



Trump Rule Could Slash \$60 Million From Planned Parenthood's Budget

Pro-Lifers Hail "Protect Life Rule" to Remove Funds from Activities Related to Abortion

BY JONATHAN ABBAMONTE

The Trump administration has released a much-anticipated rule proposal to block federal Title X family planning grants from funding abortion clinics and service providers that offer abortion referrals.¹

The new rule is expected to hit Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers hard. Planned Parenthood alone stands to lose as much as \$60 million a year under the rule change if they refuse to disentangle their abortion services from Title X services.

Title X is a federal grant program that provides funding to local public and private clinics exclusively for family planning and contraceptive services for low-income and uninsured individuals.



Photo illustration/Getty Images

The new proposed rule will substantially change current federal regulations by preventing Title X grantees from performing, promoting, encouraging or lobbying for abortion as a method of family planning. Service providers under the new rule will be required to disentangle abortion-related activities from Title X services and will be prohibited from offering direct abortion referrals or from scheduling abortion appointments for clients.

The proposed rule will also require Title X grantees to comply with state and local laws for reporting cas-

es of child abuse, rape, incest, human trafficking, and intimate partner violence. Planned Parenthood clinics have been known to fail to properly report statutory rape², sex trafficking³, and other crimes⁴ as required by law.

The rule will also prohibit grantees from using Title X funds for building costs for facilities that may be used for providing abortion services.

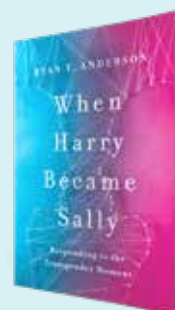
Due to a rule change from the Clinton administration, Title X providers currently are required to provide

(continued on page 5)

INSIDE

- 1 Trump vs. Planned Parenthood
- 2 Pope Paul VI Was Right
- 3 Global Monitor
- 4 Tackling Transgenderism
- 6 PRI Goes to the Vatican

- 8 *Humanae Vitae* Should 'Mature'?
- 9 Abortion in Argentina
- 11 PRI in the News
- 12 From the Countries



Gender Crisis

This special gift will help you understand—and also address—the latest 'rights' issue that is not going away.

See page 4



Pope Paul VI Warned This Would Happen

by Steven W. Mosher

Fifty years ago, the population controllers were in full cry, warning that humanity was breeding itself off the face of the planet.

Leading the pack was Paul Ehrlich, author of *The Population Bomb*. Ehrlich was famous for wanting to put contraceptives in the water supply. Only a limited number of couples should be allowed to conceive a child each year, he argued. These lucky couples would be issued an antidote to the sterilizing agent by the government.

China didn't go quite this far, but it did launch its infamous one-child policy in 1980. Tens of millions of pregnant women were rounded up, charged with the "crime" of being pregnant without permission and dragged off to hospitals, where they were forcibly aborted.

I know. I was present in a hospital operating room in Guangdong province in April 1980 where I watched, horrified, as women were given cesarean-section abortions. Most of these women were 7, 8 and even 9 months pregnant.

Pope Paul VI had warned that this would happen. He wrote in *Humanae Vitae* that governments might be prompted by the fear of overpopulation to "take even harsher measures to avert this danger."

Dozens of governments, including India, Vietnam, and North Korea, did in fact launch coercive campaigns to drive down the birth rate in the decades that followed, although none matched China's in its sheer brutality.

A half century later, it is clear that the much-hyped population "bomb" is a bust. The war on people that it prompted—with its hundreds of millions of victims—stands revealed as a human tragedy of historic proportions.

The latest numbers paint a picture of a world in demographic freefall:

- According to the World Bank, worldwide fertility has been cut in half, dropping from 5.0 children per women in 1960 to only 2.4 today. The population of the entire world will peak in a decade or two and then start spiraling downward.
- The Centers for Disease Control reports that U.S. fertility rate in 2017 was the lowest on record. American women are now averaging only 1.76 children, a sharp drop from the 2.08 children they were averaging only a decade ago.
- Canada is in even worse shape, with Statistics Canada stating that the fertility rate in 2016 was only 1.54, on par with dying Europe's.
- The Japanese government says that its shrinking population is the "biggest challenge" for economic growth. "If we don't do something now, it will be too late," warns Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Most of the nations of the world are now experiencing what we could call a "birth deficit." That is, they are having too few babies to sustain the current population.

If overpopulation was one of the great myths of the 20th Century, then underpopulation is the stark reality of the 21st.

It is past time for Catholics to be fruitful and multiply once again.

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Global Monitor

■ Under Trump, U.S. Sees Drop in CO2

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The U.S. under Trump has seen the biggest drop in CO2 emissions of any country in the world, PRI reports.

The evidence is contained in the International Energy Agency (IEA) “Global Energy and CO2 Status Report, 2017” released on March 22 of this year, the first reports that the “biggest drop in emissions came from the United States.”

This led the German newspaper *Die Welt*, to proclaim that Trump is “the most successful climate protector in the world,” as reported in *Breitbart.com* in April.

“U.S. has reduced greenhouse gas emissions more than any country over the last decade through American ingenuity and technological breakthroughs in fracking, not top-down government and international mandates,” said PRI President Steve Mosher.

“This is one of the great environmental success stories of our time and deserves to be more widely known,” Mosher said.

■ Is Euthanasia Next Step for Ireland?

IRELAND—Just after Ireland’s historic approval of abortion in a constitutional referendum, a bill to legalize euthanasia is being drafted by junior minister John Halligan, according to *Mecator.net*.

Halligan reportedly was heartened by the public’s “courage and compassion” in the abortion vote and believed that based on polls the majority would also endorse the “right-to-die.”

The article reported that another member of the legislature, socialist Gino Kenny, sees assisted suicide as the next step for his country: “When all the dust settles on this issue [abortion], I think the vast majority would see the logic in some way in some sort of legislation change for people, particularly with a terminal illness. There is compassion.

“This happens in Ireland. Some people go to Switzerland and some have taken medicine they bought on the internet.”

■ Hungary Abortion Numbers Plunging

ROME, Italy—The Hungarian government’s new emphasis on families is resulting in an increase in marriages and a decrease in abortions, one of the country’s ministers advised a recent international conference on life and family, according to *LifeSite News*.

Abortion numbers have plunged—by a third of what they were in 2010—and so have divorces; meanwhile there has been a surge in the number of marriages.

“A precondition of the medium and long-term social development and the sustainability of Hungary is a lasting turn in demographic trends,” Katalin Novák, Hungarian Minister of State for the Family, Youth and International Affairs, said in the article.

“The objective can be achieved with a stable, complex, targeted and flexible family policy that is capable of adapting to changing needs and conditions,” Novák said.

Mosher’s Talks Across Country Address Birth Rates, China, *Humane Vitae*

- | | |
|------------|---|
| June 28-30 | “America’s Birth Rate Hits Historic Lows. Whatever Happened to the Population Bomb?” <i>National Right to Life 50th Anniversary Annual Conference, Kansas City, Kan.</i> |
| July 12 | “Bully of Asia: Why China’s Dream is the New Threat to World Order” <i>Institute of World Politics, Washington, D.C.</i> |
| July 17-22 | “Are There Too Many People on God’s Green Earth? 57th Biennial National Catholic Daughters of America Convention, Sioux Falls, S.D. |
| July 27-28 | “ <i>Humanae Vitae</i> was Right: Governments are Using Contraception (and Abortion and Sterilization) to Control Their Populations” <i>Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae Conference, Ontario, Calif.</i> |
| August 10 | “China and the Vatican: What Happens Now?” <i>LifeSite News Conference, Berryville, Va.</i> |

Understanding the dangers of the left's latest "civil rights" crusade

It's pretty hard to read a newspaper or listen to a news broadcast without reading and hearing about "transgender rights." Until fairly recently, the reaction of many people to the term "transgender rights" was a perplexed look followed by a loud, "Huh?"

Now, "transgender rights" is the latest burning civil rights issue for the left, with the media, government agencies and courts jumping into it with both feet. (Bathroom mandates and politically correct speech are but two examples.)

This gift from PRI will help you understand the "transgender" crusade—what it is, how it works and the dangers it poses ...

... PRI's gift to you is the new best seller, *When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment*. (To refresh your memory, the book's title is a take-off on the title of the 1989 classic film, *When Harry Met Sally*.)

Let's take a look at some of what you'll learn when you read *When Harry Became Sally* ...

- How to concisely explain the tragic results of "gender identity" ... how the media falsely portray "transgenderism" as a movement that promotes personal happiness when in reality, it often promotes personal misery ... the role of "gender counselors" and "gender clinics"—and the justifiable fears parents have of them ...
- Legitimate, successful treatments for children who have false assumptions about their gender, backed up by case studies ... "puberty blocking" drugs (yes, you heard that right!) and the grave health dangers they pose ... the five ways that "gender identity" policies force us to comply with radical ideology ... plus (and this must not be overlooked!) how to compassion-

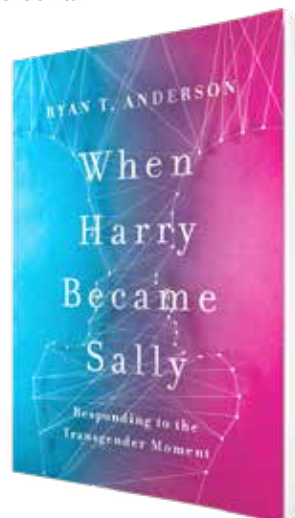
ately care for friends and children who doubt their gender. **And here is what many readers say is the most informative part of this book. . .**

- *When Harry Became Sally* recounts the personal experiences of people who "transitioned" to the opposite gender, suffered and regretted it immensely, and then reverted to their original gender. These stories (you'll find them in chapter three) are told in the first-person, making them hit home even harder. For instance:

... There is Cari's story in which she tells how her "transition" from female to male began socially at age 15 ... moved to hormone treatments at age 17 ... then "progressed" to surgery that may make you cringe as you read about it. Adding to her tragedy, Cari reveals how she eventually came to understand that her "transition" was actually a case of a teenager running away from herself, encouraged largely by "gender therapists."

The author of *When Harry Became Sally* is Ryan T. Anderson, Senior Research Fellow at the Heritage Foundation. He is also the author of *Truth Overruled: The Future of Marriage and Religious Freedom* and articles in *National Review*, *The Weekly Standard* and many other national publications.

The "transgender rights" issue is not one that will soon go away. We need to understand it and learn how to deal with it. *When Harry Became Sally* does just that! **May I send you a copy with sincere thanks for your support of \$50 or more?**



Please use the enclosed Gift Reply to request your copy of
When Harry Became Sally:
Responding to the Transgender Moment

Trump vs. Planned Parenthood, *continued*

information and counseling on abortion as a pregnancy "option," stipulating that Title X clinics "must" offer abortion counseling to any woman who requests any sort of information on pregnancy options unless she specifically makes it known that she does not want to receive counseling on abortion.

The new rules proposed by the Trump administration this week would remove this requirement, ending discrimination against service providers with moral or religious objections to providing abortion counseling and allowing them to exercise their right of conscience. Service providers may still offer abortion counseling and information but will no longer be required to do so.

The new proposed rule⁵ change appeared yesterday evening on the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) website.

Pro-life allies have been calling the new rule proposal the "Protect Life Rule" for reinstating much-needed reforms to the Title X program to disentangle federal funding from the abortion services provided by many Title X recipients.

Under the Protect Life Rule, Title X recipients that engage in abortion-related activities will be required to maintain physical and financial separation between their abortion services and Title X services. Recipients that perform or promote abortion will be required to keep separate accounting records for prohibited activities. Clinics may not use the

same buildings, examination rooms, waiting rooms, phone numbers, websites, personnel, or workstations for prohibited abortion-related activities. Clinics will also be prohibited from displaying or offering literature, posters, brochures, or other materials that promote or advertise abortion services.

While the Protect Life Rule does not specifically prohibit federal funding for Planned Parenthood and like providers, the Trump administration is providing Planned Parenthood with a choice: either disentangle abortion services from Title X services or lose government funding.

After Medicaid, Title X is the second largest source of government funding for Planned Parenthood. According to a report from the Government Accountability Office released earlier this year, Planned Parenthood affiliates spend nearly \$60 million a year in funds sourced from Title X grants.⁶

The Protect Life Rule has been compared to the Mexico City Policy due to a number of similarities between the two policies in their application and scope. Much like the Mexico City Policy, the Protect Life Rule prohibits funding for organizations that perform, promote, or lobby for abortion as a method of family planning or that provide funding to other organizations that actively participate in these activities.

Like the Mexico City Policy, the rule applies to both direct recipients

as well as subrecipients that receive federal dollars through a third party. However, unlike the Mexico City Policy, organizations that perform or promote abortion under Title X may continue receiving funding if they financially and physically separate prohibited activities from Title X services.

HHS has determined that its obligations under federal law on Title X are "most clearly met where there is a clear separation between Title X programs and programs in which abortion is presented or provided as a method of family planning."⁷

In the supplementary information for the proposed rule, HHS has made clear that it has concerns with requirements under current regulations to provide abortion counseling and referrals contrary to statutory law. HHS also made known that it has concerns with the possible risk of commingling funds between abortion-related services and Title X services as clinics often utilize the same facilities, staff, and resources for both. HHS has also determined that the use of Title X funds for building costs for facilities where abortion services are offered concomitantly creates serious fungibility concerns.

HHS has submitted the rules to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. The proposed rule will be open to comments from the public for 60 days after it is published in the *Federal Register*.

¹ <https://www.pop.org/trump-administration-to-ban-funding-for-abortion-clinics-under-title-x/>

² <http://www.lifenews.com/2014/05/06/planned-parenthood-failed-to-report-rape-of-teenage-girl-allowing-man-to-rape-18-other-girls/>

³ <http://www.lifenews.com/2011/02/04/three-more-videos-show-planned-parenthood-helping-sex-traffickers/>

⁴ <http://www.lifenews.com/2013/05/19/man-takes-14-year-old-to-planned-parenthood-for-abortion-to-hide-rape/>

⁵ <https://www.hhs.gov/opa/title-x-family-planning/about-title-x-grants/statutes-and-regulations/index.html>

⁶ <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-18-204R>

⁷ <https://www.hhs.gov/opa/sites/default/files/title-x-nprm.pdf>

What Do Vatican Officials Think To Gain in Agreement with China?

And What Will Chinese Catholics Lose?

BY STEVEN W. MOSHER

After expressing my concerns from afar about the Vatican's proposed agreement with China^{1,2}, I decided to go to Rome to talk directly with senior Vatican officials.

As someone who has worked with the Chinese Catholics for decades, I wanted to find out what these officials thought the Church would gain from inking an agreement with the Chinese Communist Party. I also wanted to let them know that, in my opinion, such an agreement would be seen by Chinese believers as nothing short of a rank betrayal.

So it was that earlier this summer I met in Rome with several officials who for well over a decade have been directly involved in the long-running Vatican-China negotiations. I found them to be intelligent, attentive, thoughtful and candid. I have been invited back for further discussions. I have been invited back for further discussions, so I would rather not reveal their names. But to give you a sense of what these prelates are thinking when it comes to China, I recount one such conversation below.

* * *

I began my meeting with Archbishop X by describing how China under Xi Jinping is descending into a new Cultural Revolution. It is important for him to know that the tolerance of 10 of 15 years ago has been replaced by outright hostility to the Church.

"Xi is the new Red Emperor, and the more power he accumulates, the more tyrannical he becomes," I told him. "He is purging his enemies under the guise of an anti-corruption campaign."

Over 1.5 million Communist Party officials have been charged with corruption over the past five years, I went on, yet not a single one of Xi's own supporters has

When in Rome...



After praying for PRI's supporters at Mass in St. Peter's...
...we mailed them postcards.



In addition to official visits in the Vatican, Steven Mosher also met with friends of PRI in Rome, including Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, President of the Pontifical Academy of Science; and Christine de Vollmer, wife of Alberto de Vollmer, former Ambassador of Venezuela to the Vatican.

been charged. And now that Xi is President for Life, the purge is expanding. Everyone who criticizes Xi is in the crosshairs.

"Xi already has more power than Mao Zedong," I continued. "He is not only the head of the Communist Party, as Mao was, but is also the head of the government and of the military, which Mao wasn't. His cult of personality is growing. Like Mao, he wants the Chinese people to worship him, not the God of the Bible. That is why Xi Jinping has been tightening controls on religious activities of all kinds."

Over the past few years of Xi's rule, Chinese believers have faced an increasingly harsh reality. Crosses have been pulled down and churches demolished. Priests and

bishops have been imprisoned and tortured.

The new regulations, issued on February 1, are even worse. They make it illegal to take one's own children to Mass, require all Catholics to register with the government, and forbid illegal religious assemblies, including catechism and Sunday school classes. "These new regulations are intended to stamp out Catholicism," I told him.

We talked at length about the on-again, off-again negotiations that he and others have been carrying on with the Chinese authorities. The archbishop gave me to understand that a draft agreement concerning the joint appointment of bishops had been finalized: "We are waiting for the Chinese to move forward."

"I predict that the Chinese Communists will never move forward with the agreement," I responded. "The people you have been dealing with in the Bureau of Religious Affairs are no longer in power. The bureau itself has been dissolved. Xi has given responsibility for religious matters to the United Front Department of the Chinese Communist Party. This means that Xi doesn't want to simply regulate the activities of the Catholic Church in China. He wants to eliminate the Church entirely."

An agreement might have been possible 15 years ago, under the weak leadership of then-President Hu Jintao. At that point most of the bishops of China, even the Patriotic ones, had been recognized as licit bishops by the Holy Father. But in recent years the Communist Party has been "ordaining" more and more illicit bishops. "I think

“These new regulations are intended to stamp out Catholicism,” I told him.

that these ordinations by the Patriotic Church will continue,” I told him.

“Yes, there are now seven illicitly ordained Patriotic bishops,” the archbishop agreed sadly. He then went on to say, almost plaintively: “We are trying to prevent a schism.”

Here was the crux of the matter: He and other senior officials in the Vatican believe that, by signing an agreement with the Chinese Communist Party, they will somehow avoid a formal separation of the Church in China from Rome.

The problem with this belief is that the Patriotic Church is already in schism. In fact, it was to create just such a schism that the Communist Party established the Patriotic church in 1958.

Even during the capricious tolerance of 10 or 15 years ago, when it was sometimes possible to build new churches and quietly ordain bishops, there were Patriotic bishops at the highest levels of the state-controlled Patriotic church who had turned their backs on the Magisterium. At no point in time had the schism actually been healed.

Coming back to the proposed agreement, I told the archbishop, “I really think it is a dead letter. The new Red Emperor, who grows more powerful by the day, will not tolerate

the kind of ‘foreign interference in internal Chinese matters’ that such an agreement would imply.”

“But if it should happen that China does want to move forward,” the archbishop said mildly, “then we will be signing an agreement with Xi Jinping himself. So will he not abide by it?”

I quickly recited a litany of agreements that the Chinese government had signed only to violate. These included the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Sino-British Agreement over Hong Kong, and the World Trade Organization covenants. “To answer your question, your Excellency,” I concluded, “I do not think that he or his colleagues will honor such an agreement. These are not honorable men.”

“Chinese Catholics will see the signing of such an agreement as a betrayal,” I told him. “I urge you not to sign an agreement with a viciously atheistic regime that is actively trying to stamp out all religious belief and practice within China, starting with Catholicism.”

* * *

In all, my several meetings on China with various Vatican officials lasted over five hours. I took this as a positive sign of their deep concern for the suffering Church in China.

Did I convince them that the proposed Vatican-China agreement would be—as I believe it to be—a surrender of the Chinese faithful to the Communist Party?

I am not sure.

But I am certain of one thing: They now understand the increasingly harsh political reality faced by our co-religionists in China.

¹ <https://onepeterfive.com/parolin-china-negotiations/>

² <https://onepeterfive.com/xi-jinping-places-catholic-church-in-china-under-direct-party-control/>



HUMANAE VITAE COALITION

Does *Humanae Vitae* Need To “Mature”?

by Dr. Christopher Manion

Who wrote better stories than C. S. Lewis? Everybody loves his *Chronicles of Narnia*. They present in fiction many themes also addressed in his *Screwtape Letters* and *Mere Christianity*, but in a winsome way that only storytelling can. *The Great Divorce*, his work that we consider here, also tells a story. It describes the voyage of a tour bus that picks up passengers in Hell and drops them off on the outskirts of Heaven to look around—and stay, if they want to. Lewis’s story is a warning for our own time.

As the tourists from Hell alight from the bus, old friends from earth, now saints, greet them and try to convince them to repent—and stay. Alas, they find it’s a hard sell. We meet a particularly tough case, a bishop (in this life) who lost his faith and died an apostate. He remains belligerent in his dissent: “Honest opinions fearlessly followed—they are not sins,” he roars to his old friend.

Not sins? Why not?

He followed his errant conscience, the bishop brags.

Flustered by the invitation to embrace and enjoy Heaven’s limpid reality, the Eternal Fact of God, the bishop suddenly realizes that his friend actually wants him to repent. He recoils.

“Of course I can’t stay with you,” he says, “I have to be back next Fri-

day to read a paper”—on what a *mature* Jesus would have taught. Why, had it not been for the “disaster” of the Cross, Jesus could have reached his *full stature*!”

And off he goes, heading for the bus ride back to Hell.

Resolution? Or Revolution?

This year, an influential group of dissidents is lobbying for a “more mature” Church to reconsider the nature of marriage and family, and they’ve placed their bets on Pope Francis. They base their hopes on the “new paradigm” that the pope introduces in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*. “He has moved away from the Catholic obsession with sex and birth control toward the beauty of a virtuous, just and loving marriage,” they insist. Their goal? A “maturing of Church teaching” that “will lead to the revision of some absolute sexual norms” like the prohibitions of adultery and contraception.

Early on, the momentum to “update” *Humanae Vitae* met with a strong pushback among many clerics, but especially from the laity. As a result, “update” advocates have retreated into careful prose meant to reassure, while leaving the barn door wide open to a “maturing.”

Professor Gilfredo Marengo, of the Pontifical Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, has been chairing a secretive “study

group” on *Humanae Vitae* at the Vatican. He recently insisted that Blessed Paul’s encyclical “needs no updating”—but added that Pope Francis “has invested a lot” to achieve “the resolution of polarization between pastoral and doctrinal issues.”

So what does that mean? Professor Marengo says we have to “go beyond the polarization.” But how can he please both those who want to preserve the Church’s timeless teaching, and those who want to change it?

Msgr. Pierangelo Sequeri, a member of Marengo’s study group, now heads Rome’s John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. His predecessor, Msgr. Livio Melina, has consistently maintained that an objectively errant conscience, even if accompanied by “pastoral care,” cannot condone a reversal of the Church’s moral teaching. But Pope Francis replaced Msgr. Melina with the more liberal Msgr. Sequeri two years ago, about the same time that the “study group” took shape.

Was Msgr. Melina’s removal a signal that the longed-for “resolution” would reaffirm *Humanae Vitae* in teaching and in practice? Or that it would indeed not be “updated,” but simply left in place and easily ignored?

That option would leave the barn door open so wide that even a bus could drive through it.



Argentina: Protecting Life Is Not about Right or Left, but about Human Rights

by Carlos Polo and Carlos Beltramo

In mid-June the lower house of the Argentine congress narrowly approved a bill to legalize abortion on-demand up to 14 weeks gestation. The bill would also legalize abortion after 14 weeks in cases of rape, health of the mother, and fetal disability.

The shocking result followed 23 hours of often heated debate. The final vote tally showed 129 deputies in favor of legalizing abortion with 125 opposed.

The bill was heading to the Senate where pro-life allies were hopeful they would have a sufficient number of votes to defeat the bill.

More than 2 million people in the streets of numerous cities in Argentina expressed a resounding rejection of a legislative attempt to decriminalize abortion. And as if one march wasn't enough, the Argentinians had two, on different days, each with immense attendance.

And without doubt, out of the millions who were calling for the defense of life, the voices that drew the most attention were those of the "Slum Priests" who are leftist, a political sentiment that many believe to be associated with the promotion of abortion. They came

out publicly in support of the protection of the unborn child to show us that political positions do not have to determine our position on the defense of life.

These "Slum Priests" reside in the villas (extremely poor neighborhoods that lie on the periphery of the capital city of Buenos Aires). Their principal leaders are Fr. Pepe Di Paola, who on a number of occasions has had his life threatened by drug traffickers, and two are bishops, Gustavo Carrara, Auxiliary Bishop of Buenos Aires and pastoral vicar for the villas, and Jorge García Cuerva, Auxiliary Bishop of Lomas de Zamora. Pope Francis always has encouraged his work. And now they have raised their voices in public petition so that the poor cannot be used as political pawns to justify the decriminalization of abortion.

They state: "As priests and religious from the slums and barrios, our experience is that of having learned from their inhabitants to love and care for life. The culture of these barrios has shown us a real way of choosing life. Many times, where the State does not come, where society looks the other way, the woman alone finds her help and her hope in the networks of love that are created in our barrios, for her and her children.

"Our choices are for 'life as it comes,' without exceptions. Especially life under threat in any of its forms. For this reason, we have spoken in favor of immigrants, for the fight for justice, that no one to have his or her future

jeopardized as a result of malnutrition, that no one die of diseases that can be cured, such as tuberculosis, for example. For this reason, we are against trigger-happy [law enforcement]. We do not need to add more deaths. Our barrios need options for a dignified life. And a society that protects the weakest."

Fr. Pepe has recorded a viral video with celebrities and everyday people demanding that abortion not be legalized. And the circumstances bring up a very relevant point: no one can attack him with the excuse that we who oppose this crime are not aware of social realities. These priests, with their attitude resolutely against abortion, show that defense of the poor and defense of life are different parts of the same discourse: that of Christ. The effect has been that the Argentinians have taken to the streets like never before, because now they do not see the fight against abortion as a cause of conservatives... but as the cause of all people.

On the other side, President Mauricio Macri, who claims to be a conservative and had promised to defend life before the Blessed Virgin, has not only permitted lawmakers in his coalition to have this debate, but has said that if legal abortion were passed, he would not veto the law.

Alejandro Geyer, one of the organizers of the march for life in Argentina, told us that they started with the first march in September 2017 in 19 provinces.



Photo illustration/Getty Images

“When President Macri announced that the debate would be opened in Congress, the reaction by everyone was very strong, and the call for a second march was very large. On March 25, 222 marches took place across in the entire country, with more than 2 million people,” said the Argentinian leader.

“We have always held the marches in Peru and Colombia as an example. They are a model for us, and we use videos of these marches to show people what it is that we want to do. The idea is that they see us united to other countries and that we are not alone. It is fundamental that they see that the marches throughout the world have the same objective,” added Geyer.*

Thanks to many who are committed in Argentina, thanks to the Slum Priests, to the actors, television hosts, famous doctors, and many very active Argentinians we hope abortion is not legalized. Furthermore, we hope Argentinian society understands that, legal or not legal, abortion is not the solution to its problems, and that it puts itself to work to better develop a culture of life.

Translated by Jonathan Abbamonte

**On behalf of PRI we have proposed a seminar this coming November with one or two people per country in charge of the Marches for Life in Latin American countries, in order to share our know-how about the March (political impact, social networking, communication strategy, security, involving young people, etc.). Alejandro Geyer, the leader of the March for Life in Argentina, Fr. Pepe, and our friends in Mexico are excited about this idea.*

PRI Regional Directors Invited to Council

The Political Network for Values (PNFV) is an important transatlantic network of legislators devoted to life, the family, marriage, and fundamental liberties. It offers elected officials a platform where they can work in concert, both locally and globally, with other organizations. PNFV actively promotes and defends a foundation of shared values, including the protection of human life, the family, religious liberty, and freedom of conscience.

Population Research Institute (PRI) has collaborated with this important network from its inception.

Now, after four years of fruitful work, combined with the three transatlantic summits of 2014, 2015 and 2017, this collaboration is going one step farther. PRI’s Directors for Latin America and Europe, Carlos Beltramo and Carlos Polo, have been invited to join PNFV’s Council of Experts.

The formal invitation was delivered by Lola Velarde, Executive Director of the PNFV. “Given your experience, your recognized prestige and the support that you have lent to the Political Network For Values, it will be an honor to serve with you,” Velarde said in her invitation.

We at PRI are proud to see two of our regional directors recognized in this way. As members of the Council of Experts, Beltramo and Polo will provide pro-life training and strategic guidance to elected leaders who are on the front lines of fight for life and family. They will thus help to ensure that their actions, as well as those of the congresses and parliaments they serve in, are oriented to the common good and authentic human development.

Congratulations, Carlos Beltramo and Carlos Polo!



■ Mosher Offers Solution to Dropping Birth Rate

WORLD —The United States birth rate dropped again last year, hitting a 30-year low, and PRI President Steve Mosher warned that the effect will be dire.¹

The number of U.S. babies born last year fell 2 percent from 2016, from 3.95 million to 3.85 million, according to data released last week by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, the report said.

"The number of births in the U.S. today is simply not enough by itself to keep the population stable," Mosher said.

But in the article he proposed a solution: to reward those who marry and have children by not making them pay income or Social Security taxes.

"They are contributing to the future of the U.S. in the most fundamental way: by providing the future generation," Mosher said.

■ PRI Report: Government Role Is to Plan, Not Kill

THE PATRIOT POST — Population Research Institute was cited in a recent column about the dangers of government making determinations about who should live and die.²

The article addressed the abuses that have taken place in countries like the United Kingdom and China, when the state gets involved in decisions of life and death, and included this citation: "Further, the Population Research

Institute notes that overpopulation is not equivalent to overcrowding. City planners, not population controllers (in the form of abortion and euthanasia), ought to solve the overcrowding problem."³

The column also noted that populations worldwide have declined below replacement rate (2.1 children), and according to a 2017 UN study, almost half of the world's population lives in countries below replacement rate.

■ PRI Exposes Marie Stopes' Illegal Abortions Overseas

LIFESITE NEWS — In an article on the funding of illegal abortion overseas by Canada, PRI was noted for its video exposing the activities of abortion giant Marie Stopes International.⁴

Canada's foreign minister Chrystia Freeland avoided a question by a member of Parliament about whether Justin Trudeau's government is or is not funding illegal activity by giving money to Marie Stopes, notorious for providing abortions in countries where it is illegal.

"I believe that sexual and reproductive health for women is their right," said Freeland. "I believe that is a right for Canadian women and I am proud to stand up to women around the world to have that right."

According to the article, a 2007 video recorded by PRI included a clip of Paul Cornelissen, the South African Program Director for Marie Stopes International, admitting "We do illegal abortions all over the world."

The PRI expose was one of several reports on Marie Stopes, the "Planned

Parenthood of the UK," which is responsible for killing 60,000 to 70,000 British children in utero each year and which also promotes and provides abortion and abortifacient contraception in 37 countries.

■ Mosher to Appear in Film on Costs of 'Free Love'

LIFESITE NEWS — A new film by musician Alana Newman will feature interviews with Steven Mosher among the "important voices reckoning the ongoing damage of the sexual revolution with the timeless wisdom of Church teaching," according to *LifeSite News*.⁴ The other "leading thinkers" include Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, Dr. Janet Smith, Dr. Peter Kreeft, Dr. Robert P. George, Dr. Mark Regnerus and Mary Eberstadt.

According to the article, the film "Sexual Revolution" began as the story of Newman's journey to discover her father—an anonymous sperm donor—and ended up as an examination of the effects of the free-love experiment of the hippie generation. The film explores *Humanae Vitae* and the history of the parallel developments of the Pill and modern Natural Family Planning.

The former self-described militant feminist, Newman said that reading the work of Mosher and others, "I was struck first by how well they seemed to articulate human nature. Secondly, they didn't back off or back down when peer pressure became too intense. It was the hardcore Catholics that showed backbone and courage under fire."

¹ https://world.wng.org/content/america_s_shrinking_future

² <https://patriotpost.us/articles/55737-should-the-government-determine-a-lifes-value>

³ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/trudeaus-foreign-minister-dodges-question-on-canada-funding-illegal-abortion>

⁴ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/former-pro-abortion-militant-feminist-makes-film-on-why-sexual-revolution-w>

From the Countries



JAPAN

Young Workers Face 'Pregnancy Rotations'

A strange unwritten rule about pregnancy has emerged in countries like Japan, where population shrinkage has created labor shortages.¹

According to a recent story from *Agence France-Presse* (AFP), employers are pressuring young women in female-dominated industries to take turns when conceiving, creating what some have called a *de facto* “pregnancy rota.”

The issue of *de facto* “pregnancy rotas” has become a subject of national dialogue in Japan after a 28-year-old man penned an open letter in a national daily newspaper this spring. His wife, a child care worker, had been rebuked by her employer for having a child outside of the company birthing schedule.

His letter published in the *Mainichi Shimbun* read in part:

“The director at the child care center where she works had determined the order in which workers could get married or pregnant...My wife and I went together to apologize.”



ITALY

Report: Population Aging, Shrinking

As a new Italian government is being formed, with talk about economic reform and immigration, one important issue still needs to be addressed: the country’s shrinking and aging population, according to *Mercator.net*.²

The Italian wire service Agenzia Nazionale Stampa Associata (ANSA)

has noted that 2017 was the third consecutive year for the population of Italy to drop, this time by around 100,000 to 60.5 million.

According to the National Institute of Statistics, this trend will not reverse, and the population is expected to decline by 6.5 million people (to 54 million) by 2065.

The report also indicated Italy is getting older: Italy is second in the world, behind only Japan, for the largest population of people over the age of 65 (as a proportion of population. There are now 168.7 elderly for every 100 young people, and people are living longer, all of which makes positive economic change more difficult, according to the article.



AFRICA

Trump Ban Cuts Abortion Funds

Two of the world’s largest abortion organizations have been forced to partially shut down their operations in Africa, thanks to one of Donald Trump’s earliest actions as president, according to *LifeSite News*.³

The UK-based Marie Stopes International closed a third of its 62 Madagascar-based outreach teams, half of the 35 teams in Uganda, and half of the 1,200 teams in Zimbabwe, the report stated. The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) closed 22 sub-Saharan Africa programs, and both groups will be canceling programs in Togo, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, and Burkina Faso, according to the article.

The closures are a result of Trump’s reinstatement of the Mexico City Policy last year, which blocks \$8.8 billion in U.S. foreign aid from entities that perform abortions.

The policy requires foreign aid recipients to certify that they will not “perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning in foreign countries or provide financial support to any other foreign (NGO) that conducts such activities,” the article stated.



CHINA

Entrepreneur: End Two-Child Policy

James Liang, a prominent Chinese entrepreneur, is urging his country to create opportunity for innovation by promoting rather than limiting births.⁴

“Innovation should be a new factor to consider (to revise the country’s population policy) after aging and legal issues,” said Liang, chairman of Nasdaq-listed Ctrip, in an interview with the *South China Morning Post*.

Twenty years ago, Liang, 49, co-founded Ctrip, now China’s largest online travel service. He is known for opposing the controversial “two-child” policy and its emphasis on birth control.

Liang’s new book, *The Demographics of Innovation*, makes the case that the innovation capacity of a country is fundamentally determined by demographic factors, including the size, geographic concentration and age structure of the population, and that China’s capacity will be diminished without big measures being taken immediately, according to the article.

¹ <https://www.pop.org/the-japanese-pregnancy-rotation-system/>

² <https://www.mercatornet.com/demography/view/italian-governments-demographic-problems/21349>

³ https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/trump-funding-ban-forces-international-abortion-giants-to-cut-african-opera?utm_source=LifeSiteNews.com&utm_campaign=6cd14cbc49-Daily%2520Headlines%2520-%2520U.S.&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12387f0e3e-6cd14cbc49-401373841

⁴ <http://www.scmp.com/news/china/economy/article/2143079/remove-two-child-policy-boost-chinas-capacity-innovation-says>