POPULATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE Review

## The 'Unmet Need For Contraception' Scam

# Just Another Excuse For Depopulating The Planet

#### BY STEVEN W. MOSHER

You may be forgiven for not knowing that September 26 was "World Contraception Day." In fact, you will probably be surprised to learn that such a day even exists, and that the population controllers continue to celebrate it.

After all, you may say, the population bomb has long been exposed as a myth, while the world's fertility is in free fall. Even the *New York Times* admits that the world is about to go into absolute population decline.<sup>1</sup> Don't the population controllers know when to quit?

The short answer is no, they don't. And they won't.

The population control movement, which has billions of dollars in its coffers and tens of thousands of employees, does not intend to go quietly to its grave. Rather, convinced that there are still too many Africans,



Getty images / areeya\_ann

Asians, and Latin Americans, it hungers to drive human numbers down even faster. In this it enjoys the wholehearted support of the Biden administration, which each year spends over a billion dollars to chemically and surgically sterilize women in low- and middle-income countries.

Now that the population bomb has fizzled, however, they have had to come up with another excuse for their war on people. After all, simply telling entire races or ethnicities to stop having babies just isn't done anymore, at least outside of Communist China.

So they have taken a different tack. They are now producing studies claiming that poor women around the world are asking to be sterilized

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# **The Abortion Movement** is Lying About Mexico

## BY CARLOS POLO, DIRECTOR, PRI IBEROAMERICA OFFICE AND CARLOS BELTRAMO, DIRECTOR, PRI EUROPEAN OFFICE

I not decriminalize abortion!

The September 6th headlines in the international press seemed to leave no doubt: the Supreme Court of Mexico had issued a ruling decriminalizing abortion throughout the country. The stories that followed went even further, insisting that the ruling compelled all hospitals to provide abortions and that no doctor who performed an abortion could be punished for doing so.

The same story was repeated by all the main media players, from CNN, BBC, and the New York Times, to AP, Reuters, and *El País* in Spain. Not to mention that the entire legion of the worldwide abortion lobby joined the chorus of celebration, to which even the UN quickly chimed in.

Don't fall for the lie.

This media campaign is nothing more than an attempt to manipulate public opinion. It was intended to convince the Mexican people, the majority of whom are pro-life, that the battle is over. That the abortion movement won such a decisive legal victory that abortion on demand is now the law of the land and there is nothing that anyone can do about it.

The goal of these global liars was to so demoralize the Mexican pro-life movement—and by extension pro-lifers around the world—that they would simply give up the fight for life. But a closer look at what just happened in Mexico reveals that nothing could be further from the truth: the issue of abortion is far from closed in Mexico.

Currently the Federal Penal Code considers that abortion violates "the

The country's Supreme Court did human rights of women and persons with gestational capacity" and therefore criminalizes it. The ruling that came down from the First Chamber of the Mexican Supreme Court temporarily suspending this provision is called an amparo. An amparo is a temporary order issue while a case is under review.

> The case in question was filed by GIRE, Mexico's leading abortion advocacy group, and asked the Supreme Court to declare that the provision in the Federal Penal Code that punishes those who engage in induced abortion to be unconstitutional. While their case is under review, GIRE—supposedly on behalf of Mexican women, requested the Court to issue the *amparo*. But by issuing the *amparo*, the First Chamber of the Court violated its own rules.

> First, an *amparo* is only supposed to be issued in response to a request from an injured party which claims that his or her rights have been violated. One cannot make a request for an *amparo* on behalf of others, yet this is precisely what GIRE did. GIRE clearly does not qualify for an *amparo*. Yet the Supreme Court, violating its own rules, claimed that GIRE is "a person suffering harm" from the pro-life provisions of the Federal Criminal Code and issued the amparo anyway. It is currently reviewing the constitutionality of Articles 330, 331, 332, 333 and 334 of the Federal Criminal Code.

> Part of the impetus for violating Mexican law in this way comes from north of the border. Since Joe Biden

> > *(continued on page 3)*



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## The Abortion Movement, continued

arrived at the White House, the Mexican Supreme Court has made a sharp left turn. Vice President Kamala Harris attended the inauguration of Mexican President Andres Lopez Obrador in June 2021. Shortly thereafter, the White House announced that the Biden administration and Lopez Obrador signed an agreement "to relaunch the High-Level Economic Dialogue (HLED)" between the two countries

At the same time, the Mexican Supreme Court swung into action, striking down state laws limiting abortion. On September 7, the ax fell on two articles of the Penal Code of the State of Coahuila (Section II articles 196 and 224) that criminalized abortion. Then, two days later, the Court ordered annulled Art. 4(a) of the Sinaloa State Constitution which protected life from conception. ("From the moment an individual is conceived, he or she enters under the protection of the corresponding law, until his or her death.")

What sort of financial incentives were offered by the abortion zealots in the Biden administration in return for these actions? If history is any guide, they were substantial.

The *amparo* also violates the Mexican Supreme Court's earlier rulings. In 2007, in a case involving the decriminalization of abortion in the Federal District (Mexico City), the Court decided to return the issue to the states. In a ruling similar to the *Dobbs* ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade* in the U.S., the Court decreed that each Mexican state should decide for itself at what point in pregnancy to defend human life and whether or not to criminalize abortion. In the years following, the pro-life movement won victory af-



Getty Images / FG Trade Latin

ter victory at the state level. By this year, no fewer than 23 of Mexico's 32 states had passed laws protecting life from conception.

But, as we said, the Mexican Supreme Court changed its orientation in 2019. Already by 2021, Rodrigo Ivan Cortes, president of the National Front for the Family, and various pro-life leaders noted this radical change of the Court. The incomprehensible thing is that the judges are still the same, but 'they were not congruent and respectful of their own sentences' and, for some reason, radically changed their minds. Before the influence of the Biden Administration, the Mexican Supreme Court had rejected similar initiatives, but now it welcomes them. It is evident that this is lawfare, judicial activism based on the interests of the government of the day. Mexico's abortionists have im-

mense economic support. In the Infotecnia portal, it was reported that the 10 main pro-abortion organizations have received in the last years more than \$185 million (approx.) and 70% comes from abroad. And these resources increase year by year.

Powerful funding, full backing from Biden's foreign policy, and unconditional support from the international press have not been enough, so far, to legalize abortion in Mexico.

Now they have gone so far as to violate the law and still have a long way to go.

Even if the *amparo* is granted to GIRE, which we have already said is illegal, this ruling cannot be applied to other people. The amparo only applies to the person filing the appeal. It does not have the slightest power to force hospitals to perform abortions or to sanction doctors who do not want to do so.

This is certainly a step in the direction of decriminalization of abortion in Mexico, but the truth is that this needs Congress to pass a law. And no doubt Mexican pro-lifers will continue to put up a fight.

## "Unmet Need for Contraception" Scam, continued

and contracepted. This allows them to justify continued U.S. funding of anti-baby programs as a humane response to a real and pressing need of women in the developing world. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is how a phony statistic called the "unmet need for contraception" was conjured up.

In the run-up to World Contraception Day—with the exquisite timing characteristic of a planned propaganda campaign—a new study of the "contraceptive needs of women of reproductive age" was published by *The Lancet.*<sup>2</sup> (You know, the same British medical journal that disgraced itself during the pandemic by claiming that the COVID virus came from nature.) The study, funded by the Gates Foundation, purported to show that some 162.9 million women around the world had an "unmet need for contraception."

"Africa has the highest unmet need for contraception in the world," the authors write. They define this "as the share of sexually active, fertile women who do not have access to contraception but do not want a child at the moment or wish they could have delayed or avoided their most recent pregnancy. Young women between the ages of 15 to 19 saw the lowest demand satisfied at just around 65 percent, followed by the age group of 20 to 24-year-olds (72 percent)."

The reader comes away with the impression that these young women are "demanding" contraceptives that are being denied them, or perhaps

that some are even victims of a kind of forced pregnancy.

"

Nothing could be further from the truth. The surveys relied upon by the authors avoid asking women directly if they wanted contraceptives because that would give away the game: most of those interviewed would say no.

Instead, they cleverly dance around the question of contraception. They ask women who are not pregnant if they *planned* on having a baby within the next two years. If the answer is no, they are categorized as having an "unmet need for contraception."

Women who are pregnant are asked if they had *planned* on getting pregnant when they did. If they respond that their pregnancy was not precisely *planned*—whether they are happy about it or not—they are categorized as having an "unmet need for contraception."

Still other surveys don't even pretend to take the woman's opinion into account. They simply classify all women of reproductive age with a child two and under, and who is not on birth control, as having an "unmet need for contraception."

Not until the very end of this the world be 32-page study, which is filled with a million wo dizzying array of charts and sophisticated statistical analysis, do the authors admit that the actual opinions of women do not matter. Their upon billion "algorithm," they say, "does not entail asking women if they need or want contraception, but rather defines tory remain need based on whether partnered the planet.

The surveys relied upon by the authors avoid asking women directly if they wanted contraceptives because that would give away the game: most of those interviewed would say no.

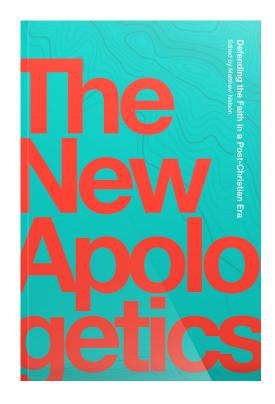
women do not want children and are not infecund [infertile]. Only unpartnered women who report being sexually active and have these other characteristics are considered to have need." (p. 325, italics added)

An algorithm is a set of rigorous instructions designed to solve a specific problem. In this case, it was designed to justify the continued effort to abort, sterilize, and contracept the world by claiming that over 100 million women had an "unmet need for contraception." The last thing the population controllers want to do is ask the women themselves. Billions upon billions of dollars are at stake. The ultimate goal of the most anti-human movement in human history remains the same: to depopulate the planet.

# PRI's special gift to you . . . Bishop Barron recommends The New Apologetics

I f you're like most Catholics, you have at least one family member who has fallen away from the Church. It's tragic that two-thirds of young Catholics answer "none" when asked about their religion and countless others have joined a Protestant sect.

That's why Bishop Robert Barron says "a vitally needed aspect of the New Evangelization is a New Apologetics... especially among the young. *Atheists*, agnostics, and **former Catholics especially** — should be the target of the New Apologetics."



This amazing new

book, *The New Apologetics: Defending the Faith in a Post-Christian Era*, gives Catholics like you and me the most effective tools and strategies to reach souls, defend the faith, and change hearts.

For example, a distinguished professor has found one Catholic author whose ideas are so unbelievably powerful they cause the students to "get so quiet they stop breathing." He says, "I've taught

Please use the enclosed Gift Reply to request your copy of... The New Apologetics: Defending the Faith in a Post-Christian Era

philosophy for over 60 years now, and I've never found any other philosopher who can do that to class after class of modern pagan students. His words are lightning-like lasers. He's the single most effective apologist I know." See pages 85-86.

Many young people today are asking, "What's wrong with homosexuality?" The next time someone asks you that question, how should you answer? See pages 172-173.

Surprisingly, one of the most effective ways to persuade an atheist or Protestant to re-think his position is to ask the right

questions. But what are the most effective questions to ask? You'll find some of the best questions on pages 68-69.

As Bishop Barron recommends, *The New Apologetics* deserves a prominent place in the bookshelf of every Catholic home as it will have on mine. And you can have this book in your home before the end of 2023 with your gift today of \$50 or more.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2023/09/18/opinion/human-population-global-growth.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2822%2900936-9



## HUMANAE VITAE COALITION

## **Brave Cleveland Bishop Offers Example of Leadership Under Fire**

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

**n**ood things are happening on Uthe home front. An increasing number of priests and bishops are bravely confronting a massive attack on marriage and the family.

A major target of that attack is America's children—our children. In an epic effort to destroy childhood innocence once and for all, secular radicals are insisting that children be deluded with sexual propaganda at the age of five, in public schools, in libraries, and on the streets, storefronts, and screens where they live. All this without the consent of parents. Which is to say, they want to keep it secret. The classic tactic of the lurid, looming groomer.

## "Children Belong To The State"

This struggle for power has raged among the education lobby for years. 160 years ago, John Swett, California Superintendent of Education, declared that "children belong to the state, not to their parents." A Unitarian teacher, Swett was a disciple of Horace Mann, the renowned "founding father" of the secular public school system in the United States. Of course, that "founding" was designed to oppose the "foreign influence" of Catholics who at the time were arriving from Europe by the millions.

John Swett was a secular pioneer. He objected to prayer and Bible reading in public schools long before the Supreme Court banned them a hundred years later. He also opposed the Catholic schools that were growing fast throughout California at the time. Swett is recognized today as the founder of California's largest school union, the California Teachers Association (CTA). To this day, the powerful union proudly promotes his secular, anti-family views. The CTA's highest award is named after John Swett. It's hardly a surprise that the annual award goes to union-friendly reporters in the secular media.

## Bring On The Heroes!

Bishop Edward Malesic recently reminded his flock that the beauty of God's design of being created male and female is imbued with meaning and purpose. He put that truth into practice in announcing a clear and straightforward policy for diocesan schools this fall.

The sensible, no-nonsense guidance includes:

Parental Notification: In the case of a person who is a minor, if and when a member of the staff or faculty of an institution becomes aware that such minor is experiencing gender dysphoria or gender confusion, the institution shall, with reasonable promptness, notify such minor's parents or guardian of that fact.

Pronouns and Names: Only pronouns that accurately reflect a person's God-given biological sex shall be used when addressing that person. No person may designate a "preferred pronoun" in speech or in writing, and no institution shall permit such designation by any person on institutional email, correspondence, or other communications.

Bathrooms and Facilities: When using an institution's bathrooms or facilities, all persons must use the bathrooms or other facilities that correspond to their God-given biological sex.

Single-Sex Institutions, Programs, and Activities: A person may only be admitted to an institution that is designated as single-sex consistent with his or her God-given biological sex. A person may only participate in institutional activities (whether curricular or extracurricular, athletics, ministries, or other programs) that are designated as single-sex consistent with his or her God-given biological sex.

The Cleveland Diocese comprises 84 schools serving roughly 42,000 students, and the complaints flowed in from the usual suspects.

"As a Christian, the new Catholic Diocese of Cleveland anti-LGBTO+ policy is a shocking betrayal of the Church teachings that have shaped who I am today," Cleveland Mayor Justin Bibb said in an Instagram post.

In demanding that Catholic schools corrupt the innocence of their pupils, Bibb is fortunate that he doesn't have to confront Cleveland's longtime former mayor, the late Ray Miller. Miller was a graduate of Notre Dame and the brother of Don Miller, one of Notre Knute Rockne's "Four Horsemen" of Fighting Irish fame. The Millers were as tough as they were faithful.

There were heroes in those days.... And Bishop Malesic seems to be cut of the same cloth.

**Our Goodlove Foundation Initiative** is making an impact

The first week of August saw 1.5 ▲ million young people from over a hundred countries gather in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, Lisbon, for World Youth Day (WYD). The home country of Our Lady of Fatima has rarely seen so many gather to celebrate the Faith that unites us all.

My wife Monica and I joined over a dozen leaders of the Goodlove Foundation to bring the good news about life and love and spread it to young people throughout the world. The foundation, which enjoys the support of the Population Research Institute, sponsors sixteen programs around the world that reach out to young people around the world.

Leaders from the Vatican's Dicastery for the Laity, Life and Family joined us in our work, emphasizing how much they count Goodlove's indispensable work in bringing to the world the Church's beautiful teaching on sexuality, marriage, and family.

And we delivered.

At WYD, we spoke to tens of thousands of young people, priests, nuns and bishops from different roadmap for respecting the gift of countries. Together with other sexuality, one that teaches the value Goodlove leaders and volunteers, we handed out thousands of brochures explaining the beauty of sexuality as proposed by the Church.

# $\mathcal{O}$ OF diove. 0

Gabrielle Menager (Francia)

about the beauty of true love.

of chastity.

The three-day event took place in a spirit of celebration. Young people gathered to hear to Christian rock

## World Youth Day Was a Tsunami of Love-And PRI Was There

## By Carlos Beltramo, Director, PRI European Office



Staff at the Stand: From left to right: - Monica Beltramo (Perú-España), Carlos Beltramo (Arg.-España), Antonio Crespo, Miguel Crespo, Clelia Crespo (España), Marie

People from every continent— Africans, Asians, Latin Americans, Europeans and North America-all welcomed us, eager to learn more

Many were discovering for the first time that God has given us a

and rap concerts, stayed up late talking and praying, and then went to Mass early the next morning. Unlike many large gatherings, there was not one act of violence, not one trash can set on fire, not one miscreant arrested by the police.

While it's true that many of these young people were unhappy with the secular world, they didn't burn down any car dealerships or tear down any

*(continued on page 10)* 



## Good News: Chile on the Way to Adopting a Pro-Life Constitution

by Carlos Polo, Director, PRI Ibero-American Office

The previous draft Constitution—a proabortion, genderbending tract drafted by Communists—was rejected by voters

n September 20, the group in charge of drafting a new constitution for Chile, the Constitutional Council, approved language protecting "the right to life of those who are about to be born." The approval of "Article 16," as it is called, is a great victory for the cause of life.

The final text of the new Constitution still has to be approved by the voters in an upcoming referendum, to be held this December. But make no mistake: The vote to include strong pro-life language in the Constitution constitutes an important milestone in the ongoing cultural and political battle taking place in that country.

The path to victory has not been easy. In 2019, violent Leftist groups were rioting throughout Chile. They even set fire to the Santiago subway, demanding that the Constitution of 1980 be replaced. A Constitutional Convention was convened to draft a new Constitution to be placed before the voters.

This first Constitutional Convention, convened in 2021, was dominated by the Left. The draft its 155 members came up with reflected the majority's radical views. It was hos-



Getty Images / FG Trade

tile to the unborn and to traditional morality. It incorporated gender ideology as central to social life and included abortion and euthanasia as fundamental rights.

Fortunately, on September 4, 2022, Chile's voters soundly rejected this Leftist assault on Life and liberty, 62% to 37%. Many Chileans were afraid that the new Constitution would mark a return to the radical socialism of the Salvador Allende years.

A new Constitutional Council, this time of 50 members, was elected on May 7, 2023. Pro-life voters came out in droves this time around and the conservative Republican Party, led by José Antonio Kast, won 22 of the 50 seats. The Chile Seguro coalition, a center-right party, with help behind the scenes from former President Sebastián Piñera, won 11 more seats. The Leftist "Unity For

Chile Alliance" wound up with only 16 seats although, due to Leftist demands, an additional seat was given to a "representative" of the indigenous Mapuche ethnic group.

This dramatic turnaround was in part the Leftists own doing. Leftist President Gabriel Boric was narrowly elected in December 2021, but just six months under socialism was enough to awaken many Chileans from the hypnotic trance of the Leftist narrative.

The change in Chilean attitudes was stunning: in less than a year, Chile had gone from being on the verge of approving the most progressive Constitution in the West to having the possibility of approving a Constitution that respects the values of life, family and freedom. The role played by José Antonio Kast, leader of the Republican Party, was central to both victories.

The new draft Constitution is not free of controversy, but it presents the possibility of a true democratic renewal. The protection of the right to life is a sign that the Chilean people have come to their senses, and rejected communism's disregard for life, its embrace of abortion, and its destruction of the family.

On September 20, 2023, on a vote of 33 to 17, the Constitutional Council approved the final text of Article 16: "The Constitution assures to all persons the right to life. The law protects the life of the unborn."

The background of Chile's abortion law reveals just how important the December 2023 referendum—as the new proposed text is. On September 23, 2017, Law No. 21,030 was adopted. It decriminalizes abortion on three grounds: where the life of the mother is at risk, where the fetus is non-viable, and where the pregnancy is the result of rape. Even for these exceptions, it limits abortion to

# Letters

#### Dear Steve.

[PRI to donate to] is, YOU REALLY DO SOMETHING. You put your money where your mouth is. If you have a complaint, you go to the source: Rome. I DO so enjoy seeing you on TV and hearing your thoughts on China. You and Gordon Chang know what you are talking about. Keep it up.

I particularly like your work with and for the unborn because my late husband, William R. Moser, was born and abandoned at the St. Vincent de

Chicago in 1927... Why do I tell you ... My reason for choosing you all of this? To show you (and the rest of the world) that it CAN be done and all of your work is not in vain, if only one in a thousand... " ~ Excerpt of a letter from Mary

Dear Mary,

I was very touched by your letter, which was very encouraging in so many ways.

You write that you support our work because I "really do something." Paul Infant Home on Clark Street in The truth is that I certainly do try to

the first 12 weeks (14 weeks if the girl is under 14 years of age).

The proposed Constitution's language that it "protects the life of the unborn" has sent the pro-abortion Left into a frenzy. For years, they have claimed to the Chilean public that "abortion is legal." Now they are carrying out a media campaign suggesting that Article 16 does not change the current abortion law at all. In fact, they are insisting that the proposed Constitution is really saying that unborn children are not considered persons at all.

If the Constitution is approved in appears likely-Chileans will have to fight hard to defend the correct interpretation of Article 16. Their mission will be to ensure that the text is read as it is written: "the law protects the life of the unborn." The plain meaning of the passage is "there shall be no abortions in Chile."

As soon as Article 16 was approved, the Constitutional Council representatives of the Republican Party and of the Chile Vamos bloc declared: "... today [our mood] is one of satisfaction... because very important norms have been approved for this draft Constitution to be submitted to plebiscite on December 17... first and foremost, the right to life and very particularly that of the unborn... emphasizing that whoever grows in the womb is someone."

Antonio Barchiesi of the Republican Party said: "The fact that this law does not establish the direct prohibition of abortion is for us a mandate to always and everywhere seek the repeal of the abortion law, insofar as it permits the murder of an innocent person."

We wish the Chilean people well in this effort to protect all of God's children, born and unborn.



make good use of the time that God has given me on this good earth. We are all here to make a difference, after all, by promoting the good, the true and the beautiful. And the greatest good is Life itself.

I wish we had more statesmen like your late husband. We seem to be beset with only greedy, craven politicians at the present time, even in the judiciary.

God bless. Steven W. Mosher President, Population Research Institute

## World Youth Day Was a Tsunami of Love, continued

statues. Nobody flaunted drugs or alcohol.

### Who were they?

They were Catholics, along with Christians of other faiths, who came to Lisbon for World Youth Day. The rock concerts were all about Jesus, celebrating the experience of knowing Christ, young artists singing about God and the joy of conversion. The disc jockey, a Portuguese priest, took his role seriously, and soon everybody was dancing.

The evenings were set aside for prayer and for friendship. There, young Catholics could meet their brothers and sisters from the other side of the world and participate in more than 600 officially-sponsored programs, along with hundreds more that were organized by dioceses and other Catholic apostolates, such as the Goodlove Foundation.

Bishops from around the world preached the truths of the Faith. I joined some 20,000 young people to hear Bishop Robert Barron invite the young to imitate Jesus who calls us from the Cross to get out of our "safe spaces" and proclaim Him to a callous world. "Have courage," he said, "go out of your comfort zone. Speak openly about Jesus, for your personal good and for the good of society."

Some bishops focused on the defense of life from conception, while others warned about "Agenda 2030," a program to create a secular New World Order—and promote abortion—all in the name of the false god of "progress."

In the months leading up to World Youth Day, some Catholics worried that the gathering would in some way promote "Agenda 2030". Nothing of the sort happened. The U.N's "development goals" went unmentioned.

Other Catholics feared that the celebration would provide an occasion for demands that the Church change its moral teachings on family, marriage, and sexuality. That didn't happen eiOne young man wanted to carry a "rainbow flag" in the flag parade. The other young participants, with great charity, said, "You are welcome to join us, but that flag isn't."

ther. While the notorious Father James Martin, S.J., was indeed present in Lisbon—unofficially—he was scarcely noticed. His event pushing the LGBT agenda attracted only a couple hundred attendees from the million and a half attendees—inadvertently demonstrating how little support such views have among even young Catholics.

In fact, one young man wanted to carry a "rainbow flag" in the flag parade. The other young participants, with great charity, said, "You are welcome to join us, but that flag isn't."

Clearly, the young people had not come to Portugal to demand revolutionary changes in the Church's sexual morality. Perhaps this is why the legacy media treated this enormous gathering like a nonevent.

In contrast to James Martin's pathetic showing, I and other members of the Goodlove Foundation spoke to tens of thousands.

Present also was Christopher West, a specialist in Theology of the Body, who gave six massively attended talks on the beauty of sexuality lived as God intends it to be lived.

Even though there were more than 200 confessionals filled with priests hearing confessions all day long, there was an endless stream of those waiting outside. Despite the large number of confessors, I happily observed that the confession lines were even longer than those at McDonald's, where the pilgrims could redeem their complementary vouchers for food. More than 35,000 young volunteers helped everything to run smoothly throughout the three-day event. These joyous young people said they were blessed to be able to play a role in such a great and holy event.

One young volunteer made his World Youth Day pilgrimage even more memorable. During a break between talks, he went down on bended knee and proposed to his girlfriend. And there, in front of thousands of fellow volunteers, she accepted.

Even more beautiful was the report of a miracle. Jimena, a blind girl from Madrid, recovered her sight after receiving Communion at Mass. News of her healing spread like wildfire throughout the massive crowd. Few were surprised that God would choose to perform a miracle at such a spirit-filled, prayerful event.

World Youth Day in Lisbon was a miracle of another kind: a tsunami of youthful energy, joy and prayer. A million and a half young people deepening their faith, reconciling with their God, and communing with Him in the Blessed Sacrament is a force to be reckoned with.

Monica and I came away from the event filled with a sense of hope for the future. We know that God is still present in young hearts. They will carry on the battle to respect the Culture of Life in their families, their communities, and their countries.

# **From the Countries**

## FRANCE French President Wants Abortion in the Constitution

In his speech for the 65th anniversary of the French Constitution, French President Emmanuel Macron called for abortion to be added to the country's Magna Carta "as soon as possible." Macron made clear that he has no interest in adopting a new constitution, but is in favor of a few key changes, including the addition of abortion. He spun his message to portray himself as pro-woman in this decision by emphasizing the "freedom of women" to have abortions. The actual practice of which he referred to in an extremely sanitized way as "the voluntary interruption of pregnancy." France decriminalized the practice in 1975 and recently, in 2022, the abortion limit was increased from 12 weeks to 14 weeks gestational age.<sup>1</sup>

## ITALY International Group Pushes Medication Abortion in Italy

Doctors of the World, an international network dedicated to pushing abortion around the world, has chosen Italy as one of its latest targets. The group claims that it provides "healthcare to the most vulnerable people, denouncing the injustices of which they are victims of, and promoting social change." But their work in Italy, one of 400 projects in 80 countries around the world, is focused solely on access to abortion, which they claim is a human right. The group recently published a report entitled "Pharmacological abortion in Italy: between delays, opposition and international guidelines" in which they complain that "access to the abortion pill in Italy is an obstacle course." The report takes issue (like all pro-abortion groups) with conscientious objectors, who represent 36.2% of non-medical staff, 44.6% of anesthetists, and 64.6 % of gynecologists. In conclusion, Doctors of the World wants an increased use of abortion drugs in Italy, which leaves women to face the emotional and physical complications of abortion alone.

## AFRICA Africa's Reinvigorated Pro-Life Movement

Pro-abortion activists have voiced concerns that *Roe v. Wade*'s overturn has energized the pro-life movement in Africa. Many countries still restrict the Those that have expanded abortion access are seeing backlash. The director of Ipas, an organization that "unapologetically" pushes abortion and contraception around the world, shared that the overturn, "electrified Ethiopia's anti-abortion movement, leaving the country's

<sup>1</sup> https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/255603/french-president-wants-right-to-abortion-added-to-constitution#:~:text=%E2%80%9CI%20 want%20the%20force%20of,abortion%20as%20a%20%E2%80%9Cright.%E2%80%9D

<sup>2</sup> http://www.pncius.org/newsletter.aspx?id=184

landmark 2005 abortion law on shaky ground." In Kenya, pro-lifers were inspired by *Dobbs* to challenge the current abortion policy. In the Nigerian state of Lagos, the governor suspended policy guidelines about self-managed abortion less than a month after the overturn. With the pro-life movement across Africa motivated by the United States' victory, the continent will hopefully see major pro-life changes in the future.<sup>2</sup>



## UNITED KINGDOM First Successful Uterine Transplant

The world's first living uterine transplant, between two sisters, was successfully completed in the United Kingdom. A team of surgeons performed the two overlapping procedures, donor retrieval and transplantation, over the course of eighteen hours. Since receiving the donated uterus, the recipient has had two menstrual cycles within the following ten weeks post-operation. With the successful transplant, she plans to undergo embryo transfer of previously cryopreserved blastocysts. While organ donation in itself is not immoral, the transfer of reproductive organs with the intention of undergoing IVF using lab-created embryos changes the morality of the action. According to Catholic teaching, it is a moral evil to experiment with and implant embryonic human lives.

# **PRI** in the News

\*total monthly website visitors on each organization's website

Watch for our Annual Report in the mail, which will summarize all the good work that PRI has been doing over the past year thanks to your prayers and support!

## Life Site News Catholic Leaders' Duty to Teach Young People the Proper Meaning of Love

In secular society today, ideologies celebrating abortion, homosexuality, gender confusion, and more have made their way into the realm of education. In this piece for Life Site News, PRI President Steven Mosher detailed what PRI has done to combat these issues. In 2017, PRI provided the necessary funding for Dr. Carlos Beltramo, Director of PRI's European Office, to start a global initiative. An initiative that would provide parents and schools with the educational resources to teach children about the goodness of human sexuality as created by God. The program took off and was aptly named "GoodLove." Today over a million and a half families around the world are currently using Good-Love programs.

### Viewership: 2.3 Million\*

https://www.lifesitenews.com/ opinion/catholic-leaders-havea-duty-to-teach-young-peoplethe-proper-meaning-of-love/

# Live Action Abortion Industry Exploits Victim to Push Abortion in Peru

A Peruvian Congressman has exposed the truth that the abortion lobby is using the case of a pregnant rape victim to promote the

"need" for legal abortion. The case in question involved an 11-year-old girl, Mila, who was abused by her stepfather. While the abortion lobby pushed for the death of the unborn baby, pro-life leaders pushed for Mila's medical, psychological, and financial care, as well as protection to keep her safe from future abuse. Carlos Polo, PRI's Director of the Iberoamerican Office, shared his concern for the young victim. "Once the abortion law is obtained, they will forget about girls like Mila," Polo shared.

### Viewership: 541.1 Thousand\*

https://www.liveaction.org/ news/abortion-industryexploits-girls-rape-to-pushfor-abortion-in-peru/

## Life Site News Trump's Plan to Reveal Abortion Extremist Democrats

Former-president Donald Trump received backlash once again for criticizing Florida's six-week abortion ban. But there is more to this controversial interview than what meets the eye. It goes without saying that we here at PRI fully support Florida's law and work for a day when all abortions are banned. As PRI President Steven Mosher pointed out in this piece for Life Site News, Trump's statement is both disconcerting for its disregard for life but refreshing for its honesty, which many politicians lack. But Trump is planning for the future. If given the opportunity, he will play mediator to the abortion debate. A debate where abortion extremists will be revealed, ruined by their inability to compromise, and pro-life advocates can gain valuable ground in the battle to save babies.

### Viewership: 2.3 Million\*

https://www.lifesitenews. com/opinion/is-trumpforcing-democrats-toreveal-their-opposition-toall-abortion-restrictions/

## The College Fix College Students Would Give Up Children Over Cell Phones

Mr. Mosher was asked to comment on a surprising statistic in this piece by The College Fix. A study, conducted by the Young Americans Foundation, found that more young adults would rather sacrifice having children, than give up their cell phones. This stat came out in the climate change section, where the participants ranked what they would be willing to do to remedy what twothirds of them see as an "existential threat." This particular stat revealed how much influence both climate propaganda and smart tech have over Generation Z.

#### Viewership: 361.5 Thousand\*

https://www.thecollegefix. com/more-college-studentswould-give-up-having-childreneating-meat-than-cellphonesto-help-climate-poll/