



The Party of Abortion *and* Infanticide?

BY PRI STAFF

We never thought we would miss Bill Clinton (and we still don't, really). But it is worth noting that his position that abortion should be "safe, legal and rare" is now officially not welcome in the Democrat Party of today.

Instead, woke Democrats are increasingly embracing the radical position that all abortions should be legal, even those that result in the deaths of full-term, healthy infants.

All the more reason why Congress should immediately pass the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act (S. 130).¹ The bill would establish criminal penalties for any health care practitioner in the U.S. who neglects, intentionally kills, or fails to provide standard medical care to any child born alive following an induced abortion.

The bill would also require health care workers to report to state or federal authorities any cases where infants born alive were not provided the necessary care.



A newborn baby with breathing tubes in her incubator in NICU / Getty Images

"Everyone in the Senate ought to be able to say unequivocally that killing that little baby is wrong," said Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE), the bill's sponsor. "This shouldn't be complicated."²

But it may be.

Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) blocked the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act from passing on unanimous consent, a procedure under

Rule 14 that allows a bill to be fast-tracked if no Senator opposes.³

"We've moved beyond all common sense when this body can no longer unanimously condemn murder," Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA) said after the bill was blocked. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) brought S.130 up for a roll-call vote on Feb. 25.

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Is Abortion Necessary to Stop Overpopulation?

by Steven W. Mosher

Some abortion advocates say that abortion is necessary to stop the world from becoming overpopulated. But is this true? Is the world really facing an overpopulation crisis? And even if it were true, would aborting large numbers of people be a moral way to respond?

It goes without saying that mass slaughter is a crime against humanity and should never be proposed as the solution to any human problem. Overpopulation or no, would you support the annihilation of any segment of humanity—the elderly, for example, or the very young—or women, or men, or people of a certain race or culture? Of course not.

And yet, there are those who not only support the mass slaughter of the pre-born but are actually carrying it out. All in the name of combating something called “overpopulation.”

Take China, for example, which I know well. The Chinese government brags that it has eliminated 400 million people from its population over the last 40 years. I was in the operating room as government doctors were forcibly aborting and sterilizing women who, in some cases, were only weeks or days away from giving birth. These atrocities were committed in the name of combating overpopulation.

In many developing nations, from India to Indonesia, tens of millions of unborn children, mostly female, have been aborted in the name of population control.

Even if overpopulation were real, the destruction of so many people—each a unique and wonderful human being—would constitute the greatest tragedy in the history of the world. But “overpopulation” is not real; it is a

myth. The world is not running out of living room or resources.

Take food, for instance. There are currently 7½ billion people on the planet, but we could easily feed, with current agricultural technology, twice that number. Since the “Green Revolution” of the 1970s, we are producing more food on less land, and humanity is eating better than ever before.

Are there still hungry people? Of course. But this is not because there is a global shortage of food but because of corrupt governments, poor distribution systems, and ongoing wars and civil unrest.

Even more striking, the evidence indicates that the world isn’t in danger from overpopulation; it’s in danger from underpopulation. Around the world, birth rates have fallen, work forces are shrinking, and the numbers of elderly are increasing. This is a recipe for economic stagnation in countries like Japan, which is in the grip of a long-running “demographic recession.”

The answer to the world’s “population problem” is not aborting babies, it’s having babies! As David Brooks has written in the New York Times, “For decades, people took dynamism and economic growth for granted and saw population growth as a problem. Now we’ve gone to the other extreme, and it’s clear that young people are the scarce resource. In the 21st century, the U.S. could be the slowly aging leader of a rapidly aging world.”¹

Overpopulation is not only a myth, it is a myth that kills. In the 21st-century world, we need more babies, not fewer. That means ending abortion.

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¹ http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/13/opinion/brooks-the-fertility-implosion.html?_r=1&

2019: A Year of Change in America and Europe

BY CARLOS BELTRAMO, PH.D., DIRECTOR OF PRI'S EUROPEAN OFFICE

Historians say there are years that are always remembered for what happened in those years: 1492, 1776, 1945, 1968 and so many others. Everything indicates that 2019 could be a year of this type.

Why do I say this? The international political landscape has changed radically in a very short time.

This phenomenon began with the presidency of Donald Trump in the United States, but in 2019 has shown other axes. The most important may be Brazil, under the leadership of President Jair Bolsonaro. Bolsonaro has clear ideas on issues such as the defense of life, family, religious liberty, and, in general, the liberty of citizens.

Bolsonaro has campaigned against gender ideology and has received a lot of support from the citizens precisely for this. In his first speech at the Davos forum, which Brazil returned to after 20 years, Bolsonaro reaffirmed his ideas to defend and strengthen the family—a statement that goes against many ideas that are in vogue these days.

Brazil is not the only case. Colombia has taken a similar turn, and Chile as well. The political winds are in full swing. And this is mobilizing the politics of Venezuela, a country that has made us enter 2019 with a “turmoil of hope.”

Can the regime of Nicolás Maduro and the Socialism of the 21st century be defeated? We do not know, but what we do know is that international forces are now tied together. Those who seek freedom and prosperity in this country are not alone. Through-



Top left to bottom left, clockwise: Nicolás Maduro (former President of Venezuela); Donald Trump (President of the United States); Ivan Duque (President of Colombia); Juan Guaidó (Venezuelan opposition leader); Andrés Manuel López Obrador (President of Mexico); Jair Bolsonaro (President of Brazil).

out the world there are many who support the change.

It is a risk, but Venezuelans consider it to be one worth taking, because the current situation is unsustainable. I speak from what I saw during my recent visit to Caracas, when I was able to go through various parts of the city and talk to a variety of people. I saw with my own eyes that the situation could not be worse.

The matter would be resolved if Maduro resigned and gave way to a new, truly democratic process. There should be no more bloodshed, but the solution cannot be the status quo.

On the opposite side of this wave is Andrés Manuel López Obrador, new president of Mexico. His domestic agenda is a frontal and systematic attack on life and the family, but above all, on liberty. The clash between these two ways of understanding life: Brazil and the United States on one side, and Mexico on the other, will no doubt be an important factor in 2019.

For its part, Europe does not escape this dynamic. 2019 is an electoral year throughout the continent.

After many years in which the European Union has had officials in charge who have systematically been against life and the family, movements to change them are beginning to be seen.

These are no longer just in Poland and Hungary. In Spain, a new party, VOX, emerged at the end of 2018 and played a part in an important political success: to take the Socialist Party out of a region of Spain where the Left always won.

This year are elections for the European Parliament, and already many are anticipating great “surprises.” Many new parties, such as VOX, have as part of their electoral platform to recover a respect for life, the family, the freedom of parents, the promotion of births and the recognition of the Christian roots of Europe.

PRI's Easter Gift to You Explains the Greatest Controversy in History

With Easter just weeks away, I hope you'll let me send you a copy *Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?: Questions and Answers About the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus*.

Published by **Ignatius Press**, the author of *Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?* is **Carl E. Olson**. You're probably very familiar with Carl Olson's works. He is editor of **Catholic World Report** and **Ignatius Insight**.

His other books include *Will Catholics Be "Left Behind"?* and *The Da Vinci Hoax*. Plus, Carl Olson is the author of hundreds of articles on theology, Scripture, current events and apologetics.

Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead? is presented in a question-and-answer format. This makes it easy for you to quickly pick out and read answers to the questions you find most intriguing about Christ's life, death and resurrection. Here is a quick look at all that awaits you in Carl Olson's *Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?* . . .

- You'll learn how to quickly and effectively dismantle the often-heard argument that "Since scholarly studies prove that Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were not historically reliable, why should we believe their descriptions of the Resurrection?"...what happened to Jesus's body after his Crucifixion...what are we to make of claims of eyewitness encounters with the resurrected Jesus? . . .
- The five essential points required to have a sound understanding of who Jesus claimed to be...what Jesus taught about how we should relate to God and each other (Olson presents

them in six concisely written points)...what is meant in Col 1:18 when it is said that Jesus is the "first-born from the dead?"...

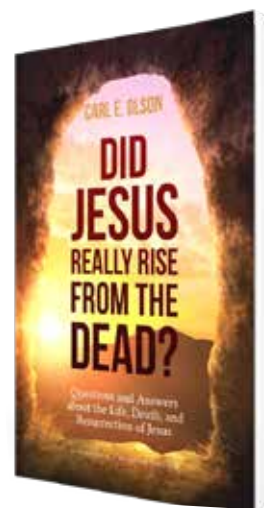
And there is more . . .

- In fascinating detail, *Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?* shreds the most commonly held false theories of what might have happened to Christ if the Resurrection were indeed a myth. See how many of the false Resurrection theories you recognize . . .
 - » The "Swoon Theory" of Christ's Resurrection
 - » The "Hallucination Theory"
 - » The "Conspiracy Theory"
 - » The "Myth Theory"
 - » The "Wrong Tomb" theory

All of these Resurrection theories are as phony as \$3 bills, but many people believe them. This book takes them apart, piece by piece.

If you want to be better prepared to face all the arguments of Resurrection doubters and deniers, then Carl Olson's *Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?* is a book you need!

With great thanks for your baby-saving gift of \$40 or more, I'll make sure that you have it in just a matter of days. Shall I send your copy today?



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Infanticide, *continued*

The fact that Senate Democrats were not even able bring themselves to pass on unanimous consent a bill banning infanticide is an indication of how far the Party has fallen into the hands of abortion zealots.

No one can forget the cheers and applause that greeted New York's Reproductive Health Act, which allows abortion up to birth for reasons of "health."⁴ Similar bills have also been introduced in Democrat-controlled legislatures in New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Democrat lawmakers two years ago in Congress even introduced a similar bill on the federal level (Women's Health Protection Act of 2017) that would have invalidated most all restrictions on abortion nationwide, including allowing abortion up to the point of birth for ill-defined reasons of "health."⁵

While the Women's Health Protection Act has not yet been introduced in the present session of Congress, its earlier iteration had gained the support of 42 Democratic Senators, including 2020 Presidential

candidates Kamala Harris, Kirsten Gillibrand, Elizabeth Warren, Cory Booker, and Amy Klobuchar.

What better demonstration of the fact that the Democrat Party now applauds the late-term abortion of fully formed babies well into the third trimester? Will Americans now wake up to the abortion extremism of one of America's two major political parties?

A bill introduced by Democratic lawmakers in the Virginia legislature earlier this year called the Repeal Act (HB 2491) would also ensure that abortion would be legal through the third trimester for reasons of "mental or physical health." HB 2491 would also repeal all common-sense restrictions on abortion in the state including a 24-hour waiting period and informed consent requirements.⁶

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam defended the bill in a radio interview the very next day, saying that third trimester abortions are "decisions [that] should be made by providers...and the mothers."⁷ It goes without saying that a baby is fully formed and capa-

ble of surviving outside its mother's womb even before the third trimester.

But Gov. Northam didn't stop there. "If a mother is in labor, I can tell you exactly what would happen," Northam continued, "the infant would be delivered. The infant would be kept comfortable. The infant would be resuscitated if that's what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and mother."⁸

Since when did allowing a child to live become a family decision? While an infant born alive and breathing is in need of care and attention, parents and doctors would instead be debating whether to let the child live or die. This is sickening.

Indeed, what Gov. Northam is advocating for is infanticide, pure and simple.

Senate Republicans followed through on their push for a roll-call vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act. It remains to be seen whether any members of what is now the Party of Abortion and Infanticide will ever vote for it.

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/130/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22S+130%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1>.

² <https://www.sasse.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=9EDF5DC4-B63A-4DA1-B487-57F91D88333D>

³ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/breaking-democrat-patty-murray-blocks-senate-bill-banning-infanticide-after>

⁴ <https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/New-York-lawmakers-to-vote-on-abortion-rights-13551825.php>

⁵ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/510/text>

⁶ <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?191+ful+HB2491+pdf>

⁷ <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/virginia-bill-would-legalize-abortion-up-to-birth/>

⁸ <https://www.lifenews.com/2019/01/30/virginia-gov-ralph-northam-defends-infanticide-infant-would-be-resuscitated-if-thats-what-the-mother-desired/>



PRI Staffer Allen Baldanza and his pro-life mother, Dr. Carolyn Baldanza, at the 2019 National March for Life in Washington, D.C.

New York Law Goes Beyond Roe; Allows Any Abortion Up to Birth

Pro-abortion movement in a panic over possible end of *Roe v. Wade*

BY JONATHAN ABBAMONTE

A new law passed by the New York State legislature on January 22 would keep abortion legal up to the point of birth should the U.S. Supreme Court overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Euphemistically titled the Reproductive Health Act (RHA), the bill codifies *Roe v. Wade* in state law, keeping abortion legal at any point after 24 weeks into the pregnancy up until birth in cases of “health.”¹

The RHA also goes far beyond *Roe*, however, repealing legal protections for children born alive following a botched abortion and removing criminal penalties for violent crimes that cause harm to a woman’s unborn child.

The new law further enshrines abortion as a “fundamental right” in state law and may legalize abortion up to birth in cases where the unborn child suffers from a life-threatening illness where “there is an absence of fetal viability.”

The RHA passed both chambers of the New York State legislature with the lower house overwhelmingly in favor of the bill (95–49) while the state Senate approved the bill 38–24.²

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the bill the same day, on the 46th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* decision, the case which legalized abortion in all 50

states. Sarah Weddington, the attorney who successfully argued *Roe* before the Supreme Court, sat next to the governor as the bill was signed into law.

Gov. Cuomo called the passage of the RHA a “historic victory.” In celebration, he directed major state landmarks including the World Trade Center and the Kosciuszko Bridge to be lit pink to commemorate the passage of the abortion bill.³

“In the face of a federal government intent on rolling back *Roe v. Wade* and women’s reproductive rights, I promised that we would enact this critical legislation within the first 30 days of the new session – and we got it done,” Gov. Cuomo said in a released statement.⁴

“With pro-life Brett Kavanaugh joining the U.S. Supreme Court, and with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in frail health, the abortion movement is pressuring state legislators to pass ‘abortion on demand’ laws,” says Population Research Institute President Steven Mosher, “They are in full panic

mode over Trump’s appointment of two pro-life justices to the Court, and the prospect of a third in the not-so-distant future.”

Gov. Cuomo had long championed the RHA, identifying the bill as a primary legislative objective of his administration. Unable to pass the RHA as a standalone bill, Gov. Cuomo in 2013 sought to incorporate the legalization of abortion up to birth in cases of health in his proposed 10-point Women’s Equality Act (WEA) bill.⁵

For several years, the State Assembly refused to separate the abortion proposal from the bill and held up the passage of the WEA’s 9 other propositions until 2015. Cuomo had said that he saw his 10-point WEA bill, including abortion up to the point of birth, “almost as a bill of rights.”

First introduced in the state legislature back in 2006, the RHA met opposition from both moderate Democrat lawmakers and Senate Republicans who had held a majority in the state Senate since 2010. But after Demo-



Young Female Standing in Front of Manhattan / Getty Images

crats took control of the Senate in the 2018 elections, Gov. Cuomo vowed that the RHA would be signed into law within the first 30 days of the 2019 legislative term.

Pro-abortion state lawmakers advocating for the RHA attempted to sell the bill as merely codifying *Roe v. Wade*. They argued that the bill was necessary to keep abortion legal in New York if the Supreme Court overturned *Roe*.

Going Far Beyond Roe

However, in actual fact, the RHA goes far beyond *Roe*. For one, the Reproductive Health Act repeals a state law which had guaranteed the right to immediate medical care and legal protection for any child born alive following a botched abortion after 20 weeks gestation.

Prior to the RHA, it was mandatory for all abortions after 20 weeks to have a second doctor attending the procedure who would be able to provide immediate resuscitation in the event that the child was born alive. The RHA, however, repealed this statute as well as a requirement that doctors maintain medical records of any and all life-sustaining efforts they carry out when attending to abortion survivors.

The repealed statute had also required the humane disposal of the infant's body if resuscitation efforts were unsuccessful. Under the RHA, infants born alive following a botched abor-

“ [The abortion movement is] in full panic mode over Trump’s appointment of two pro-life justices to the Court, and the prospect of a third in the not-so-distant future.

tion will now instead be simply left to die and discarded as medical waste.

The Act also repeals criminal penalties for violent crimes that cause the death of a woman’s unborn child. Previously, any person who was not a licensed physician who intentionally caused a woman to miscarry her child was liable to a felony.

Pro-life state lawmakers have blasted the bill’s repeal of criminal penalties on such violent acts as profoundly anti-woman. “Being assaulted and losing your baby is not a woman’s choice,” New York State Assembly Rep. Nicole Malliotakis argued before the lower house when the RHA bill was being debated, according to WQAD News 8.⁶

The RHA will also allow midwives and nurse practitioners to perform some abortions, according to CBS New York.⁷

Abortion a Fundamental Right?

The RHA also declares that abortion is a “fundamental right,” language that could keep abortion legal on demand

in New York even if the U.S. Supreme Court decides to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

The RHA bill also codifies *Roe v. Wade* in New York state law, maintaining *Roe*’s exemption that states not ban post-viability abortions in cases of health of the mother. New York’s abortion law actually predates *Roe* by three years.

In 1970, New York legalized abortion on demand up to 24 weeks and later in cases to save the life of the mother. The Supreme Court’s *Roe* decision further legalized post-viability abortion in New York in cases of health.

The U.S. Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* prohibited states from banning abortion prior to viability,⁸ which is to say, prior to the point at which the unborn child “has the capability of meaningful life outside the mother’s womb.”⁹ After the point of viability, however, states are able to ban abortion completely, “except when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother.”¹⁰

¹ https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?default_fld=&leg_video=&bn=A00021&term=2019&Summary=Y&Memo=Y&Text=Y

² https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?default_fld=&leg_video=&bn=S00240&term=2019&Summary=Y&Floor%26nbspVotes=Y

³ <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-directs-one-world-trade-center-and-other-landmarks-be-lit-pink-celebrate-signing?ftag=MSF0951a18>

⁴ <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-directs-one-world-trade-center-and-other-landmarks-be-lit-pink-celebrate-signing?ftag=MSF0951a18>

⁵ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/cuomo-unveils-radical-abortion-expansion-bill-likens-to-bill-of-rights>

⁶ <https://wqad.com/2019/01/25/how-new-yorks-abortion-law-has-changed/#thumbnail-modal>

⁷ <https://newyork.cbslocal.com/2019/01/22/reproductive-health-act-new-york-legislature-gov-andrew-cuomo-roe-v-wade/?ftag=MSF0951a18>

⁸ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 163 (1973); see also *Planned Parenthood of S.E. Penn. v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833, 879 (1992).

⁹ *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 163 (1973); see also *Akron v. Akron Ctr. For Reproductive Health*, 462 U.S. 416, 428 (1983).

¹⁰ *Planned Parenthood of S.E. Penn. v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833, 846, 879 (1992) (at 879 quoting *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113, 163-164 (1973)).



HUMANAE VITAE COALITION

Best Answer to Current Crisis: Give Encyclical to Young People

by Dr. Christopher Manion

*Be not overcome by evil,
but overcome evil with good.*

—ROMANS 12:21

These have been tough times for Catholics. How do we embrace Saint Paul's teaching and make it an engine for life?

First, recognize evil. Call it by its proper name. The year 2019 has suddenly emerged as an inflection point in the battle to save the unborn in the United States. Massive pro-abortion funding in last year's election campaigns brought gains for ardent enemies of life not only in the U.S. House of Representatives, but in state capitols around the country.

These victories brought out the hardest, most lethal core of the pro-abortion movement. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo led the charge in a return to the sordid practices of paganism. Brazenly declaring open season on life after birth, he chose January 22, the 46th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, to sign the state's radical, no-holds-barred abortion-on-demand law.

Pro-abortion forces in other states quickly joined in.

Humanae Vitae Is Still Right!

In this chilling atmosphere, what are the prospects for *Humanae Vitae*? The prophetic encyclical's 50th birthday was 2018's high point, but

it's been a rough road since then. In the life of the Church, politics, and the broader social and cultural realm we've seen many unsettling trends, but few signs promising a springtime of hope.

Our efforts must be focused and strong, from the ground up. That's what motivates us as PRI works worldwide to bring the message of life to every continent and culture.

Defending *Humanae Vitae* requires prayerful reflection and an ardent deepening of our love for its inherent truths. An excellent companion in this worthy task is a new book that examines the encyclical from every angle. Reading it, you'll be amazed at how profoundly the courageous proclamation of St. Paul VI has been vindicated in the years since 1968. And you'll be heartened by its affirmation of eternal truths that the popular culture so relentlessly seeks to destroy.

Why Humanae Vitae Is Still Right is edited by Dr. Janet Smith, the hands-down gold-medalist in explaining and defending this beautiful teaching. She has gathered a world-class team of contributors to address the history, application, and promise of Pope Saint Paul VI's reaffirmation and illumination of the Church's fundamental teaching on family, love, and life.

It's a must-have, and you can order it using the reply sheet enclosed.

They Want Our Children— Fight Back!

Clearly, these are challenging times for young pro-lifers. They have been targeted by radical abortion forces for ridicule and harassment. They'll need our prayers and support, but they also need to be invited to a deeper understanding of the truths about life, love, marriage, family, and children.

Why not form a study group based on *Humanae Vitae* and invite teachers from Catholic schools to join you? *Humanae Vitae* has something to offer for every course a young student takes. It explains the best and the worst of history, science, literature, society, community, and culture.

Our young people need *Humanae Vitae* more than ever. What Dr. Charles E. Rice, PRI's longtime chairman, called "the contraceptive mentality" has now become a full-blown infanticide mentality, and it is a dagger aimed at the heart of life and the pro-life movement.

Saint Paul calls on us to "consider how to rouse one another to love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24). Surely there is no good work worthier than the defense of the unborn, in the spirit of Jesus who "came that they may have life, and may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).



How the Pro-Lifers in Argentina Fought Back Legalized Abortion

by Carlos Polo

Pro-life Argentini-
ans do not rest
and are already preparing for
new and greater challenges. Only
five months have passed since the
historic triumph that stopped the
bill that sought to legalize abortion
in that country.

On January 25, on behalf of PRI,
I congratulated Cristina del Valle
Fiore Viñuales, the senator for the
province of Salta, Maria, for her lead-
ership in the rejection of the abortion
bill. She interrupted her vacation in
Salta to welcome us in her Senate
office and told us the details of the
extensive debate that began in the
session of August 8 and lasted until
the early morning of the next day.

Senator Fiore began by express-
ing her gratitude to the thousands
of pro-life citizens, represented at
the meeting by Dr. Martín Zeballos
Ayerza, a member of Lawyers for Life
and a participant of #LaOlaCeleste,
who accompanied us.

She stressed that the marches for
life throughout the country and the
vigil on the day of the vote, despite
the cold and the rain, gave her tre-
mendous support. Her emotional
story of the events did not spare any
details.

Senator Fiore, along with the rest
of the pro-life Senators, felt that the
pro-life force had helped not only
in the proceedings of the Senate
debate but also in their statements
to the media. The voice of the brave
people who took to the streets was



L to R: Laura Llul, Karina Etchepare, Victor Balseiro, Nicolas Perkins, Carlos Polo, Martin Zeballos, and Santiago Ruiz.

vital because it was not only an
ethical or religious discourse, but
also one of great political force:
pro-abortion groups could not leave
pro-lifers out as they had been do-
ing for years.

In part, as happened in the Unit-
ed States with the election of Trump,
the organized pro-life cause in Ar-
gentina has become a political factor
that cannot be ignored.

In January I met with the fol-
lowing pro-life leaders for a tour
through the heart of the emerging
citizen's movement in Argentina. Ev-
eryone agreed that it all started when
the abortion bill was passed in the
Chamber of Deputies, after which
the approval of the bill in the Senate
seemed imminent.

Each leader had his or her unique
role in turning the votes against
abortion:

- Nicolás Perkins, one of the lead-
ers of PRODECI – the Associa-
tion for the Promotion of Civil
Rights, and Santiago Ruiz Rocha,
founder of the group Lawyers for
Life (Abogados por la Vida), each
gathered thousands of lawyers
whose contributions destroyed
the false legal foundation of the
abortion bill.
- Victor Balseiro, a journalist for
the March for Life Buenos Aires
and a member of Communica-
tors for Life (Comunicadores por
la Vida), told us about the brave
ones who, like him, expressed

“The organized pro-life cause in Argentina has become a political factor that cannot be ignored.

their pro-life opinions at the risk of being dismissed from their jobs.

- Karina Estrella Etchepare, representative of Save The One in Latin America, being a lawyer and accountant who worked to support her family decided to give her testimony of having been conceived through rape, and she became a recognized pro-life speaker.
- Similarly, Laura Llul went from being a stay-at-home mom to a pro-life leader in the Province of Río Negro, organizing dozens of Whatsapp groups with thousands of members each and a support group to help citizens visit their senators.
- The pro-life feminist organization “Independent and Federal Women” (*Mujeres Independientes y Federales*), represented by Georgina Tassi and María Fernanda Otero, told us about their feats in direct lobbying at the Senate facilities. None of them had done it before, but they ended up like true professionals. They changed more than one vote in favor of the pro-life cause through frank and friendly dialogue that contrasted with the violent and threatening attitudes of the pro-abortion feminists.
- Constanza “Connie” Pallito (a journalism student) and Nicolás Amitrano (a theology student) are leaders of the Pro-Life Youth

(*Jóvenes Pro Vida*). Their accounts on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook brought together about 40,000 members in total from Argentina and Uruguay. 75% of them were women between 18 and 30 years old. They told us that they even sold cakes that were donated to them to raise funds. Maybe they succeeded because they never believed that stopping large pro-abortion corporations was impossible.

All agreed in that it was not luck or chance but rather the hand of Providence that brought them together and gave them strength and guidance for the victory they all shared.

There were many obstacles to overcome in the skewed and unequal battle:

- The breach of President Mauricio Macri's election promise to defend life from the moment of conception.
- The economic and political support of international organizations such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and various U.N. entities through a local coalition called Fundación Huésped, as well as the branch of IPPF in Argentina, *Casa Fusa*.
- Verbal attacks and all kinds of radical feminist pro-abortion groups on the streets, perhaps the most aggressive and unpleasant in the world.



L to R: Carlos Polo - Director of the PRI Office for Latin America; Cristina Fiore, Argentinian Senator for the Province of Salta; Dr. Martin Zeballos, member of Lawyers for Life and participant of #LaOlaCeleste.

The uncertainty lasted until the last minute.

A change in strategy, partly on the advice of RELEASE, led the pro-lifers to put pressure on the political level. Little by little, they incorporated into the messaging of #SalvemosLas2Vidas (translated: “Let’s Save 2 Lives”) a more political tone with #ConAbortoNoTeVoto (translated: “With Abortion, I Don’t Vote for You”).

Many senators understood that if they approved an abortion law they would lose many voters when they come up for re-election in the Senate elections later this year, in 2019.

The Argentinian pro-life leaders are a source of inspiration for many others. The citizen’s movement that blocked the legalization of abortion in Argentina has been seen in the marches for life both in the United States and France.

And we at PRI will be united with their new struggles, because 2019 will be particularly challenging given the important electoral contests coming in many parts of the world.

Translated by Jonathan Abbamonte



■ Mosher: Birth Dearth Dwindles Italy Towns

CBS NEWS – PRI President Steven Mosher was quoted in a report on Sambuca, a hilltop town in Sicily with panoramic ocean views, that is selling dozens of homes at bargain basement prices.¹ Sambuca and other Italian villages are luring new residents in an effort to save their towns as young residents move away and older inhabitants pass away.

What's behind it all is the decline in Italy's birth rate. "The Italians a few years ago set records for having the lowest birth rate recorded in history, at 1.1 children," Mosher said.

He said none of several initiatives aimed at encouraging procreation have been effective.

There seems to be no combination—around the world—of economic incentives, at least in developed countries, to bring the birth rate up to be replacement, which would be 2.1 children," he said. "I don't know if there is anything Italy can do."

■ House Dems Repeal 'Mexico City Policy'

LIFESITENEWS – PRI President Steven Mosher commented recently on the quiet repeal of Trump's "Mexico City Policy" by a new Democrat-led House of Representatives.²

In January, House Democrats passed H.R. 21, the government's 2019 budget bill, which did not include funding for the President's border wall. However, the bill also repeals the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy, the official name of the Trump Administration's version of the "Mexico City Policy." The House passed H.R. 21 on a mostly party-line vote of 241 to 190.

"Speaker Pelosi and company are eager to resume funding organizations like International Planned Parenthood Federation that perform or promote abortion in foreign countries," Mosher said. "This despite the fact that most Americans want nothing to do with funding abortion in the U.S., much less overseas."

■ Mosher Warns About Vatican-China Accord

NATIONAL CATHOLIC REGISTER – PRI President Steven Mosher warned about the landmark provisional agreement signed between the Holy See and Beijing on the appointment of bishops, which has caused consternation among the faithful in China.³

Mosher said that Beijing rejected the Holy See's original proposal for a "Vietnam model" in which Rome chooses the candidate from a list who is then ratified by the government.

Instead, Beijing will nominate candidates, and the Pope can only veto a limited number, he said in the article. "It has also limited the amount of time that the Vatican has to respond once a candidate's name is submitted," Mosher added.

That the communist government will have the "final say" will lead to "more and more problematic bishops," Mosher predicted.

Nearly half of the country's 98 dioceses have no bishops and several older bishops are about to retire, according to Bishop Ma Yinglin, chairman of the Bishops' Conference of the Catholic Church in China.

■ Americans Paying Immigration Costs

AMERICAN GREATNESS— In an article detailing the costs of immigration, PRI President Steven Mosher reported that two-thirds of America's immigrants use food stamps and other forms of state-administered assistance, such as public housing, not long after they arrive in the country.

This leaves Americans with a \$116 billion annual tab, according to the article. Meanwhile, much of the savings these new arrivals manage to accumulate are sent out of the country as remittances, about \$25 billion of which ends up in Mexico.

¹ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/sambuca-italy-town-sells-houses-for-1-to-lure-new-residents/>

² https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/why-do-dems-want-to-fund-abortion-overseas-when-polls-show-no-one-wants-tha?utm_source=LifesiteNews.com&utm_campaign=53cdace07b-Daily%2520Headlines%2520-%2520U.S._COPY_425&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12387f0e3e-53cdace07b-401421241

³ <http://www.ncregister.com/blog/edward-pentin/this-years-vatican-china-agreement-causes-widespread-consternation>

⁴ <https://www.amgreatness.com/2019/01/25/who-owns-america/>

From the Countries



EGYPT

Egypt to Impose Family Size Limits

CAIRO—The Egyptian Government has long implemented programs to encourage smaller families and birth control usage. But far more intrusive population control policies—including a two-child cap for welfare recipients and a proposed incentive scheme for one-child families—are underway, according to a report by PRI staffer Jonathan Abbamonte.¹

Last fall Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouli announced that starting in January 2019 the government will put a two-child-per-family cap on welfare payments in order to reach more families in need and in order to reduce the country's population growth rate.

"(T)he government has decided not to give any kind of monetary subsidies to families with three children," Prime Minister Madbouli said in his address, according to reporting from *Ahram Online*.

"We will target these families, and all should know that the runaway growth of population is a big threat to the economic development in this country," Madbouli said.

Egypt is the most populous country in the Arab world with a population of 94.7 million persons, according to estimates from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), the Egyptian Government's statistical agency.



IRELAND

Ireland to Censor Pro-Life Dissenters

GALWAY—It's not enough that abortion promoters won the referendum against Ireland's pro-life constitution, but they now want to stifle all dissent, according to a report in *LifeSite News*.²

A group of seven men and women, "The Peaceful Seven" stood one Thursday morning in January outside the Galvia West Medical Centre in Galway holding placards reading, "There's always a better option", "Love them both," "Say no to abortion in Galway".

Pro-abortionists reacted swiftly to this small, peaceful protest by demanding restrictions on civil rights. The Irish Times reported that pro-abortion campaigner Ailbhe Smyth has called on the Minister for Health, Simon Harris, to introduce emergency legislation to introduce censorship zones, such as those in the UK, around medical practices that do abortions.

These zones prevent any interactions, including peaceful witness, the offer of practical and emotional support to pregnant women, and the offer of an alternative to abortion.



CANADA

New Book: World Fertility Irrecoverable

A new book proposes that not only is the world population decreasing, but that it will not be recovering, according to a review in the *Wall Street Journal*.³

Scientific elites have warned of a dangerous population explosion since the Club of Rome reports in the 1970s.

But Canadian social scientist Darrell Bricker and journalist John Ibbittson lay out the opposite case in their book *Empty Planet: The Shock of Global Population Decline*.

"The great defining event of the twenty-first century will occur in three decades, give or take, when the global population starts to decline," they state. "Once that decline begins, it will never end."



CHINA

China's Churches Under State Rule

Pictures of Xi Jinping and Mao Zedong, along with the PRC flag, overshadow the cross in a Christian church in China / Photo courtesy of pastor Bob Fu.



¹ <https://www.egyptindependent.com/welfare-capped-at-2-children-starting-january-egypt-pm/>

² https://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/as-irish-abortion-begins-govt-makes-plans-to-censor-pro-life-dissent?utm_source=LifeSiteNews.com&utm_campaign=12b1af1f1d-Daily%2520Headlines%2520-%2520U.S._COPY_413&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_12387f0e3e-12b1af1f1d-401373841&fbclid=IwAR24C7-ocuuEpEnElBpW5R7JV7q5f7OG_qv3Ocj9gkuTBAJUcG9ew5f0uCM

³ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/empty-planet-review-a-drop-in-numbers-11549497631>