



Here's Why I Was Banned by Facebook

The Censors Silenced Me For Suggesting the Virus Came from a Wuhan Lab

BY STEVEN W. MOSHER

I thought that my New York Post article of February 23, 2020, understated the lab-leak hypothesis. After all, I only called it a possibility. But Facebook quickly moved to suppress the column as “False Information,” refusing to unblock it until April 17.

As it happened, I was only the first of many who were censored for questioning China’s cover story — that someone had gotten a bad bowl of bat soup in something called the Wuhan Wet Market.

In my article, “Don’t buy China’s story: The coronavirus may have leaked from a lab,” I marshalled several plausible pieces of evidence — all of which pointed to the lab:

- China had only one Level 4 lab that can “handle deadly coronaviruses,” and that lab just happened to be located in Wu-



Ralf Geithe/Getty Images

han at the very “epicenter of the epidemic.”

- Underlining China’s shoddy lab-safety record, Xi Jinping himself had, in the early days of the crisis, warned about “lab safety” as a national-security priority.
- Following Xi’s guidance, “the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology released a new directive titled: ‘Instructions on strengthening biosecurity management in “microbiology labs

that handle advanced viruses like the novel coronavirus.”

- As soon as the outbreak began, China’s military was put in charge, with the PLA’s top bio-war expert, General Chen Wei, dispatched to Wuhan to deal with it.

Yet despite my careful caveats and the fact that this was published in the “opinion” section of the paper, Facebook’s so-called “fact-checkers” blocked posters’ friends from read-

(continued on page 5)

INSIDE

2 China Reverses Birth Policy

3 New Publication: PRI Insider

5 Padre Pio: A Personal Account

6 Tribute to Kansas’ Pro-Life Hero

8 Humpty Dumpty’s Slippery Slope

9 A Rosary for Peru

10 A Call for Bishops to Baptize

11 PRI in the News

12 From the Countries



China Ordering Its People To Ramp up Reproduction

by Steven W. Mosher

The Chinese Communist Party has decided to allow Chinese couples to have three children.

The decision, made by top Communist leader Xi Jinping and other top leaders who sit on the Party's politburo leadership committee, marks a stunning reversal of the earlier policy of limiting childbearing.

It also marks a further retreat from the disastrous one-child policy, which led to hundreds of millions of forced abortions and sterilizations, driving the birthrate in the world's most populous country down to today's historically low levels. The now defunct population control program, which started in 1980, set China's population on an aging trajectory unmatched in human history.

"To actively respond to the aging of the population," state media Xinhua brusquely reported on Monday, "a couple is permitted to have three children."

China's official fertility rate stands at 1.3 children per woman—well below the 2.1 needed to maintain the current population—but it is probably even lower in reality.

China's National Bureau of Statistics reports that only 12 million babies were born in 2020. Not only is this 2.65 million fewer than were born in 2019, it is the lowest number of babies born in China since the great famine of 1961, when 42.5 million people starved to death.

China began haltingly encouraging more births in 2015, when it scrapped its one-child policy, but in the years since the birthrate has continued to fall.

Today, thanks to decades of misbegotten population control policies, China is literally dying, filling more coffins than cradles each year. Chinese Communist leaders, who see population as an element of national power, are desperate for more workers and soldiers.

Relaxing the existing limitation on the number of children a couple may have is only the first step.

If the Chinese people don't "voluntarily" have more children, the Party will begin an escalating series of bribes, threats and punishments to ensure that they do. Forced pregnancy is coming to China sooner than we think.

But don't just take my word for it.

As Jennifer Zeng has pointed out, lower-level Party officials have been suggesting for some time that the Party must take stern measures to solve the problem of China's aging population— without mentioning that it is the Party itself, with its brutal one-child policy, that caused the problem in the first place.

In 2018, for instance, leading Chinese professor Nie Shengzhe wrote that "Only the strong leadership of the Party can solve this problem ... of a catastrophic population decline." His proposals, some of which the Party leadership will surely adopt in years to come, include:

- Party cadres should take the lead in having two, three or four children, and give priority to promoting party cadres that have more children.

(continued on next page)



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Population Research Institute

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

Fr. Paul Marx, OSB, PhD
(1920-2010)
Founder

Steven W. Mosher
President

Joel Bockrath
Executive Vice President

Karen Shannon
Development Manager

Carlos Polo
Director, PRI Latin American Office

Carlos Beltramo
Director, PRI European Office

Katarina Carranco
Director, PRI Rome Office

Allen Baldanza
New Media Coordinator

Design by
Perceptions Studio
Amherst, New Hampshire

China Policy, *continued*

- The Party Central Committee should establish strict control over the sale of condoms and contraceptives and forbid hospitals from performing abortions.
- The Party's propaganda department should vigorously propagandize the ideas that 'more children bring many blessings' and 'one is too few, two is not enough, three is good, four is the best.'
- Those Party members of child-bearing age who use contraceptives when having sex should be punished.

Prof. Nie suggests that this kind of selective breeding program on the part of the Chinese Communist Party will pay political benefits. He writes: "The more children that Party members have, the more the Red



If the Chinese people don't "voluntarily" have more children, the Party will begin an escalating series of bribes, threats and punishments to ensure that they do. Forced pregnancy is coming to China sooner than we think.

Gene will dominate in the population, the higher the political quality of the population will be ... and the fewer political difficulties we will encounter."

Realistically, however, the 94 million members of the Chinese Communist Party will not, all by themselves, be able to avert China's population crash. There are simply too few of them.

The kinds of measures that Prof. Nie talks about above — banning contraception, sterilization, and abortion, and punishing those who violate these bans — will have to be imposed on the entire population to avert demographic disaster.

As I say, forced pregnancy is coming to China sooner than you think.

Check Out Our Newest Publication: PRI Insider!

As a regular reader of the *PRI Review*, I invite you to check out our newest publication, an international pro-life bulletin and action guide, and now one of the "go-to" sources for pro-lifers. It's called PRI Insider and it will be published online every week, 52 weeks a year. PRI Insider is a major new project of the Population Research Institute.

PRI Insider is a one-of-a-kind publication that pro-lifers have needed for a very long time and here's why:

- Like the *PRI Review*, PRI Insider is not limited to reporting only from the United States. Instead, it also brings you important pro-life news reported by our offices in Latin America, Europe (including our Rome office) and anywhere else pro-life news is made. PRI Insider even reports developments from the world's No. 1 enemy of life, Communist China.
- It is NOT limited to abortion news. PRI Insider keeps you updated on attacks on the family, attacks

on religion, the left's war on gender, drives to legalize euthanasia and more that pro-lifers need to know. Plus, PRI Insider presents news concisely and right to the point.

- And most important, PRI Insider is a call to action. It's a weekly online publication that educates and mobilizes! It is sent free to pro-lifers so that all who should read it, can read it!

Just like all our work — including our aid to African crisis pregnancy centers, our vital efforts promoting "Heartbeat Legislation" and more — PRI Insider is funded entirely by PRI supporters like you. Our readership goal for PRI Insider is 50,000 in the next six months.

If you can support this new publication, please do, and be as generous as your circumstances allow. Your gift will help make sure that this major new pro-life news source and action guide gets in the hands of pro-lifers in the U.S. and around the world!

Banned by Facebook, *continued*

ing it for themselves. The mainstream media piled on, hammering me a “conspiracy theorist” and slamming the Post for publishing it.

Over the past few months, the attempted cover-up has finally started to unravel. The evidence pointing to the China Virus as a genetically engineered product of the lab is finally getting the serious consideration it deserves.

For example, *New York Magazine*’s January cover story, “The Lab-Leak Hypothesis,” concluded that COVID-19 is probably a human-engineered virus that escaped from a Wuhan lab.

Last weekend, a *Wall Street Journal* report noted that according to U.S. intelligence, three researchers from the Wuhan Institute of Virology fell ill and went to the hospital in November 2019 with COVID-like symptoms. This was, perhaps not coincidentally, the time the virus began circulating in the city.

The week before, 18 highly respected scientists wrote to *Science* magazine that “we must take hypotheses about both natural and laboratory spillovers seriously.” Even Dr. Anthony Fauci, Mr. Pandemic himself, has now made a 180 and no longer rules out the lab theory.

Finally, Facebook itself announced that it “will no longer take down posts claiming that Covid-19 was man-made or manufactured.”

Of course, Facebook’s shameful censorship did not occur in a vacuum. Those who perpetrated this fraud on the public include lying scientists, self-interested politicians, and those suffering from TDS: Trump Derangement Syndrome.

We were told that there was a “scientific consensus.” But experts

“ Once President Trump and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo suggested last summer that the virus might have begun in a Chinese lab, the Democrats and their followers in the media blindly took the opposite position.

called for comment were themselves often engaged in “gain-of-function research” that manipulates deadly viruses — and they didn’t want to lose their funding if the public turned against it. Others had worked with Wuhan’s researchers and had done experiments in their lab.

These were the same characters who, deliberately concealing their conflict of interest, published letters in the journal *Lancet* in February 2020 and another in *Nature Medicine* a month later ridiculing the lab theory, and calling anyone who suggested it — like me — a “conspiracy theorist.”

The chief offender in this regard was, of course, Dr. Anthony Fauci himself, who was doing everything in his power to discredit the idea that the virus was a laboratory construct. His behavior is perhaps understandable: his grants had helped to train the scientists who worked there, not to mention indirectly funding the lab itself.

The incompetent media echoed the message of the “scientists,” who were insisting that the science was settled. When they mentioned it at all, the major media treated the Wuhan lab theory as a paranoid fantasy, not all that different from the claim of Chinese propagandists that the

virus had actually escaped from the U.S. Army’s labs at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Politics played a role as well. Once President Trump and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo suggested last summer that the virus might have begun in a Chinese lab, the Democrats and their followers in the media blindly took the opposite position. There was an election coming up, and Trump couldn’t be allowed to be right — about this or anything else.

Mainstream media reporters didn’t simply “ignore” the lab leak theory, they gave free rein to their TDS and relentlessly attacked anyone suggesting that it might be true as a hater or ignoramus. Their real target, of course, was Donald Trump.

Now that we know, with near certainty, that it came from a lab, don’t expect an apology from those who got it wrong and misled millions.

Or from those, like Facebook, who shunned dissenters and stifled debate.

As for me, I don’t expect to hear from Mark Zuckerberg any time soon.

This article originally appeared in LifeSiteNews on June 2, 2021.

PRI's special gift to you . . .

Padre Pio: Encounters with a Spiritual Daughter from Pietrelcina

You will want this book if you have a devotion to St. Padre Pio, or, if you simply want to learn more about him.... It's new, and full of stories that don't appear in any other book on this beloved saint of our time.

In *Padre Pio: Encounters with a Spiritual Daughter from Pietrelcina*, you'll read firsthand accounts of Graziella DeNunzio Mandato, who grew up in San Giovanni Rotondo, Pietrelcina, Padre Pio's hometown. From the time she was a young girl holding the hand of her uncle, she met Pio...attended Masses that he celebrated...received the Sacrament of Reconciliation from him frequently...and became his spiritual daughter.

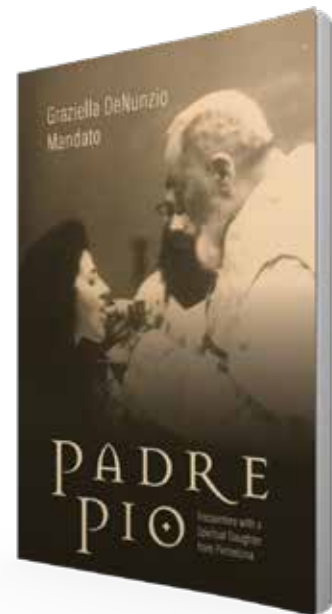
You'll also read about how St. Pio remained her spiritual father throughout her life—even after his death! In addition, you'll find...informative forewords to the first and this new, second edition from TAN books...a chronology of Graziella's life...53 short, beautiful chapters of her life with St. Pio...a wonderful appendix that includes **Padre Pio's Spiritual Direction Based on His Life and Writings**, which offers twelve principles of direction that are worth the book all by themselves!

Another special feature you will cherish are several pages of photos not seen in other books, including many of Padre Pio celebrating Mass and Administering the Eucharist.

A charming hardcover that is 140 pages, it is perfect as an adoration or prayer companion, or as a book to read at the family dinner table one chapter each

night! It would also be a wonderful gift for a friend or loved-one, so you may want more than one!

Padre Pio: Encounters with a Spiritual Daughter from Pietrelcina is sure to fly off our shelves! With your donation of \$50 or more, we'll send your copy out promptly with our gratitude!



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

*Padre Pio: Encounters with a
Spiritual Daughter from Pietrelcina*

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Mike Pompeo (center) with Steven Moshers and his wife Vera

Moshers Honors Pompeo at Kansas Benefit

Most Pro-Life Secretary of State Since *Roe v. Wade*

Kansans for Life honored and welcomed home Mike Pompeo, former U.S. Secretary of State and Director of the C.I.A., Congressman from Kansas and international pro-life advocate for its annual banquet. Steven W. Moshers, president of Population Research Institute, was also a featured guest. Here is an excerpt from Moshers's remarks.

I have to tell you that the assignment that Mary Kay gave me for this visit is the most difficult one ever. She has asked me to introduce to you a man who needs no introduction, especially to Kansans.

I mean, everyone here knows that from April 2018 through January 20, 2021, Secretary Pompeo served as 70th United States Secretary of State. Everyone here also knows that he previously served as director of the Central Intelligence Agency from January 2017—at the very beginning of the Trump Administration—to April

2018 when he was tapped by President Trump to take over State.

And you also know that before that he was serving in his fourth term as congressman from Kansas' 4th District.

But let me share with you a couple of things that you may not know.

First of all, he's the first Secretary of State in the last 40 years to get China policy right. This is because he sees China as it really is: a tyrannical Communist dictatorship bent on world domination. And because he understood this, he was able to craft the most sensible and comprehensive policy towards China that we've had since we normalized diplomatic relations with Communist China in 1979. It is a hard-headed policy of confronting Chinese aggression across all domains, from the military and economic, to trade and human rights.

Our previous policy towards China was one of naïve engagement. How naïve? Well, let me tell you a story. I once had dinner with President Clinton's Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and I tried to alert him to the danger from a ris-

ing China. I told him that we were in a New Cold War, not because we wanted to be, but because Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping had in 1991 declared us to be. If your enemy says that you are at war, then you are probably at war, whether you want to be or not.

I suggested to Secretary Christopher that, given the CCP's long history of broken agreements, that it was foolish to take their word on anything. How did he respond? He dismissed my concerns saying, and I quote, "I have found that the Chinese always keep their agreements."

Secretary Pompeo's approach to China has been, I daresay, the polar opposite. Instead of naively trusting China, his approach has been to suggest that we "distrust and verify."

It is a testament to the success of this level-headed policy that the current administration (who shall not be named) has largely left it in place. They've left it in place despite the fact that the President's own son, Hunter, remains a partner in an investment firm run by the Chinese Communist Party.

I often refer to the CCP as the biggest killing machine in human history. Some 80 million Chinese—no one knows the exact number—have been tortured to death, starved to death, or executed over the past 70 years. But that’s not the end of it. We must add to this number the 400 million aborted babies who have been killed over the past 40 years of the one-child policy. 400 million. The Communist Party official who shared this number with me bragged that it was greater than the entire population of the United States.

Now as Mary Kay mentioned, I saw this killing up close and personal. I’m the only Western eyewitness to forced abortions and sterilizations in China. Today, as a result of this wholesale slaughter of the innocents, China’s population is literally dying, filling more coffins than cradles each year.

The leadership of the Communist Party is increasingly desperate to raise the birth rate. If you want to know what the future holds for Chinese women, watch “The Handmaid’s Tale.” My prediction: We will see forced pregnancy in China within the next few years.

Yet even as the CCP is desperate to get the Han Chinese birthrate up, it is equally determined to force the birthrate among China’s minorities down. A Turkish-speaking minority in China’s Far West called the Uyghurs is a particular target. Uyghur women are being forcibly aborted and sterilized as we speak. The poor Uyghurs are also the victims of mass incarceration, forced labor, gang rape, and organ harvesting, to name just a few of the ongoing human rights abuses being committed by the CCP.

“ Secretary Pompeo correctly—and courageously—declared that “genocide and crimes against humanity” had been perpetrated by China.

After reviewing this evidence, Secretary Pompeo correctly—and courageously—declared that “genocide and crimes against humanity” had been perpetrated by China against the Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic minorities in Xinjiang.¹

Forced abortion and forced sterilization, in particular, are a clear violation of the convention on genocide

As this suggests, Secretary Pompeo is the most pro-life Secretary of State in recent American history.

- In fact, he is the first publicly pro-life Secretary of State since *Roe v. Wade* was decided. That the Trump administration was the most Pro-Life administration in American history is due in no small part to Mike Pompeo’s influence.
- Secretary Pompeo not only helped to reinstate the Mexico City Policy, but also mightily strengthened it. This critical pro-life policy prevents U.S. tax dollars from going to organizations that fund or perform abortions around the world.
- Secretary Pompeo convened the first ever ministerial on religious freedom at the U.S. State Department to highlight the issue of religious freedom and persecution of Christians and the

Church around the world. As a Christian his faith shapes his worldview, as it does ours.

- Secretary Pompeo also formed the U.S. Commission on Unalienable Rights headed by our mutual friend, Professor Mary Ann Glendon, to call attention to our most basic rights as enumerated by our founders, including the right to life and religious freedom as a model of rights to the entire world.

Of course, we have much work to do here in our own country as well, especially at the present moment. There are only seven countries on the planet that allow abortion after 20 weeks, and not just China but our own United States of America is on that list.

That is why is so fitting that Mike Pompeo is returning to his home state at this critical hour. The man who held one of the most powerful positions in the U.S. government, the man who held the Chinese Communists accountable to the world, is determined to help hold the line in Kansas, so that Kansas abortion laws do not mirror China’s.

Please join me in giving a rousing welcome to a committed Pro-Lifer, a great American, and your fellow Kansan, Mike Pompeo.

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uyghur_genocide



Humpty Dumpty and Our Fall: The Path of Pro-Abortion Zeal

by Dr. Christopher Manion, Director of the *Humanae Vitae* Project

Donoso Cortes (+1853), the Spanish Defender of the Faith, once observed that, when Satan has got you sinning, he won't be satisfied with letting you coast; he keeps on pushing you downhill.

The image comes to mind as the Biden Administration intensifies its campaign against the unborn. The “moderate” Biden once pledged to “bring us together,” but his casual conversion to pro-abortion zealotry proves that “Donoso's Law” is no joke.

And Biden is not alone. He now heads a party that is willing to destroy the Constitution, if necessary, to preserve its prime mandate of abortion on demand. And the Supreme Court's recent decision to consider *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* in its coming term might well provide the flashpoint for that effort.

The *Dobbs* case addresses a Mississippi law that prohibits abortion after 15 weeks except in the cases of a medical emergency or severe fetal abnormality. The prospect that the court might use *Dobbs* to revisit earlier decisions like *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* and *Roe v. Wade* has Democrats on the warpath.

Hijacking Language to Kill

For abortion advocates, Humpty Dumpty of *Alice in Wonderland* rules—words can mean whatever they want them to mean. Embedding that concept in our Constitution will put a dagger in our efforts to restore common sense, civic virtue, and the love of life in our society.

“ For abortion advocates, Humpty Dumpty of *Alice in Wonderland* rules—words can mean whatever they want them to mean.

But if they have the power, they will use it. As Humpty sternly explains to Alice, “The question is, which is to be master — that's all.”

The past year has witnessed a number of linguistic ploys to advance the Culture of Death in America. During the lockdowns, blue-state governors ignored existing laws, often breaking them outright, while inventing new ones by decree whenever they felt like it. They wanted to “keep us safe,” they assured us, telling us to “shut up and stay home”—it was all “for our own good.”

People don't need to go to Church on Christmas, Governor Ralph Northam told Virginians. “Is it the worship or the building? For me, God is wherever you are,” he said. Northam's decrees worked: voicing few objections, Virginia's religious leaders obediently waited for months until the governor granted them permission to unlock our church doors.

After all, he was “keeping us safe.” But that protection didn't keep the unborn, nor anyone, safe. Children were irreparably deprived of an education, also in the name of “safety.” Families and communities were denied a normal life. Tens of millions were left jobless nationwide, and millions of employers permanently closed. Many

communities were traumatized. For months, we were unable to participate in the public square.

Cashing in on a Crisis

Opportunists moved quickly into the vacuum to expand Biden's celebration of abortion to include other sexual perversions. Then, pushing the envelope even further, they advocated sexual mutilation, shoving parents and families aside as they used schools to confer on six-year-olds the “right” to consider changing their “gender identity.” Those who take them up on the offer are offered puberty blockers a few years later; by their mid-teens they're ready to start cutting off body parts.

Remember: the language propelling this perfidy was born when the abortion lobby asserted, “This is my body!” to justify the “right” to terminate a pregnancy. The logic is inescapable: if it's her body, why can't a second grader mutilate it so it can be his body instead?

Never forget: whatever words they use, Biden & Co. have one prime mandate: abortion. Humpty Dumpty taught them well. If we let them, they will seize power and use it to make the Culture of Death a bedrock principle of our once constitutional Republic.



The Virgin of Fatima Gathered Thousands in Prayer for Peru

by Carlos Polo, Director, PRI Latin American Office

On May 13, the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, thousands of people gathered in a day of prayer to ask for Mary's intercession for Peru.

Why Peru? Like many parts of the world, this country is suffering the ravages of the pandemic and the economic and the subsequent social crisis it has generated. But in addition, the nation is experiencing a difficult electoral process in which radical sectors of communist ideology are polarizing the political spectrum and generating a climate of social conflict.

In response, three principal organizers — the Latin American PRI Office, Foundation Origen VCC, and a group of lay people — called for a “Rosary for Peru” to ask the Virgin Mary to intercede for Peru. It was 104 years ago that the Mother of God appeared to three humble little shepherds in Fatima, Portugal, and asked Christians to pray the Rosary to ask for peace and freedom from all threats. Responding to Our Lady's call, thousands of people from different parts of Peru and around the world welcomed the initiative and joined the Rosary for Peru.

For four, uninterrupted hours, the attendees interceded through prayer, songs and moving testimonies of faith.

The organizers created a Zoom “virtual chapel” with a capacity for

a thousand people, which was overtaken by the attendees in less than five minutes. In addition, different Facebook and You Tube platforms joined the event by live broadcasting to more than 5,000 people during the four hours of prayer. Together, live broadcasts and interactions on social networks, the event reached more than 150,000 people the evening of May 13.

A Beautiful Mosaic of the Country

The joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious mysteries were recited. In that effort of coordination and generosity, more than 20 different groups of people were called to pray. The prayers were interspersed with Marian songs by Peruvian singer-songwriters and entire families who praised Mary with their songs. Elderly people, families, children, people with disabilities, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, volunteers of various social works, indigents, Venezuelan immigrants, policemen, among many others, offered a beautiful mosaic of representation of the country. People from all regions of the national territory took part.

One of the most emotional moments was the participation of Dr. Oswaldo Cava, who lost his son in the Sederio Luminoso terrorist attack on Tarata Street In Lima, Perú.

At his son's funeral and in front of the television cameras, he held out a rosary and addressed the leader of that terrorist group: “Mr. Abimael Guzman, with this weapon we will fight, with this weapon kings and tyrants have been defeated, and you will not be the exception. With this weapon we will win.” Soon those prophetic words were fulfilled, and Guzman and the entire terrorist leadership fell.

At 94 years of age, Cava left his home for the first time since the pandemic began to participate in the Rosary for Peru as he prayed the first sorrowful mystery, “The Agony of Jesus in the Garden, before the image of the Virgin in a park near his home.

It is worth noting the thousands of comments that were left both in the chat of the Facebook pages and the Zoom platform. There, the thanksgiving, prayers, and intentions from abroad and throughout Peru were collected to make the virtual chapel a place of encounter and communion in the faith.

The Rosary for Peru was an experience that enriched all participants and highlighted the values of faith and brotherhood. All this makes us more aware of the importance of putting a grain of sand, each one from its place, so that our country is more and more just, in more solidarity, and more united.

Here's One Way to Raise the U.S Birthrate: Send This Letter to Your Local Archbishop

BY STEVEN MOSHER

Some time back we at PRI came up with the idea that in order to support young couples in welcoming more children, we could encourage U.S. bishops to baptize all third children.

The Rev. Joseph Naumann, Archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas, and the head of the USCCB's Pro-life Committee, responded to the call. He told me that, while bishops normally don't do many baptisms, that he had really enjoyed welcoming third children, and thanked me for the suggestion.

Here's the letter, with some updates. I invite you to copy this text (with revisions of your own) and send it to your local ordinary:

Dear (Arch)Bishop XXX,

In conversation recently with an American archbishop, I mentioned that our country's birthrate has been in free fall since 2007. At that time America enjoyed the highest fertility rates in the developed world, and women were happily having an average of two children.

No longer.

As the pandemic has dried up jobs across the country and darkened economic prospects, especially for young couples in their prime child-bearing years, the maternity wards have emptied out. We calculate that the total fertility rate, or TFR, of American women is currently around 1.7 and may fall further.

This "below replacement birthrate" brings with it certain economic consequences of its own. It exacerbates the looming insolvency of Social

Security and Medicare. It places roadblocks in front of an already sputtering economic recovery. And for Catholics concerned not just about the here and now, but about the hereafter, it necessarily means that fewer souls are coming into existence to enjoy the blessings of this life and eternity in the next.

The archbishop asked me what could be done about this, I brought up the experience of Georgia—the country, not the state—located on the Black Sea.

Like most of the former Soviet Republics, Georgia's fertility collapsed when the Soviet Union fell asunder. From a TFR of 2.15 in 1990, it slid to 1.72 in 1992, 1.55 in 1996, and reached a nadir of 1.39 in 2003. The Georgian people seemed set upon a course of self-extinction.

But then the Orthodox Patriarch, Ilia II, decided that there was something he could do to stem Georgia's fertility collapse. He announced in late 2007 that he would personally baptize any child born to parents who already had two or more children.

The results were nothing short of astounding. The year after Ilia II's proclamation the birth rate increased by 20 percent. Georgia's fertility continued to tick upward, until by 2009 it stood at 1.86. This is not quite yet replacement, but it is nearly half a child more, on average, than the rate less than a decade before.

Ilia II's mass baptisms, which are now an accepted part of Georgian life, succeeded in encouraging his



Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City with PRI's Steve Mosher

people to once again be fruitful and multiply. Georgia's future now seems assured.

Which brings me to the point of this letter: I would ask that you prayerfully consider following the Orthodox Patriarch's example in this regard. Announce to your people that you will personally baptize any child born to parents who already have two or more children.

I understand that America is not Georgia, and that you are a (arch) bishop of a(n) (arch)diocese, not the patriarch of a nation.

At the same time, I believe that this exercise of your ecclesial authority in the context of a sacramental occasion will encourage many to reflect on whether they in turn should exercise the great gift of their fertility to bring one more soul into existence. Surely some will respond. And that in itself will be a great thing, eternally speaking.

*Sincerely yours in Christ,
[Your Name Here]*



■ Mosher: Is Biden Helping China Cover up its Crimes?

LIFESITE NEWS—The White House’s 90-day probe into the origins of the coronavirus is a “frantic effort at damage control,” according to a recent column by PRI President Steven Mosher.¹

“Last fall, then-Secretary of State Mike Pompeo ordered investigators at the State Department to look into the origins of the China Virus. Pompeo was rightly concerned that the virus may have escaped from a Wuhan lab,” he wrote. At first this research was dismissed by “Big Tech” and “Big Media” as a conspiracy theory, Mosher wrote, and people who suggested this possibility were banned from Facebook—including Mosher himself (see *PRI Review’s* cover story).

But the evidence began piling up, and word got out that Biden ended the State Department’s investigation into COVID’s origins, in effect helping China cover up its crimes, Mosher wrote. That’s when the White House announced that U.S. intelligence agencies would conduct their own probe.

“I myself have little confidence that these heavily politicized agencies will produce anything other than a whitewash of China’s responsibility for the pandemic that it unleashed upon the world,” wrote Mosher.

■ Facebook’s Censors Owe Apology to PRI’s Mosher

NEW YORK POST – Editor and author Sohrab Ahmari called Facebook “shameless” for banning a well-reasoned *Post* opinion column by PRI’s Steven Mosher that speculated about a potential lab leak.²

Now that the social media giant has revised its policy of banning posts suggesting the coronavirus was man-made, “will our columnist receive an apology? Of course not,” Ahmari wrote.

Ahmari posed that it’s worth returning to what Mosher wrote. “For starters, note that Mosher didn’t definitively claim that COVID-19 had leaked from a lab. What he argued, rather, is that a lab leak should be plausible to anyone familiar with Chinese realities.”

But Mosher did offer this evidence:

- “The fact that Xi himself had, in the early days of the crisis, warned about ‘lab safety’ as a national-security priority.
- “The fact that, following Xi’s guidance, ‘the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology’ released a new directive titled: ‘Instructions on strengthening biosecurity management in microbiology labs that handle advanced viruses like the novel coronavirus.’”
- “Above all, the fact that the Middle Kingdom has only one Level 4 microbiology lab that can ‘handle deadly coronaviruses’ — and that lab just happens to be located at the ‘epicenter of the epidemic.’”

“Even if Mosher were wrong... didn’t Americans and their policy makers have the right to consider the possibility?” Ahmari wrote.

■ U.S. Medicine Played Role In Virus Origin, Mosher Says

FOX NEWS—In an episode of the Fox TV show “Ingraham Angle,” PRI President Steve Mosher said the U.S.’s own medical bureaucracy played a role in the creation of the deadly novel coronavirus.³

According to interviewer Tammy Bruce, the National Institutes of Health funneled taxpayer dollars to the Wuhan Institute of Virology for bat Coronavirus research, which even Dr. Fauci admits. But he still denies funding so-called gain of function experiments, she said.

“As you mentioned, Dr. Fauci back in 2012 was advocating gain of function research,” Mosher responded. “Despite the fact, there was a moratorium on such risky research.

“So what did we do? We taught Chinese scientists how to carry out gain of function research in our own labs at Galveston and at the University of North Carolina, that’s Fauci funded research. And then to make matters worse, we actually sent money to China.”

Fauci no doubt saw a potential cure for emerging diseases, according to Mosher, but the Chinese Communist Party saw that new and deadly viruses themselves might be useful militarily.

“In my view, they deliberately set out to create deadly pathogens that they could release upon the world, and COVID-19 is a result of these experiments,” he said.

¹ <https://www.lifesitenews.com/blogs/is-biden-helping-china-cover-up-its-covid-crimes>

² <https://nypost.com/2021/05/27/facebook-and-its-censorious-fact-checkers-have-utterly-discredited-themselves/>

³ <https://www.foxnews.com/transcript/ingraham-angle-on-vaccines-on-campus-mainstream-media>

From the Countries



HUNGARY

Key to Depopulation Is Restoring Families

INT'L FAMILY NEWS – The Hungarian-based Family Science Alliance, the European Family Science Society, and the Batthyány Society of Professors hosted an international conference online and in-person in Budapest to address the current demographic crisis in Europe with what organizers believe is the only solution: “overcoming the crisis in family life,” reported the International Organization of the Family, a conference participant.¹

“It is worrying that countries affected by the demographic crises are not trying to curb free sexuality,” according to a report announcing the conference. “Without finding ways to leave this behind and restore mutual loyalty and fidelity there is no solution to the demographic crisis. Couples firm in their commitment, in marriage, have the home that welcomes children.”

A study published in the British journal *Lancet* in 2020 projects a disastrous demographic winter facing much of the world, stated the conference paper.

“The expected population losses in Europe between now and 2100, especially in Central and Eastern Europe, will approach numbers not seen since the Bubonic Plague in the 1300,” the report said. It is projected that Europe will lose 26 percent of its population, or 200 million people.

Asia too is projected to lose 22 percent of its population (1 billion people) by 2100, and so will the Caribbean, which is expected to lose 31 percent of its population (14 million people) by then. Many countries around the world are on track to lose 50 percent or more of their population, including the United Arab Emirates, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Poland, Cuba, Japan, Spain, and Italy, and China is predicted to lose 49 percent.

The problem, according to the conference paper, is that marriage and the family have been under unrelenting attack for the past 60 years. The conference developed a three-pronged strategy to restore marriage and the family to prevent the impending demographic catastrophe: 1) overcome “the obstacles to the development and continuance of good marriages and families”; 2) build society “through a partnership with the social sciences to strengthen culture”; and 3) provide “financial support and material benefits to young spouses and parents.”



ITALY

Pope: Help Parents To Welcome Life

VATICAN NEWS – Pope Francis gave an address at a meeting of experts and high-level Italian officials organized by the “Forum for Family Associations,” an initiative to address the country’s demographic crisis, the Vatican News reported.²

In his speech, Pope Francis applauded the initiative, and said that

“most young people want to have children, but ... only half of young people believe they will be able to have two children in their lifetime.”

He further noted that Italy has had some of the lowest birth rates in Europe, transforming it into an old country, the article said. In fact, in 2020, he said, “Italy reached the lowest number of births since national unity, not because of Covid-19, but because of a continuous, progressive downward trend, an increasingly harsh winter.”

To remedy the situation, the Pope proposed that the country do more to help families, especially young families who are assailed by worries that risk paralyzing their life plans, according to the article. He praised a law that provides an allowance for every child that is born.

“If families are not at the center of the present, there will be no future; but if families restart, everything restarts,” he stressed. “A society that does not welcome life stops living. Children are the hope that makes a people reborn!”

He further underlined that “the lack of children, which causes an aging population, implicitly affirms that everything ends with us, that only our individual interests count.”

Pope Francis urged everyone to help each other “to rediscover the courage to give, the courage to choose life,” because it is “is creative and does not accumulate or multiply what already exists, but opens up to newness.”

¹ <https://ifamnews.com/en/confronting-the-impending-demographic-winter>

² <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-05/pope-francis-general-state-of-births-italy.html>