with another family that has not filled its quota. Still others feel forced to resort to abortion in order to escape penalties.

The government also makes it difficult for Rohingya to register births. Obtaining birth registration is a lengthy process and there are often unofficial fees or bribes necessary to have a child registered.² The result is that many children remain unregistered. The Burmese Government estimates there are 60,000 unregistered Rohingya children in Rakhine.

While some in Myanmar, including State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi have condemned Rakhine's two-child policy as "against human rights," the policy has received widespread acceptance, even among officials in the national government.

In a 2013 interview with Reuters, Burma's Minister of Immigration and Population Khin Yi expressed his support for the two-child policy and saying, "The Bengali [i.e. Rohingya] women living in the Rakhine State have a lot of children. In some areas, one family has 10 or 12 children...It is not very easy to take care of the children."

Most restrictions on Rohingya, including the two-child policy, are enforced by the Burmese border patrol, the Nay-Sat Kut-kwey Ye (Na-SaKa), an agency consisting of police, military, and immigration officials. It is believed that township orders cir-

culated among the NaSaKa provide some of the legal basis for the policy.

For instance, in Maungdaw, a township with a large Rohingya population which borders Bangladesh, official government documents obtained by the human rights organization Fortify Rights stipulate that "those who have permission to marry must limit the number of children, in order to control the birth rate so that there is enough food and shelter."³

In addition to the two-child policy, local regulations in Rakhine also impose other population control measures including burdensome restrictions on Rohingyas' right to marry. For decades, Rohingya, like all other ethnicities in Myanmar, were free to marry according to their own customs. But in the early 1990s, in the interest of limiting the Rohingya population, the NaSaKa began requiring Rohingya to obtain permission to marry from the government.⁴

In order to have a marriage approved, Rohingya couples must meet with government officials multiple times, and must be accompanied by their parents.⁵ Couples must present a photo of themselves to officials and contrary to Muslim custom, men are often required to be pictured clean-shaven and women, without

hijab.^{6,7} In many villages, only a few marriages are authorized each year and some couples wait years before obtaining approval from the Government.⁸ Widows and widowers are required to wait at least a year after the death of their spouse before they can apply for a second marriage.⁹

In order to have a marriage application approved, Rohingya couples are required to pay exorbitant fees or bribes to officials typically equivalent to 3 to 10 months' wages.^{10, 11, 12} Due to discriminatory policies that severely limit Rohingyas' mobility, education, and job opportunities, most of the Rohingya are poor and for many, the cost of marriage is prohibitively expensive. Some Rohingya couples have been forced to leave Myanmar in order to escape marriage penalties and fees.¹³

"Population control programs are always a matter of a majority—be it ethnic, religious, or class-based—targeting a minority," says PRI President Steven Mosher. "Nowhere is this more clearly illustrated than in northern Burma, where an ethnic and religious ethnic majority is targeting a depised ethnic and religious minority. The goal is clearly to eliminate the Rohingya from Burma by any means possible, including contracepting and sterilizing their children out of existence."

¹ Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Yale Law School, *Persecution of the Rohingya Muslims: Is Genocide Occurring in Myanmar's Rakhine State?*, A Legal Analysis 18 (Fortify Rights 2015).

² U.N. Comm. On the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 44*, Concluding observations: Myanmar, January 16–February 3, 2012, U.N.Doc. CRC/C/MMR/CO/3-4; CRC, 59th Sess (March 14, 2012).

³ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 67 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).

⁴ Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland, Galway, *Crimes against Humanity in Western Burma: The Situation of the Rohingyas* 126-127 (2010).

⁵ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 30 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).

⁶ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 70 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).

⁷ Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland, Galway, *Crimes against Humanity in Western Burma: The Situation of the Rohingyas* 127 (2010).

⁸ *Ibid.*, 128.

⁹ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 68 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).

¹⁰ Irish Centre for Human Rights, National University of Ireland, Galway, *Crimes against Humanity in Western Burma: The Situation of the Rohingyas* 127-128 (2010).

¹¹ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 30-31 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).

¹² Human Rights Watch, "All You Can Do Is Pray": Crimes against Humanity and Ethnic Cleansing of Rohingya Muslims in Burma's Arakan State 80-81 (2013).

¹³ Matthew Smith et al., *Policies of persecution: Ending Abusive State Policies against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar* 31 (Fortify Rights, February 2014).



HUMANAE VITAE COALITION

Humanae Vitae Takes The Stage

by Dr. Christopher Manion

In April, the bishops of the United States joined the Catholic University of America to sponsor a three-day conference celebrating the 50th anniversary of Blessed Pope Paul VI's prophetic encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. The conference titled "Embracing God's Vision For Marriage, Love, and Life" featured world-class speakers who addressed every aspect of this crucial Church teaching, weaving together a fabric of beauty and truth to confront the shredded culture of death that prevails today in so much of the West.

Dr. John Garvey, who hosted the conference, reminded attendees that Catholic University was the focal point of the rebellion against Blessed Pope Paul's encyclical in 1968. Dr. Garvey, who has labored long and hard to enrich CUA's Catholic character, gave a spirited defense of *Humanae Vitae*, something precious few dared to do on the campus 50 years ago.

Philadelphia's Archbishop Charles Chaput, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth, welcomed the hundreds of scholars, prelates and priests, doctors, and professionals in attendance. We must "celebrate the Catholic proclamation that truth, goodness, and beauty go together, and they're experienced with the greatest joy and freedom in obedience to the Word of God and the enduring wisdom of the Church," he said.

He recounted how the early Church affirmed the dignity of all men, freeing women and slaves from

bonds of servitude and subjection. While 100 years ago virtually all Christians recognized contraception as contrary to God's law, he said, today the Church stands virtually alone in defending the truths the West has believed for centuries, opposed by virtually all the elites of our secular culture.

Social critic Mary Eberstadt then probed the contradiction that while the elites embraced the sexual revolution, the research of elite scholars in numerous fields—many of them no fans of the Church—revealed the wisdom of Blessed Paul's encyclical. "There is only one conclusion to be drawn from the mass of empirical evidence now out there.... It's simply this: The most globally reviled and widely misunderstood document of the last half century is also the most prophetic and explanatory of our time," she said.

Several speakers picked up on Eberstadt's theme to address what all agreed were the lies of the advocates of population control, from Margaret Sanger to the present day: The Pill didn't make women happier, it made them miserable. It didn't make families closer, it alienated spouses and made "unplanned" children the enemy. It didn't "liberate" women, it liberated men from their time-honored responsibilities. Reducing population doesn't enrich countries, it impoverishes them. And the "prime mandate" of the Pill—that it would reduce abortions and unwanted pregnancies—

was a lie. We recall that *Roe v. Wade* came after the pill, not before.

Historians and legal scholars brilliantly surveyed the Catholic landscape since 1945. After World War II, Western elites decided that overpopulation caused war and conflict, and they began advocating "family planning" programs for countries all over the world.

By the 1960s, major foundations were funding multiple international family planning efforts. Their efforts were well under way when *Humanae Vitae* appeared—and then Paul Ehrlich's now totally discredited best-seller, "The Population Bomb" appeared, supported by a cultural tsunami of science fiction novels, movies, and media-generated fear that gave the often inhuman population control movement its sordid "seal of approval." (In 1968, Richard Bauer of Zero Population Growth said that "volunteerism is dead," and advocated sterilizing welfare recipients and sterilizing parents after the birth of their fifth child!)

Conferees agreed that to restore our culture we need to regain our moral voice and reaffirm the entirety of Blessed Paul's teaching—embracing the virtues of modesty and chastity, faith and family, while echoing the fact that *Humanae Vitae* was "the most prophetic document of our time."

At CUA, that moral voice made a daring and welcome reappearance.



Ideological Corruption in the Fall of Peruvian President Kuczynski

by Carlos Polo

Pedro Pablo Kuczynski resigned from the presidency of Peru amid grave accusations of corruption along with widespread discontent due to an economic recession, out-of-control crime, failed public schools and hospitals, and protests by parents against gender indoctrination.

Thus fell the administration that has, more than any other before it, promoted gender ideology in laws and public policies. President Kuczynski had not even reached his second year in office.

The son of immigrants, Kuczynski lived his childhood in a province of the Peruvian Amazon but finished his education in England. He began his adult life in the United States, where he later married and became an American citizen. He returned to Peru in 1967 to work in public and private sectors, in banking, finance, economics and energy. His management practices always generated controversy because he favored foreign companies to the detriment of the Peruvian state.

The Peruvians never felt close to Kuczynski. Spelling his surname of Polish origin remains an almost impossible challenge for the average Peruvian.

Also, his image was strongly associated with U.S. banking and finance. This posed a challenge for the publicity agency responsible for his first presidential campaign in 2011.

The agency rechristened him “PPK” and with his initials crafted a

unique narrative: His collaborators became “PPKausas,” his home was the “PPKasa” and the “PPKuy” was his friendly pet campaign doll. He came in third that year, and the agency received a political marketing award.

In 2016, he went to the second round and in a very close election won against Keiko Fujimori. PPK obtained 50.12% of the votes and only 41,000 votes more than his opponent, amid protests of fraud.

Even as president, PPK never renounced his American nationality. He came to power through the votes of those who did not want Keiko Fujimori in the presidential chair. On the same night of the second-round vote that made him president, a radical socialist sector that had first voted for PPK declared their opposition. The government began with a minority and disunited caucus.

From then on, management failures in the first few months hurt his popularity. As if that were not enough, the El Niño phenomenon flooded entire major cities, and his government's inability to handle the situation dealt him another blow.

The last straw, which brought thousands to the street in protest, was the promulgation of a school curriculum that introduced the central concepts of gender ideology to schoolchildren. Associations of parents and Catholic and evangelical organizations organized under the slogan of #ConMisHijosNoTeMetas (“Don’t Mess with My Children”) and they let PPK know that he re-

neged on an electoral promise. Two ministers of education had to resign and lawsuits against the curriculum continued. “PPKaos” began to take shape.

Then came the “PPKcoimas” (“coimas” means “bribes”). Corruption allegations arose involving PPK and the Brazilian company Odebrecht. Evidence accumulated that PPK received money from Odebrecht while he was Minister of Economy and then President of the Council of Ministers of former President Toledo, currently a fugitive in the United States. The first statements of dealings between Marcelo Odebrecht and his manager in Peru, Jorge Barata, exposed the relationship of the now ex-president and the Brazilian corruption machinery. That spelled “PPKatástrofe.”

PPK finally resigned to avoid a dishonorable vacancy. His future is bleak and jail is not improbable. His predecessor, Ollanta Humala, and his wife Nadine Heredia, also promoters of gender ideology, are already imprisoned for corruption unveiled by Odebrecht.

PPK’s successor will have to decide if he wants to take a passive approach or take action to eradicate gender ideology in Peruvian laws.

Translated from Spanish by PRI Research Analyst Jonathan Abbamonte

PRI in the News



■ Mosher on China: The First Totalitarians

THE STREAM—In a sweeping interview with writer John Zmirak, PRI President Steve Mosher, author of the book *Bully of Asia*, discusses China's latest developments, from Xi Jinping's latest move to change the country's constitution in order to remain president for life, to the growing economic and military threats China poses to the United States.¹

In one section, Mosher explains that China is returning to its tyrannical beginnings.

"As I write in *Bully of Asia*: 'China long ago invented totalitarianism—the total subjugation of the individual to the state—and still practices this kind of all-embracing political tyranny today.... China's leaders conclude from their long centuries of regional hegemony that they have a natural right to once again bestride the region, and they narcissistically "dream" of a world under their hegemony.'

"All of the things we associate with 'modern' Marxist-Leninism, from a secret police and political commissars in the military, to state ownership of the means of production and a rigorously enforced state ideology. ... All were found in China over 2,000 years ago.

"Sadly, they are still found in China today, in even more exaggerated form. The more China changes, the more it remains the same."

■ Pro-Life Groups Win On Report Language

NATIONAL CATHOLIC REGISTER—Population Research Institute was one of several pro-life organizations represented in a letter to the U.S. State Department asking for the removal of the phrase "reproductive rights" in its annual report on human rights abuses.²

Their plea was heard: The final 2017 report discontinues the phrase, which serves as a euphemism for abortion and contraception, and instead draws attention to issues of forced abortion and sterilization as examples of "coercion in population control."

Responding to the changes, former Secretary of State and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton tweeted, "Women's rights are human rights. That was a radical idea back in 1995. It shouldn't still be two decades later."

But PRI President Steve Mosher countered: "Rights don't become rights simply because Hillary Clinton says so. They have to be codified into international legally binding instruments. By that measure, 'reproductive rights' is an empty phrase."

In 1968, the U.N. International Conference on Human Rights passed the non-binding "Proclamation of Tehran" that declared, "Parents have a basic human right to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children." But

even that declaration was not part of a legally binding document.

Said Mosher, "Rights to abortion, sterilization and artificial contraception are mentioned only in non-binding recommendations and are nothing more than pro-abortion advocacy masquerading as international law."

■ PRI's Mosher Urges Pressure on N. Korea

FOX NEWS—In an opinion column for Fox News, PRI President Steve Mosher said that North Korea's reported new willingness to discuss giving up its nuclear weapons is a sign that the Trump administration's pressure campaign against the nation is working.³

But Asian affairs expert Mosher said this does not mean that the U.S. should back off on sanctions.

"Quite the contrary. We must continue to ratchet up pressure against the rogue regime if we want it to truly abandon its nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missile programs.

"The fact is that the latest round of sanctions announced two weeks ago will only incrementally add to the pressure on the North's economy. They will not cripple it.

"To really have an impact—and possibly deprive North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un of the ability to launch a horrific nuclear attack on the United States—we need to go one step further and mount a naval blockade on North Korea's ports."

■ Chinese To Be Watched By 'Social Credit System'

LIFESITE NEWS—With a new “Social Credit System” to become mandatory for all Chinese citizens and businesses by 2020, China will become “the nightmare of the world’s first truly totalitarian state,” PRI’s Steve Mosher told *LifeSiteNews*.⁴

Mosher said, “The Left has always said that true totalitarianism is impossible to achieve because there are never enough minders. That’s no longer true.”

According to the article, citizens with a high trustworthy rating will be able to partake in the benefits of society, including banking, travel, healthcare, etc. Those with low ratings will be shamed and excluded.

“A lot of people in China don’t use money anymore,” Mosher explained. “They use their phones. The Chinese government monitors all phones, everything electronic.”

With online tools Chinese people are “self-reporting” on where they go, what they buy, and—on social media—who they know and what they think.

“A lot of people in China don’t use money anymore,” Mosher explained. “They use their phones. The Chinese government monitors all phones, everything electronic.”

“Your social [credit] score goes up if you say good things about the regime,” said Mosher. “Your social score goes down if you say bad things about the regime.”

According to Mosher, the Chinese government has a seat on the board of every social media company in China. It also owns 1 percent of the stock of each company, and although that percentage seems small, it is the government board member who is in control.

Any wrong move by the company, and that government board member “can shut you down,” he said.

■ Mosher Interviewed on 'Asia Unbound' Podcast

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS—PRI’s Steven Mosher was featured in a recent “Asia Unbound” podcast hosted by the Council of Foreign Relations, with this description:⁵

“With over 5,000 years of history, modern China must be understood through the lens of its past. In his recent book, *Bully of Asia: Why China’s Dream is the New Threat to World Order*, Steven Mosher argues that from its earliest emperors to President Xi, China has maintained continuity through its distinctive culture and political ideology. Mosher contends that modern China is attempting to reclaim its historic position as global hegemon, to the detriment of American ideals and goals.

“He argues that without action, the United States will be left behind. But is Beijing truly attempting an assault on Western values and governance? Is China planning to supplant the West’s global leadership? In this week’s Asia Unbound podcast, Steven Mosher offers a provocative perspective on these important questions.”

¹ <https://stream.org/chinas-dictator-cracks-down/>

² <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/planned-exclusion-of-abortion-in-state-dept.s-human-rights-report-earns-pra>

³ <http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2018/03/06/trump-s-north-korea-pressure-campaign-is-working-here-s-what-must-happen-next.html>

⁴ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/chinas-communist-govt-creates-machine-to-spy-on-and-rate-citizens-trustwort>

⁵ <https://www.cfr.org/podcasts/podcast-china-bully-asia>

Are you planning your summer vacation and fall travels?

Hedwig, who has faithfully written a check every month since 2013, called and said to me, “I’m going on an extended vacation and don’t want to forget you! May I set up automatic monthly giving?”

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From the Countries



NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Reports Lowest Fertility Ever

New Zealand's total fertility rate in 2017 decreased to an average of 1.81 births per woman over their lifetime, which is the lowest fertility rate the country has seen since records began, according to *Mercatornet*.¹

While that is still higher than many countries, such as Singapore's 0.83 per woman or Hong Kong's 1.19, experts are still worried about a fertility rate that is "sub-replacement" level.

Population statistics senior manager Peter Dolan commented that fertility rates increased dramatically following the Great Depression and WWII, peaking at 4.31 births per woman in 1961.

Since then, he said, New Zealand's total fertility rate has been "relatively stable" for the last four decades, ranging from 2.19 in 2008 to 1.81 births per woman in 2017.

The reduction in birth rates since 2008 has been mainly driven by trends among women aged 15-29 years, whose birth rates are now at record lows, as women increasingly have fewer babies and have them in their thirties.



IRELAND

100k Rally in Ireland To 'Save the Eighth'

As many as 100,000 people attended a rally in Dublin to show their support to the continued right to life of the unborn in Ireland, reported *LifeSite News*.²

According to the "Save the 8th" campaign, the March 10 All Ireland Rally for Life attracted the largest crowd ever gathered on the Irish abortion question. The Eighth Amendment to the Irish constitution guarantees the right-to-life of the unborn child.

The pro-abortion Irish government has been planning a referendum in late May in hopes of abolishing the amendment.

Spokeswoman Niamh Uí Bhriain said, "These huge numbers are a rising of the people against the media and political elites and against the powerful international abortion industry who have poured millions into a campaign attacking our pro-life laws."

"Abortion has no place in a compassionate and progressive society."



THE NETHERLANDS

Report: Assisted Deaths Increase in Netherlands

According to a Dutch news agency, 6,585 "assisted deaths" (euthanasia) were reported in 2017, increasing by 8 percent from 6,091 reported assisted deaths in 2016.³

According to the *DutchNL* news, and as reported in the U.S. by *Lifesite News*, the number of assisted deaths for dementia or psychiatric reasons also increased in 2017, with 169 people dying by euthanasia for dementia (three with advanced dementia) and 83 people dying by euthanasia for psychiatric reasons.

In 2016 there were 141 people who died by euthanasia based on dementia, up from 109 in 2015 and 60 people who died by euthanasia for psychiatric reasons, up from 56 in 2015.

In January 2017, a Netherlands euthanasia review committee decided that the death of a woman with dementia, who died by euthanasia against her will, was done in "good faith." The woman was held down while the doctor lethally injected her.

On January 1, 2018, Berna van Baarsen, a euthanasia assessor for 10 years, resigned over the acceptance of euthanasia for dementia in the Netherlands. On January 26, 2018 a 29-year-old woman died by euthanasia for psychiatric reasons.

The *DutchNL* article indicated that 12 of the euthanasia deaths were "questionable," meaning that they were labeled by the monitoring committee as not being carefully carried out, mainly due to problems with medical care or not having an independent second opinion.

The Netherlands euthanasia law allows voluntary self-reporting by the doctor—meaning the doctor who lethally injects the patient also submits the report. Since doctors do not self-report abuse of the law, the law enables doctors to cover-up abuse. Also, due to the design of the law, it is impossible to know how many people actually die by an assisted death in the Netherlands, the report indicated.

¹ https://www.mercatornet.com/demography/view/new-zealand-fertility-rate-at-record-low/21059?utm_source=MercatorNet&utm_campaign=a2c67c5919-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_02_23&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e581d204e2-a2c67c5919-124647015

² <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/one-hundred-thousand-rally-to-save-unborns-right-to-life-in-ireland>

³ https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/euthanasia-deaths-in-the-netherlands-up-and-rising?utm_source=LifeSiteNews.com&utm_campaign=d204065c0d-Daily%2520Headlines%2520-%2520U.S.&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12387f0e3e-d2040c0d-401373841