



Could this low-tech abortion tool found in the developing world come to the US next?

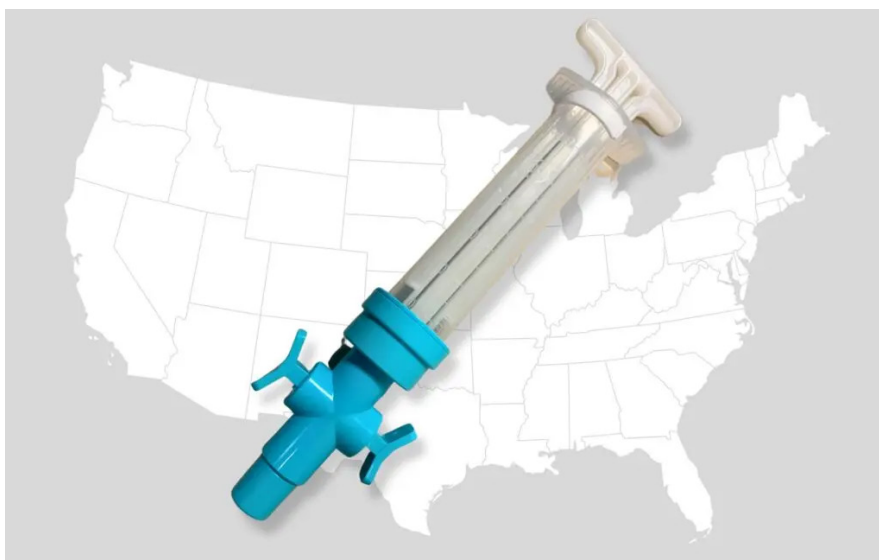
BY STEVEN W. MOSHER

For decades, the population control movement has been shipping little hand-held suction abortion machines called Manual Vacuum Aspirators, or MVAs, to countries all around the world. These have been used by doctors, nurses, midwives and even, in Haiti, witchdoctors to perform abortions.

Now, in an effort to do an end-run around state pro-life laws, the pro-abortion radicals in the Biden administration apparently want to do the same thing in the U.S. They want to send MVAs through the mail and encourage its wide use.

The MVA looks like something you would use to vaccinate a horse. It consists of a large, plastic syringe with a long tube attached. The tube is inserted through the cervix into the womb, after which the abortionist pulls out the handle on the syringe, suctioning the baby out piecemeal.

The MVAs are cheap. They are portable. They do not require elec-



A manual vacuum aspirator (MVA).

tricity. So they can be used to kill babies anytime, anywhere, even in the most remote parts of the world. PRI investigators have confirmed that, in some cases, they have been used up to 16 weeks gestation, long after babies can feel pain.

Some years ago I called the FDA and spoke with the head of the med-

ical devices section about how the MVA had been approved. He told me that the MVA had been “grandfathered in” by the FDA many decades ago on the grounds that it had been invented and successfully used in the Soviet Union (!). No safety or efficacy

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COVID Baby Boom? Mostly in Red States

by Steven W. Mosher

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109 East Main St.
Front Royal VA 22630
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pri@pop.org
www.pop.org

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

Steven W. Mosher
President

Andrew Mosher
Director of Administration

Karen Shannon
Director of Development

Carlos Polo
*Director, PRI Latin
American Office*

Carlos Beltramo
*Director, PRI European
Office*

Katarina Carranco
Director, PRI Rome Office

Chiara McKenna
New Media Specialist

Design by
Perceptions Studio
Amherst, New Hampshire

James and his wife were not going to let COVID derail their plans to have a family. As pro-life Catholics, they viewed children as gifts from God, and wanted to be generous in accepting them.

"We were living in rural Kentucky and the lockdowns did not affect our daily life very much," says James. "The plant I was working at shut down for a couple of months but then reopened. After that, although the continued masking and social distancing at work was annoying, the paychecks kept coming in. Our youngest was almost two, and my wife and I were eager to have a second child. Our son was conceived in March 2021."

At the beginning of the COVID pandemic, I thought millions of couples would, like James and his wife, take the opportunity to have another child. In fact, I predicted a baby boom, convinced that young couples who were forced by government mandates to stay home would find comfort in each other's arms and conceive children.

I was wrong. Instead of a baby boom, the United States as a whole experienced a baby bust in the first year of the pandemic as birth rates plummeted. As a new study published in the journal *Human Reproduction* reveals, however, the drop in fertility wasn't uniform. It turns out that the birth rate in many red states bucked the national trend and actually increased.

As the study shows, states such as Texas, Florida, and Montana saw their birth rates climb during the first COVID wave, while blue states such as New York and Connecticut saw their birth rates plummet. The question is, why?

The study, published in April, suggests that the states that had lower fertility were those that had a higher percentage of Democrats, more social distancing, and more minorities, while those whose fertility increased were characterized by more Republican voters, fewer minorities, and less social distancing.

The study's authors originally hypothesized that "Increasing COVID-19 cases could influence fertility rates by reducing pregnancy-intention via heightened pandemic anxiety, pandemic-related restrictions, and/or economic hardship." But this turned out to be mistaken.

The reaction of state governments to COVID didn't depend on the number of COVID cases—which in any case were wildly inflated by federal subsidies. Rather it reflected the difference between the "big government" Democrats versus the "small government" Republicans. Indeed, the authors found that the changes in the fertility rates of different states were unrelated to the severity of the COVID wave they were experiencing. What did affect the birth rate, they say, was the state's political leaning.

(continued on page 3)

COVID Baby Boom, *continued*

The massive government overreach that occurred during the beginning stages of COVID was most pronounced in the blue states that had Democrat governors. In places such as New York and Connecticut, the Democrats closed businesses, schools, churches, and parks for a year or more. The closures in some Republican-run states such as Florida were equally devastating, but didn't last as long, and so had less effect on fertility. Other Republican-run states, such as South Dakota and Utah, scarcely locked down at all. And saw major increases in fertility as a result.

In other words, it wasn't the "pandemic" that negatively affected birth rates, but rather the panicked reaction of state governments to the idea that there was a deadly virus on the loose. Which states panicked? Mostly those with Democrat governors and Democrat voters. Birth rates in those states collapsed as a result.

The economic devastation caused by such unwarranted and lengthy

closures in some states, we now know, caused far more loss of life than COVID did. In fact, the number of lives saved by the lockdowns is a tiny fraction of the number of lives lost as a consequence of the closures.

The economic devastation caused by the lockdowns resulted in the closure of massive numbers of businesses and the loss of millions of jobs. Couples who were having trouble putting food on the table were understandably reluctant to bring children into the world.

The Great Depression of the 1930s saw a similar collapse in birth rates. But while the Great Depression began because of factors beyond the government's control, it continued for a decade because of the Roosevelt administration's endless interference with the economy. So, too, while the outbreak of the epidemic in China may not have been foreseen by the U.S. government, the COVID recession that followed was a direct result of the overreaction to what turned out to be a severe seasonal flu. The

“The overall U.S. birth rate dropped during the pandemic, but pro-life states such as Texas and Florida actually saw increases.

closure of businesses and the loss of jobs was particularly severe in blue states and accounts for a large part of the lost lives—and lost fertility—of the COVID years.

Predictably, the study didn't look at the effect of COVID vaccination on the rates of live births. In this, it follows the see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil policy of most of the rest of the scientific establishment, who have been bought off—or threatened—into silence.

But the evidence suggests that the vaccine poses a considerable risk to female reproductive systems, causing menstrual irregularity and reducing fecundity. It has also been related to higher rates of miscarriage and stillbirths. I suggest that the higher vaccination rates in blue states were at least partly responsible for their plunging rates of fertility during and post-COVID.

As far as James and his happily unvaccinated wife are concerned, they're looking forward to the birth of baby number three.



Getty images / Jordi Salas

Low-tech abortion tool, *continued*

tests were ever carried out. The FDA simply took the Communists' word for it.

The manual vacuum aspirator looks like something you would use to vaccinate a horse.

In response to written follow-up questions from pro-life champion Congressman Christopher Smith (R-NJ), another FDA official wrote back that, "Regarding what clinical trial data FDA used in approving MVAs... the devices were legally-marketed prior to May 28, 1976, and therefore, FDA did not perform a pre-market review of these devices." The newer devices that have come on the market since haven't been reviewed either, the official wrote, because it is left up to the manufacturer to decide whether such a review is needed. In other words, the abortionists are allowed to police themselves.

Still, up until recently the FDA discouraged the use of the MVA in the United States. In testimony before Congress, an FDA official was asked whether an MVA could be

“Up until recently, the FDA discouraged the use of the MVA in the United States.

used to complete an RU-486 (pill) abortion. The official responded that using an MVA in case of an “incomplete abortion” or spontaneous miscarriage was “treading on very dangerous ground” and “dictat[ing] medical practice.”

The standard method of abortion in the U.S. is not manual but electric “vacuum aspiration [VA]... Most of these operations are performed in [a surgical procedure room or] operating theater using suction curettage and an electric vacuum pump.”

I doubt if those in charge of the FDA would give the same answers today. Scientific integrity has given way to radical abortion advocacy throughout the Joe Biden administration.

This is, after all, the same Joe Biden whose:

- Department of Health and Human Services is taking away the conscience rights of health care workers and has set up a taxpayer-funded national abortion hotline.
- Department of Defense is using taxpayer dollars to cover the cost of abortions for female medical personnel.
- Department of Veterans Affairs is turning VA hospitals into abortuaries, even in states where pro-life laws prohibit this.

Would such abortion zealots hesitate to put MVAs in the hands of all and sundry if they thought this would increase the number of abortions?

Ask the people of Haiti.

A Time of Transition, What We Are Doing and What You Can Do Too!

BY KAREN SHANNON, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

I hope that as you read this you are enjoying the last days of summer, or perhaps you are already enjoying your favorite football team's early games. It's a nice transitional time of year, isn't it?

As it happens, it's a bit of a transitional time for all of us here at PRI too. Our summer interns are back to their studies, and new interns are now getting the training to help keep things moving.

But I need to let you know something: even though summer saw some of us take a family vacation, or celebrate a wedding, thanks in large measure to our dedicated staff and summer interns, our work never stopped!

Unfortunately, we can't say the same for donations. They slowed to more of a trickle than we might have expected.

So, I'm asking you to consider what you are able to do to help us: certain-

ly, you could say some prayers that God will bless PRI with the support we need to save more babies, provide more ultrasounds, work to help the people of China, and fight for a more pro-life USA. Please pray for us!

If you are so blessed, would you also please consider making a generous gift in these last months of 2023? There's still so much to do! And this is a reminder that we can't do any of it without you.

PRI's special gift to you . . .

The Fruit of Her Womb

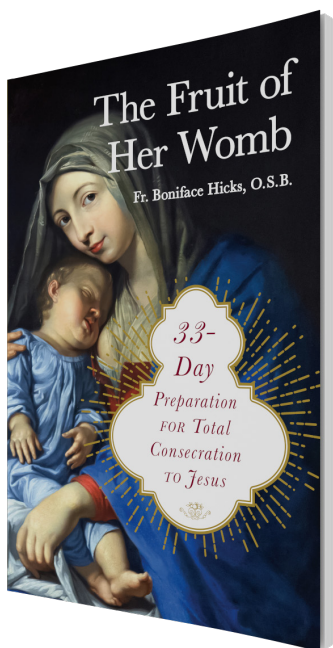
St. Louis de Montfort inspired a spiritual revolution in teaching us about Marian consecration and giving us a thirty-three-day plan to prepare our souls for that big step in our relationship with Jesus. In these pages, Fr. Boniface Hicks guides you through this “retreat” to help you gain a deeper trust in and childlike dependence on our loving God.

“What this consecration teaches us is that we have a sweet, loving, perfect Mother who actually wants to live in this intense relationship with us,” Fr. Boniface reflects. “And so, if we accept Mary’s invitation to this relationship, we will find all the healing and happiness we have always longed for.”

You’ll spend the first twelve days emptying yourself of the spirit of the world, followed by a week focused on self-knowledge. You’ll then spend a week dedicated to knowledge of Mary before concluding the final week, centered on knowledge of Jesus.

Only ten minutes per day will produce spiritual renewal and wholehearted trust in Jesus through Mary. These short, personal chapters will show you how to:

- Allow the Blessed Mother to cherish you as a baby in her womb and rejoice in your dignity as a child of God
- Grow in patience, humility, and love (Our Lady makes it simple!)



- Deepen your faith and live out your baptismal call to holiness
- Close “escape routes” in your relationship with God and live in the freedom of total surrender
- Take refuge and receive consolation in Mary’s protective care
- Realize that sufferings and difficulty point to the hope and final victory that await you

Fr. Boniface provides practical tips on opening your heart to God’s grace and profoundly beautiful reflections that will

lead your soul to intimate union with our Lord through our Lady. Each daily meditation includes a Scripture passage, related quotes from popes and saints, questions to guide you on your journey, and traditional prayers to prepare for Marian consecration.

This book affirms what St. Louis teaches us: that Mary’s womb is the best place to be formed perfectly into saints and into Christ Himself. By contemplating Jesus through Mary, the first tabernacle of the Lord, your love of the Holy Eucharist will become more fervent, and your heart will be inflamed as you pray the Rosary and reflect on the mysteries of her Son. Let us send this to you with our deep gratitude for your gift of \$50 or more! See the reply sheet, or online: <https://www.pop.org/donate/prior>

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

The Fruit of Her Womb

Gifts to PRI are tax deductible. Give today!



The Globalists Want to Promote Sex while Destroying Marriage

by Carlos Polo, Director, PRI Ibero-American Office

Should minors be allowed to marry? That's the question before the Peruvian Congress.

The gender feminists, who are opposed to marriage as an institution, say “absolutely not.” They claim that thousands of girls and adolescents will be subjected to forced marriages and unions, which makes them more vulnerable to being victims of violence.

But at the same time they claim that, when it comes to promoting contraception, abortion, and sexual diversity among adolescents from 12 to 17, anything goes. Girls should have sexual relations whenever they feel ready, they say.

No mention of sexual violence here.

Congressman José Luis Balcázar unleashed a firestorm when he said that having sexual relations “helps the psychological future of women.”

Immediately the unanimous gender feminist contingent, including the Minister for Women, declared war on Balcázar. How dare a man suggest that sex was good for women.

The irony of it all?

The Congressman was only repeating what these same feminists have been maintaining for decades

as a key component of their “sexual and reproductive rights for girls and adolescents” agenda.

The reason is that while feminists detest marriage, and regard it as a form of legalized rape, they embrace loveless and childless sex as somehow liberating for teenage girls.

For example, in criticizing Congressman Balcázar's comments, the Minister for Women, Nancy Tolenino, said that with minor marriage “we would be covering up a rape with a minor.”¹ Then she bizarrely said that her ministry's lawyers would consider suing Congressman Balcázar because she was not going to allow him to say that having sexual relations was in any way good for young girls.

But of course, she and her ministry say *exactly the same thing* all the time.

For girls and adolescents between 12 and 17 years of age, the ministry proposes “promoting, from the Ministry of Health, access to information and contraceptive methods in a timely manner.”² It also provides training for what it calls “responsible sexual activity,” that is, having sexual relations and “protecting yourself from unwanted pregnancies.” In fact, the Ministry says openly that its

standard practice is to give all kinds of contraceptive methods to minors without the authorization of their parents or guardians.³

The well-known “Gender NGOs” are also scandalized by the idea of girls or adolescents getting married. But they are all in when it comes to promoting promiscuity for minors.

On its official website, PROMSEX welcomed the eradication of minor marriage, describing the practice as an “extreme expression of gender inequality.”⁴ But at the same time, they insist that these same adolescents have the right to have sexual relations, “to enjoy adequate sexual and reproductive health and, therefore, to live their sexuality in a safe and informed way, free to make the decisions they prefer.”⁵

Of course, for PROMSEX these decisions include all the colors of the LGTBIQ+ rainbow flag, along with the variety of sexual orientations and acts that go with them.⁶

The choir of the UN agencies sings the same tune. The WHO is scandalized by marriage for minors and opposes the practice,⁷ but it supports a lifestyle replete with free sex,⁸ and provides contraceptives

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASgK299ad9k&ab_channel=ExitosaNoticias

² https://www.mimp.gob.pe/webs/mimp/pnaia/pdf/Documento_PNAIA.pdf

³ <https://www.gob.pe/15121-anticoncepcion-en-la-adolescencia>

⁴ <https://promsex.org/columnistas/el-matrimonio-infantil-un-pendiente-a-erradicar/>

⁵ <https://promsex.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/adolescentesSaludreproductiva.pdf>

⁶ <https://promsex.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Di%CC%81ptico-A5-horizontal-Conociendo-diversidad-sexual.pdf>

⁷ https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB130/B130_12-sp.pdf

⁸ <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/312341/9789243514604-spa.pdf>

and abortion to adolescents to encourage this.

UNICEF calls child marriage a serious violation of human rights,⁹ but prescribes the same licentiousness for “sexual and reproductive health” as the WHO.¹⁰

In recounting this list of double standards, let’s not forget that, in the midst of the COVID pandemic, access to contraceptive methods for adolescents was considered more urgent than the genuine needs of the public.¹¹ The same ideology prevailed in the United States, when abortuaries were prioritized, while churches and synagogues were forcibly closed.

“Gender” promoters say that minors should not marry and have sex within the marriage bond because they do not have the capacity to exercise their sexual freedom or give their consent.

But at the same time, they insist that these same adolescents can consent to sex in any way, shape or form, with whomever they want, even exploring their sexuality through homosexual, bisexual relationships, and the like.

The gender feminists insist that the young have access to a wide array of contraceptives, the morning-after pill, and abortion. They also say that young girls can even chemically or surgically “change” their sex.

That is, they can do everything except get married.

The real problem is not “marriage for minors, yes or no?” The real problem is to understand why the rate of



Getty images / Heide Benser

adolescent pregnancy continues to increase.

The answer is that the gender feminists have spent decades—and tens of millions of dollars from foreign NGOs and the government—telling young people to have sex at an early age.

The solution to child marriage is to discourage young people from exposing themselves to sexual relations at all. After all, with rare exceptions, they are not in a position to assume the responsibility that such activities demand.

But the feminists do not encourage self-control and maturity, but promote the “hit and run” culture, offering abortion as a fail-safe when “safe sex” fails them, as it inevitably does.

Who has benefitted from the “gender” crusade?

Not the young, certainly, but rather the NGOs that promote this propaganda with foreign funding and then stick the state with the expenses.

They care little about the genuine and beneficial development of girls and adolescents. They prefer promoting the fairy tales that pay off for their millionaire business partners.

A few years ago these same groups fought to decriminalize sexual relations of adolescents over 14 years of age, arguing for their “right to freely exercise their sexuality.”¹²

Gender groups then insisted that children should be able to exercise this freedom with adults over 20, 30, 40 or 50 years of age.

But marry? Why, that’s violence!

⁹ <https://www.unicef.org/es/temas/matrimonio-infantil>

¹⁰ <https://www.unicef.org/es/temas/matrimonio-infantil>

¹¹ <https://www.defensoria.gob.pe/defensoria-del-pueblo-urge-garantizar-el-derecho-a-la-salud-sexual-y-reproductiva-de-adolescentes-en-el-contexto-de-pandemia/>

¹² <https://www.pj.gob.pe/wps/wcm/connect/c40fa480499132a8848cf5cc4f0b1cf5/Acuerdo+Plenario+4-2008+.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=c40fa480499132a8848cf5cc4f0b1cf5>



HUMANAE VITAE COALITION

On Bad Ideas And Bad Seeds

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

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

John Adams

*Letter to Officers of the
Massachusetts Militia
October 11, 1798*

Humanae Vitae turns 55 this year, and, love it or hate it, you’ve got to admit it: Pope Paul VI was right.

Ignore the truth about life and love at your peril, he warned us. The world didn’t listen, and the carnal chaos that surrounds us today is the price of that defiance.

In 1960, most adult Americans were married. Divorce and illegitimacy were rare, while abortion and sodomy were crimes in every state. Pornography was banned, its marketing controlled by the Mafia and other organized crime syndicates that dealt with everything illegal – drugs, prostitution, extortion, and more.

But malevolent seeds planted long before had begun to sprout. And the first to cast a shadow on the flourishing American family was a lie as bold as it was cynical: “family planning.”

Margaret Sanger invented the term. She couldn’t call it “child elimination.” That would have been too honest. Instead, she hijacked the revered symbol she longed to destroy, and emptied it of its innate goodness. All that was left was a banner of bitterness to fly over her campaign targeting “blacks and browns” – and,

in the memorable words of Scrooge, to “decrease the surplus population.”

Thus was “family planning” born, and, with it, one of the twentieth century’s most brilliant brand marketing campaigns. Sanger’s “planners” would prosper for a century and more. Under their banner untold millions have died and billions have not been born.

The Poison Pill

*“An enemy hath done this”
Matthew 13:28*

A hundred years ago, contraception was universally considered an objective evil. In 1920, the Church of England’s Lambeth Conference issued an “emphatic warning” against it. Ten years later, however, that same body reversed that decision, prompting Pope Pius XI to issue *Casti Connubii*, his valiant defense of marriage.

Lambeth 1930 had forgiven contraception if a “clearly felt moral obligation” demanded it. Pope Pius XI went straight to the core of that canard, warning the faithful to “be on their guard against the overrated independence of private judgment and that false autonomy of human reason.” Reject the “pride and presumption of men,” he wrote, and choose instead to humbly embrace the “whole and unadulterated” doctrine of the Church.

In 1932, John Dewey, the “Father of Progressive Education,” wrote that “the opposition to the birth control movement is not a unique or isolated fact. It is an expression of an ever-re-

curring struggle between darkness and knowledge.”

Thirty years later, at a time when the vast majority of American families relied on the public school system for educating their children in civic virtue, the U.S. Supreme Court pulled the rug out from under them: in 1962, the Court forbade prayer in public schools (*Engel v. Vitale*), and, a year later, followed up by banning Bible reading (*School District of Abington Township v. Schempp*).

It didn’t take long for the rest of the popular culture to fall into line – just in time to welcome the introduction of “The Pill,” which served as a poisonous fertilizer for the foul fruit planted so long before.

Once the Court exiled the fundamentals of civic virtue from public life, the dead hand of logic pointed the way to *Roe v. Wade* a decade later. In 1980, finally realizing that a few irritating truths were still allowed in the public realm, the Court took a final step and banned the Ten Commandments from public spaces throughout the country (*Stone v. Graham*, 1980).

John Dewey had described a “struggle between darkness and knowledge.” In throwing God out of our schools, the Supreme Court had opened the door to the Prince of Darkness.

What we see in our schools and in our broader culture simply reflects that ideas have consequences. And when it comes to bad ideas, they have *very* bad consequences.



Two Countries, Two Paths To Europe's Future

by Carlos Beltramo, Ph.D., PRI European Office,
and Carlos Polo, Director, PRI Iberoamerica Office

Events during the second week of May sum up Europe's greatest challenge: the demographic winter.

Two traditionally Catholic countries, Spain and Italy, are going in opposite directions to respond to the challenge.

In Spain, the Constitutional Court has ruled on a lawsuit brought before the Court. Thirteen years ago, the "Partido Popular" (the Popular Party) brought a suit before the Court challenging the country's abortion law. As we pointed out weeks ago, it's been obvious for quite some time that the Constitutional Court was likely going to permit abortions unconditionally.¹ However, the Court's recent decision not only allows abortion unconditionally, but also used the case to create a constitutional right to abortion that it can find nowhere in the text.

The magnitude of the decision might remind the American reader of the U.S. Supreme Court's concoction of a similar right in the case of *Roe v. Wade* in 1973.

In the Partido Popular case, the Spanish Court takes two valid constitutional rights (the "right to physical and moral integrity" and the "right to free development of personality") and finds in the combination a "right to abortion" that appears out of thin air.

That was the view of the seven judges who voted in the majority.

“Abortion takes the lives of almost 100,000 unborn Spaniards every year, children who will never grow up to constitute the country's future generations.”

The four dissenting judges filed a separate opinion arguing that the Constitutional Court cannot invent rights that are not in the Constitution. They argue that the majority opinion "comes to recognize a new constitutional right, which they call 'the woman's right to self-determination regarding the termination of pregnancy.'"

To this Spaniard, it seems incredible that, after U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Womens' Health Organization*, the Supreme Court of my own country would take such a big step back in time, repeating the same arguments that placed such a burden on generations of the American unborn after *Roe v. Wade*.

The Court's finding is even more curious when considering a right found in Article 15 of the Spanish Constitution: "Everyone has the right to life," it reads.

The Court's timing is also curious. For thirteen years the Court enjoyed a conservative majority. For 13 years that majority did not rule on the Partido Popular's case. The Court's progressives, who have enjoyed the

majority for only five months, wasted no time to decide the case and, with it, to discover a Constitutional right to abortion.

Moreover, this progressive majority takes no notice that Spain is submerged in a tremendous demographic winter. Abortion takes the lives of almost 100,000 unborn Spaniards every year, children who will never grow up to constitute the country's future generations.

Italy: A Different Story

While Spain's population is shrinking, Italy presents a different picture. At an official meeting called the "General States of Births," Pope Francis and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni together launched a call for society to embrace a future with more children.² Pope Francis criticized those who today prefer a puppy to a child, an attitude that signals the loss of the Theological Virtue of Hope.

Pope Francis also associated two notions: natality (i.e. opposition to

(continued on page 10)

¹ <https://www.pop.org/catholic-spain-allows-abortion-without-conditions/>

² <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2023-05/pope-the-family-is-the-future-of-society.html> https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/05/12/italy-vatican-pope-demographics-children/3b97a348-f0a7-11ed-b67d-a219ec5dfd30_story.html

Two countries, *continued*

abortion) and immigration. He said that they are two sides of the same coin, which represents a serious challenge to a progressive vision that wants immigration, but at the same time supports abortion.

Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni responded to the pope's comments with enthusiasm. She highlighted the birth-promotion policies being implemented by her government, measures significantly different than many others in Europe. She focused her remarks on Italy's battle against demographic winter.

Meloni's government came to power only in October 2022. Although she had rarely addressed the issue of abortion during her campaign, the change she has wrought on family support and parenthood promotion differs radically from those of her predecessors. The experience of countries like Hungary and Poland indicates that such policies tend to improve the birth rate, with the added side-effect of reducing the number of abortions, a trend which she hopes to see continue.

The contrast between Spain and Italy is haunting Europe. While Spain's Constitutional Court endorses the disaster wrought by the U.S. Supreme Court fifty years ago, Italy is facing the real challenge of the future: the birth rate. While in Spain judges dig graves for unborn Spanish babies, in Italy their prime minister tells the Pope: "Your Holiness, we will do our part."

Let us hope that Spain will soon come to its senses and follow in Italy's footsteps.

Letters

Dear Steve,
Manual vacuum aspirators were being used in the early 1970's in the U.S. prior to the *Roe* decision. As a college student, I worked as a volunteer in a clinic that was helping women to go to New York for abortions since abortion was not widely available. But the woman who was in charge of the pregnancy counseling/abortion referral service, also touted the MVA. Of course it was not FDA-approved, but it was available and was promoted by abortion advocates. After *Roe*, when many abortion clinics sprang up quickly, interest in the MVAs faded. In addition, there were concerns about the safety of the MVAs, as having the potential to cause infections, etc. At that time, they were recommended by abortion advocates for very early when you may not even be sure whether you are pregnant or not, so there was no

worry about an "illegal abortion," you were just "regulating your cycle." I don't know if the devices of the early 70's were identical to the ones being used now, but the concept was the same. They were not safe then or now, and if a tiny preborn child was present, it would end their life. It's the same recycled concept with the same lack of safety.

From,
Martha

Hi Steve,
You wrote: "In an interview last month, Paul Ehrlich, the author of *The Population Bomb*, stated, 'If you have 10 children, you're an evil person trying to basically destroy the world.' With this statement, Ehrlich fired at big families in what could be considered his craziest comment yet."

I'm not sure I agree. I used to get his ZPG newsletter. He said that overpopulation is the "single most important problem in the world," and that it "underlies all other problems." And the most important reason for this problem, in his view, is the presence of "too many women of child-bearing age."

Maybe not as sensational as what you just quoted, but enormously destructive. In fact, I believe his comment about women of childbearing age is the impetus behind not only unfettered abortion, but all the woke garbage like transgenderism, because that is the way to eradicate women. People wonder why the WOKE are so intent on destroying women. Paul Ehrlich, that's why.

Keep fighting the good fight, my brother!

Faithfully,
Joel

PRI IN THE NEWS



Life Site News

CCP Bishop Appointment Humiliates Pope Francis

After months of delay, Pope Francis has finally accepted the CCP-nominated candidate for bishop of Shanghai, Bishop Joseph Shen Bin. Appointed without the Pope's approval, this new appointee represents the unfortunate results of the Sino-Vatican Agreement. Bishop Shen Bin served for many years as the vice president of the schismatic Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association. It is unclear whether his true allegiance is to the Roman Catholic Church or the CCP.

Viewership: 2.8 Million*

lifesitenews.com/blogs/chinese-communist-party-humiliates-pope-francis-with-shanghai-bishop-appointment



New York Post

Billionaires Chase Chinese President Xi Jinping

Many "high net worth" individuals continue to flee China, but Western billionaires do the opposite. Bill Gates and Elon Musk continue to pursue deals in China, based on CCP promises of increased wealth. However, this is just a continuation of the same tactics that Communist Party officials have used on Western CEOs for three decades. The best these billionaires can do is try

to stay on the CCP's good side or risk their investments evaporating overnight.

Viewership: 177 Million*

nypost.com/2023/06/24/billionaires-like-elon-musk-are-chasing-chinas-pres-xi



Arlington Catholic Herald

Former "Helltown" Becomes Catholic Haven

When the town of Front Royal, VA, was founded, it quickly gained the reputation of "Helltown" in the late 18th century. However, in recent decades, the presence of several key institutions has turned the small town into a thriving Catholic destination. These institutions include Christendom College, Seton Home School Study, and Population Research Institute.

Viewership: 82.5 Thousand*

catholicherald.com/article/local/once-helltown-front-royal-emerges-as-a-catholic-destination



The Epoch Times

Melbourne Nearly Reclaims "Most Liveable City" Title

With the end of COVID-19 restrictions, the Australian city of Melbourne has nearly reclaimed its title of the world's "Most Liveable City." According to the head of the Economic Intelligence Unit, the removal of COVID-19-related restrictions

bodes well for overall global liveability in 2023. This past April, PRI President Steven Mosher shared with the Epoch Times that the CCP had convinced the world that lockdowns were "the magic key to stopping the spread of COVID." But these restrictions did not stop COVID-19, instead having a negative effect globally.

Viewership: 25.6 Million*

theepochtimes.com/world/melbourne-nearly-reclaims-title-as-most-liveable-city-after-bouncing-up-to-third-place-5349105



New York Post

The Truth Behind the TEMU App Craze

For the past ten months, the Chinese shopping app TEMU has been the center of a major advertising campaign. Thousands of ads on social media platforms push the app's seemingly incredible bargains. But the deals on the popular app, showcasing goods made by overworked Chinese laborers, aren't worth losing your online privacy. TEMU's parent company, Pinduoduo (PDD) is known for ransacking devices that download their apps for data. And, like every other company based in China, PDD delivers all the data it gathers to the CCP.

Viewership: 177 Million*

nypost.com/2023/08/05/why-the-chinese-shopping-app-is-a-scam

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

From the Countries



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

A Terrifying Silence Regarding Abortions in Africa

A Catholic priest shared his concerns over the lack of attention that abortions in Africa receive. Father Apollinaire Cibaka Cikongo, rector of the University of Mbujimayi in DRC, referred to this “general silence” as “terrifying.” A recent UN article revealed that in one region, over the course of only one month, two-hundred babies were aborted. These stats moved Father Apollinaire to speak out about this ongoing genocide. He is calling for the promotion of human life’s intrinsic dignity, through the spread of Pope Paul VI’s encyclical *Humanae Vitae*.¹



UNITED KINGDOM Scientists Engineer First “Synthetic”

Human Embryos Using Stem Cells

A team of scientists from both the United States and the United Kingdom created the world’s first “synthetic” human embryos, using neither sperm nor eggs. Created from stem cells, these embryos lack both a heart and a brain. While the scientists try to spin their creation as revolutionary, it opens up a door to a host of new legal

and ethical issues. Currently, there are no laws governing the creation or analysis of synthetic embryos in the U.S. or U.K. However, the Catholic Church is staunchly against such experiments, which violate the dignity of human life.²



IRELAND MPs Vote to Force State Schools

to Spread Abortion Information

The House of Commons passed regulations that require state schools in Northern Ireland to spread abortion information. The new rules make teaching about access to abortion part of the curriculum and require the Department of Education in Northern Ireland to issue guidance ensuring that “pupils receive education on ... access to abortion”. This “education” is aimed at minors between the ages of 11 and 16. Of the MPs, 373 voted for these regulations and 28 against, with the majority in favor not from Northern Ireland.³



COLOMBIA Enough Signatures Collected For

Pro-Life Constitutional Amendment Process

The Referendum for Life initiative in Colombia has gained enough signatures to go to Congress for

debate. This pro-life initiative aims to amend Article 11 of the country’s Magna Carta, which currently states that “the right to life is inviolable.” The amendment would add “from conception” to the end of this statement. With 2 million signatures in support of this change, the initiative will go to Congress for debate, and then, if approved, a referendum will be held.⁴



GUAM Appeals Court Reinstates In- Person Consultation Before Abortion

Since 2021, Guam’s law requiring in-person consultations for women seeking abortions has been blocked. This allowed doctors to prescribe abortion drugs without necessary physical examinations. Now, a federal appeals court has reinstated the law and emphasized the importance of these consultations. In the ruling, U.S. Circuit Judge Kenneth Lee stated, “Guam has legitimate interests in requiring an in-person consultation. The consultation can underscore the medical and moral gravity of an abortion and encourage a robust exchange of information.”⁵

¹ <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/254641/there-is-sometimes-a-terrifying-silence-regarding-abortions-in-africa-priest-says>

² <https://www2.cbn.com/news/world/no-mom-no-dad-scientists-create-synthetic-human-embryos-using-stem-cells>

³ <https://righttolife.org.uk/news/mps-vote-to-force-all-state-schools-in-northern-ireland-to-teach-about-abortion>

⁴ <https://www.ncregister.com/cna/enough-signatures-collected-for-pro-life-constitutional-amendment-process-in-colombia>

⁵ <https://www.liveaction.org/news/guam-in-person-visits-abortion-pill-appeals/>