

Morality Forum Update

Standing up for family values in society

Issue 65

Spring 2017

How Women are the Turning Point for Peace

By Angelika Selle



Women can be the turning point for peace especially at this time with so much commotion going on everywhere, and people are wondering where do we go from here. We have the answers in our hearts. That is what Women's Federation for World Peace is all about. We have a motto called, 'living by the logic of love'. When we look at women we do not see them as objects, but literally as divine expressions of the feminine. I want to quote our founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. She expressed it well: "We women were not put on earth merely to be protected by men. We are independent individuals who as representatives of the feminine aspect of the creator are meant to help men to become complete. Through true love, selfless love, women are to be men's precious partners in love." We want to raise the awareness among women and men of who we really are. When we have an elevated understanding of ourselves we can act differently toward one another, toward our family, and toward our society, nation and world. It starts from "me". Women have that amazing gift and the power within that we want to unlock and unleash to be coming forward at this time to bring a new element, a new energy that is peaceful and comes from within,

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope Francis: 50th World Day of Peace Message 2017 [Excerpt]

If the strategy of nonviolence is to grow, it must begin in the family, the Pope said, explaining that the family "is the indispensable crucible" in which all members of the family "learn to communicate and to show generous concern for one another, and in which frictions and even conflicts have to be resolved not by force but by dialogue, respect, concern for the good of the other, mercy and forgiveness." The love lived within the family radiates to the whole of society, he said, adding that "an ethics of fraternity and peaceful coexistence between individuals and among peoples cannot be based on the logic of fear, violence and closedmindedness, but on responsibility, respect and sincere dialogue." Pope Francis closed his message by pointing to the Beatitudes as a program for political and religious leaders, heads of international institutions, business and media executives to follow in exercising their responsibility. He concluded by praying that, in 2017, people would continue to build peace daily through "small gestures and acts" and that "we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to build nonviolent communities that care for our common home...Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace." *This article was published in the February/March edition of Westminster Interfaith Newsletter*

National Centre on Sexual Exploitation USA: WE ARE SUCCESSFULLY PUSHING BACK AGAINST PORN CULTURE

Progress from Verizon! Verizon has a long history of profiting from hardcore pornography. Verizon has even defended teen, rape, incest, and racist-themed pornography as a benefit to their customers! Of course, we know that pornography is neurologically and psychologically harmful, and inextricably synonymous with sexual exploitation. However, we do have encouraging news! After we met with Verizon's CEO and conducted large-scale action campaigns over the last few years, Verizon has taken a step toward curbing its participation in sexual exploitation. They have created an opt-in system for new subscribers to FiOS IPTV services. New FiOS IPTV customers will no longer have on-demand pornography films and channels automatically piped into their homes. Instead, only those who actively seek out on-demand pornography will be exposed to it. Does this step mark the beginning of Verizon's journey towards becoming a sexploitation-free corporation? We are putting Verizon on the Dirty Dozen Watch List

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for 2017, as we evaluate what their next move will be. The Dirty Dozen Watch List is a new addition to NCOSE's Dirty Dozen campaign, and it serves dual purposes. In some instances, the Dirty Dozen Watch List puts entities on notice that they may soon find themselves named as a major contributor to sexual exploitation unless they demonstrate significant and sustained efforts to address their role in fuelling sexual exploitation. In other cases, by placing an organization on the Watch List, NCOSE is affirming an entity's positive step towards addressing its role in sexual exploitation. However, because some such steps represent only small progress in terms of the entity's total contribution to sexual exploitation, or because we may have concerns about the entity's intent to carry through with its pledge, placement on the Watch List also signals our lingering concerns about their commitment to ending sexual exploitation. *Special thanks to NCOSE, for the brilliant work the organisation does in helping to combat the insidious evil of pornography.*

American Leadership Conference

The first of three pilot sessions of the American Leadership Conference (ALC) took place at the 4 W 43rd St. Learning Center in Manhattan on Saturday, March 11, 2017. The program brought together approximately 100 attendees for a day of focused study, reflection, and discussion on the themes essential to successful and principled leadership. [Excerpts] "We have tools with us today like never in history to bring about rapid change, to bring sustainable development, to end poverty, to end disease. We have the tools, we need the political will and the continued commitment of all peacemakers throughout the world. I have worked with the United Nations—this is my 24th year. What I have learned and seen the most is what a few committed people can do. It does not take masses to change society. It is the heart, and the fire, and the spirit of the Creator that motivates these people. You, distinguished leaders in this room, are the light, are the peacemakers, are the very same ones that will usher us into a new world of peace." –Maria L. Vargas, President of the Sun International Peace Federation and Executive Director of the Office of Latin Affairs of UPF USA. Joseph Placide, President of Sure Access Communications, described eloquently the challenge and opportunity now faced by America and the world to bring about much needed change. "What is our responsibility, given that we have so much to give and that we've been given so much? Within the boundaries of this great nation lie all of the possibilities for good. But we are also faced with many of the perils that can consume us and cause paralysis, preventing us from doing good. Around the world, in many places, it's still the best of times. In others places, well, I don't have to enumerate the problems for you. What am I asking of everyone here, what am I asking of myself—that collectively, we have to do what? We must look deeper, look inward, do more, aim higher, and go further."

BBC: Liberal Politically Correct Bias

The BBC has been accused of "silencing" freedom of speech after Dame Jenni Murray the presenter of Radio 4's Woman's Hour programme was warned about comments she made concerning the transgender issue. Jenny stated that: "transgender women, who have previously lived as men, with all the privilege that entails, do not have the shared experience of growing up female." A BBC spokesman said: "Jenni Murray is a freelance journalist and these were her own views. However, we have reminded her that presenters should remain impartial on controversial topics

covered by their BBC programmes." Stephanie Davies-Arai of Transgender Trend, which aims to promote 'balanced' debate on transgender issues, said: "It's basically silencing women if they dare to define what being a woman is...the trans-activist campaign is so powerful that if anyone speaks out of line, in their opinion, they are getting threats." A recent report from the London Assembly health committee, has revealed that 40% of LGBT people live with mental health issues, and a shocking 50% of transgender people have considered or attempted suicide. The American College of Pediatricians have stated that, it is biologically impossible to change your sex, and, "When an otherwise healthy biological boy believes he is a girl, or an otherwise healthy biological girl believes she is a boy, an objective psychological problem exists that lies in the mind not the body, and it should be treated as such. These children suffer from gender dysphoria..." By trying to stop people from expressing truthful, factual views about the transgender issue, the BBC are, indirectly, helping to exacerbate the suffering experienced by transgender people. Please contact the BBC and MP's about this matter. MP's: House of Commons, Westminster, SW1A 0AA. Programme Complaints Unit, BBC Broadcasting House, London, W1A 1AA

Morality Forum Action

Theresa Quarmby recently had a letter published in the Yorkshire Post. The paper's heading for Theresa's letter was: **Put God back into politics:** *As a new reader to the Yorkshire Post and on International Women's Day, March 8th, I would like to express my concern regarding the damage being done to our society by the liberal, humanistic policies and legislation unacted by successive governments in the UK which has led to abortion, the redefining of marriage and amoral sexual guidance etc. Thomas Jefferson, an American founding father said, "no nation can be governed without religion". We need politicians and religious leaders who will be honest enough to face the facts that some of their policies are not working. We see heartrending stories in the media every day caused by family breakdown in our broken society. The great civilisations throughout history have endured because of their religious and spiritual foundations. We now find that our religious freedoms are under attack by the humanistic agenda, particularly in relation to freedom of conscience. I hope that many people will understand that we need God's universal moral and spiritual laws and principles to be at the heart and soul of our nation again, especially among our political and religious leaders. History has shown clearly that no society in history has been able to survive for long without a strong moral code. From: Theresa Quarmby, Kirkburton.*

John O'Neill had a letter published in the Harrow Times on February 2nd. The paper's heading for John's letter was: **Sex education is amoral:** *Lynn Gradwell (Listen to the Children, Letters to the Editor, January 19th) stated that people should contact their MPs, asking them to "press for sex and relationship education to become mandatory through the Children and Social Work Bill". Many of the sex education programmes in schools are amoral and only encourage the children to have sex. It is the role of parents to teach their children about sensitive subjects such as sexual matters, not schools. The sexual revolution and the permissive society which started in the 1960s has been a total disaster for our nation, leading to record levels of teenage pregnancies, STI's, abortions and single parents.* to page 4

from page 1 How women are the Turning Point for Peace that is sustainable and that comes from a higher place than what we can see right now. How do we think we can actually accomplish peace? We have not tried the element of love and compassion. Put that in leadership skills.

Every woman is already a leader. Know it and show it. You lead your families, you lead your husbands in a way. Leadership of heart and leadership of the new age is leadership by example, like, who I am. That is giving someone else the inspiration to be the same and is more effective and has long lasting effect, rather than just telling someone. Sometimes we women want to be like men. We say we have the same value, therefore we have to be the same. It is not a good idea. We have to discover our true femininity and that is the real power. We call it maybe the 'soft' power, but that is the power that will bring the change, the real change that is needed for peace to become a reality.

In WFWP we have education programmes to bring awareness to women of who they really are. To teach about relationships. A new way of relating to myself and others. That is other-centred, that applies also to marriages. Many people come together and say, "What can you do for me baby?" That is already on the losing end right there. You already closed your relationship. When you want to have a lasting relationship, and that means lasting peace, because peace depends on relationships, then you have to think, "What can I do for you?" John F. Kennedy: "Don't ask what your country can do for you..." It's also, don't ask what your husbands can do for you... what you can do for him and also for others. That is a revolution! Selfishness comes so naturally to us. It is an expression of immaturity. Every child is selfish, but we should be rising above selfishness, to become more mature and understand from the other person's point of view. How much more would we be able to solve the problems that way without having to kill each other, if someone has the skill as a peace leader to see from the other person's perspective. Solving the problems through violence is never the answer. There is usually a deeper reason why a person is upset, angry or resentful. No one wants to be like that. The reason is because there is a lack of love somewhere, some disappointment. How do you undo that? It cannot be done by some logical approach. Maybe we need some tools, that's true; the reality is that sometimes we just need a listening ear, a kind heart, a smile, and that will just melt your anger away. Anger is what is out there in America right now, all kinds of anger. We have to look at ourselves in the mirror. I want to challenge us women to be the first ones to look on the inside and consciously decide to make a shift in how we see ourselves and how we react. Two things: not even reacting, but acting, coming from a higher place, then we will see a change happen. That is why I like Gandhi: "Be the change; peace begins with me." WFWP is a global organisation an NGO in general global status at the UN. There are chapters in 190 nations, 35 in USA.

What counts is what is in the inside and how we can create happy and healthy families. That is another key area of this organisation. Social Scientists show that many social ills cannot be solved unless you have a healthy family background. Many of us come from very dysfunctional families. If we can bring to the picture a model, families that actually love each other. How much more can we solve these social ills, and people won't feel lonely and ignored. Here in USA people are so lonely, the loneliest country I know, because of

individualism which is a dead-end.

All kinds of leaders maybe are doing the right thing, but what is the motivation and purpose behind it? The purpose has to be goodness and purity. 2017 WFWP internal motto, working themes: "actions for goodness and bringing solutions." Be a part of the solution. That is also leadership. There is a lot of complaint out there. We have to change that, as leaders of peace and goodness. We have to find the solutions and dig deep because the solution is inside. You have to find it by having conversations and discussions, not fighting. Discussions to think and put our heads together. One person may not be able to do it. Together we can resolve so many issues. At the UN level most countries have their own interests in mind and that is not very helpful. We will succeed or fail together. It doesn't even matter who is in charge, just in generally speaking, it doesn't really matter what the world does. It only matters what you and I do right now. We have the power and the ability, we have everything we need, the creativity to come up with some good solutions to just about every problem. I believe the solutions at this time and age have to come from the ground level; not from complaining. You can make your voice heard, that's fine. You also have to bring solutions. If we can offer solutions and practice them that will create a movement of peace. We need leaders of heart, inspire others leading from the heart. Sometimes we are a bit too much in the head. When we are in the head we see the divisions, we analyse, we see what is wrong with the other person. That is where the barriers come in. One of the big focuses of WFWP is to eliminate barriers between races, generations, religions and everything that has a barrier, rich and poor. Only that way can we come from the head to the heart. There we are all equal. There is no difference in the realm of heart. It's a kind of new concept maybe, maybe not. It is very powerful, something that can make a big contribution to our families, communities, nations and world - to be that turning point. Bridge of Peace is a tool where people line up on either side of the stage, people who have any kind of disagreement or even deep-seated hate. We say that when women come to the conclusion that if we have to make a change, and I am willing to ask for forgiveness, and the other person says, "I am willing to forgive you." It is powerful. They come together on the bridge and they exchange a flower, and then embrace. I have seen miracles on that bridge, tears and tears. Japanese and Americans, thinking of WW2. Muslims and Christians, Germans and Jewish, even parents and children and husbands and wives have come together to say that we want a new beginning - we are tired of being tired. We just do not want this anymore. Then you can come to this place. The bridge is also a tool that we can internalise. That is what we are hoping when someone crosses the bridge, that this relationship continues and that we can help each other and learn from the other person. We usually have an issue with the 'other', whatever is different we reject many times. We really have to open our hearts and embrace that which is different. The Bridge which is a project of WFWP has helped us a lot; it has a certain content and procedure with it. We want to expand the Bridge by 2020. We have issues with the police and the community. In our recent assembly a police officer crossed the Bridge with someone from our community. Whatever the issues are, just to create a new movement of forgiveness. There is power in forgiveness, because when you forgive someone you also forgive yourself. That is sometimes the more difficult thing to do. Especially women, we put ourselves down so

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Letters and Emails Received

Dear John, keep up the good work. Prayers, Alan
Many thanks for your helpful comments. With best wishes, David, Supporter Services, Christian Concern. [Transgender materials in schools]

Dear Pastor, Many thanks for sending the attached. I'll circulate within my network of ministers and friends. Kind regards, Pastor Kenny. [Transgender materials in schools]

Thank you, John, I am meeting my MP about this subject on 24 February, I hope that is not too late. Best wishes, Pippa. [Compulsory sex education in schools]

Thanks John, I have signed the petition and will forward it to my contacts. Take care and keep up the good work! Francoise. [Compulsory sex education in schools]

Yes, I have tabled an amendment with Baroness Butler-Sloss challenging these proposals. Kind regards, David Alton (Lord Alton of Liverpool) [Digital Economy Bill - age verification amendments]

Many thanks for this John. [Winter Morality Forum Update]

This is highly relevant to the government's plan to introduce compulsory sex education starting at the age four in all schools. It is unbelievable that David Burrows MP, whom I have always regarded as our Christian in Parliament has "jumped into bed" with Maria Miller and Yvette Cooper, mass murderers of marriage, the family, children and the unborn child, if not directly then in complicity. This year is going to be extraordinary with the centenary of the Russian Revolution, the 50th anniversary of the decriminalisation of abortion, homosexuality, adultery, pornography and even murder itself, plus the 500th anniversary of the Reformation... Hence we are united in coming to the rescue of the most vulnerable in society, the unborn and the young child and of course Marriage which is the citadel which gives protection to both. What we need is another Reformation, for the first one was clearly incomplete, with a return to the early, persecuted church when there were no denominations, but unity in the body of Jesus Christ. I am yours in Jesus Christ. David Skinner

Dear Ms Ross, [Deborah Ross - The Mail on Sunday], YOUR ARTICLE ON 'APPLE TREE YARD' - 5.2.17. It's a clever write-up on something only half broadcast, but I can't agree with you! Certainly, it's a story which highlights rape of women and why they don't report it - but it's also one to raise audience figures. So how will the next rape that's broadcast into people's homes outdo this one, as it must if audience figures are to stay up? Is this genuinely bringing "real insight" into our lounges? Or is it rape for the unimaginative or the thrill-seekers, who need a good dose of voyeuristic nastiness? Surely there is more to think about than you have considered. Before the violent rape this woman behaved grotesquely out of character and ran riot sexually with a total stranger and she carries on a series of very squalid encounters with him. Far from being "a midlife romp" of normal proportions, if it had occurred in real life in an alley behind someone's house and had been seen from a window, the two of them would have ended up in court for it, despite the fact that people could just pull their curtains and pretend it wasn't happening. It's not something you could dismiss as "a little bit steamy and a little bit racy for Sunday nights". I don't go along with the idea that a middle-aged woman might suddenly go sexually berserk at a time which would handily stop her wanting to report a genuine rape. The plot doesn't bear much picking apart and it needs to be carried by the rampant sex, as do the audience figures. Our society is sex-soaked and that is the basis for what gets beamed into our lounges rather than any insight. Sex sells. It makes money. It raises audience figures, but it absolutely doesn't make for a healthy, balanced, pleasant society safe for the younger or any other generation. Yours sincerely, Jacqueline Deeks.

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much, we don't even realise that we judge ourselves. We don't forgive ourselves and then we don't forgive other people. Take a moment to forgive ourselves, it is really worth it. If you can commit to one person for the rest of your life that is awesome. We should make that a big thing in America; who doesn't want that? You have to make it happen. You have to work on it, it does not come by itself, it is a growth experience. It takes more than a lifetime to really get to know someone; unless there is abuse involved; of course, we cannot tolerate that. If two people can commit to this higher education; that is what we also do in WFWP, we are really promoting healthy couple relationships and rededication of marriages, celebration of marriages, that is a big part. *This article is based on notes taken regarding Angelika Selle being recently interviewed on a USA TV channel. Angelika Selle is the President of WFWP, USA.*

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Instead of advocating making a doomed, failed subject such as sex education compulsory, people should contact their MPs to ask them to seriously do something about the fact that our society is bombarded daily by the images and messages that are imbued with sexual connotations from the media, advertisers, etc., and the fact that pornography was allowed to become mainstream, which has led to marriages breaking down and children needing therapy because of becoming addicted to pornography. Various studies show that: "no society in history has been able to survive for long without a strong moral code". (DH Unwin, a study of 88 civilisations in 1940's). Our nation urgently needs a religious ethos to be prevalent again. When that was the case back in the 1950's sex education was not necessary. From: John O'Neill, Kenton.

Mr Dennis Orme, a former National Director of the Family Federation for World Peace in UK, phoned John O'Neill to thank him for sending to him the Winter edition of the Morality Forum Update. Mr Orme said that he was very impressed and inspired by the content of the Update. Mr Orme asked to be kept on the mailing list for receiving the Update.

On January 14th, together with other members of the Harrow branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, John O'Neill delivered abortion information leaflets door-to-door in Harrow Weald, NW London. John O'Neill has received positive feedback after speaking about key moral and family issues at various conferences and seminars, and also at Christian churches, highlighting the importance of religious people working together in defence of moral and family values, and also the importance of living for the sake of others.

Letters and emails concerning key moral, family issues continue to be sent out to numerous relevant people and organisations.

The Pro-Life Times newspaper, sex education bulletins, and abortion and euthanasia leaflets and petition forms from SPUC continue to be widely distributed, as are the recent petition forms from Life and SPUC requesting; "Strip Marie Stopes of its licence to carry out abortions".



True Family Values

The “Vertical Ethic”

A. Goodness means to live for the sake of the whole

2. *In a family, the parents represent the whole.*

- They are concerned about the whole. They know what happened before the children were born, and they prepared for the children to come into the world.
- They are responsible for the whole. In the family, the parents are the “central point” of the whole.
- Growing children have a focus of concern and responsibility narrower than that of their parents.
- Therefore, filial piety means the ethic of serving the whole through serving the parents, the central point.
- This is the root of what is called “vertical ethics,” that is, the norms of vertical relationship.

3. *Likewise, in every context, the primary ethics involve vertical relationships.*

- Loyalty to state, company, community, team.
To support the greater purpose that they serve.
To accomplish the greater results by working together.
- In this way, filial piety expands its horizon without limit.
Love my nation as I love my parents.
Love the whole world as I love my parents.
Love God as I love my parents.
- The vertical ethic is one of sacrifice for the greater whole.
Buddha sacrificed life in his father’s palace, as did Moses.
St. Francis left his wealthy family for a life of poverty.
George Washington gave up a comfortable life on his farm to serve his country.
Albert Schweitzer left the university and lived simply in the jungle.
Confucius wandered about in search of an honest ruler who could be taught.

4. *Vertical ethics is a universal principle; it is the pattern by which the cosmos expanded.*

- Entities on each level contribute to the higher level and thereby come to have the value of that higher level.
- A hydrogen atom participates in sugar.
- The sugar becomes part of a rice plant.
- The rice becomes part of a human who eats it.
- Thus the hydrogen atom participates in the value of a human being. The human being may care very much about the condition of an organ containing that hydrogen atom!

5. *We should not commit the error of stopping at a partial level.*

- Nepotism and oligarchy: family level selfishness.
- Nationalism: national-level selfishness.
- Racism: racial level selfishness.

- Atheism, humanism, materialism, hatred in the name of religion: world-level selfishness.

6. *Through the vertical ethic, we feel as if the whole is my family.*

- The vertical ethic means taking ownership of, participating in, and inheriting the value of the whole.
- The vertical ethic makes us feel emotions of love, sympathy, self-forgetfulness, excitement, and so forth.
- These emotions create unity.
- This leads to character development.

7. *Practicing this ethic, we can overcome individualism and excessive competition.*

- These are transformed into the spirit of teamwork and shared benefit.
- The vertical ethic begins with one’s relationship to one’s parents. We will explore this relationship in the next lesson.

The Vertical Ethic Begins with Honoring Parents

A. The vertical ethic is to live for the greater whole.

1. *In the family, day to day, one’s parents represent the greater whole. Therefore, children serving their parents is the beginning of living for the greater whole. This is the foundation vertical ethic: filial piety.*

2. *Filial piety, the vertical ethic, can be practiced on the level of the family, nation, world and cosmos.*

- Filial piety.
- Love of country (true patriotism).
- Love of all humanity (sainthood).
- Love of God (to be a son or daughter of God).

B. The way of filial piety.

1. *Filial sons and daughters feel gratitude for their parent’s sacrificial love given in bearing and rearing them.*

- We received infinitely from our parents.
- Therefore, we have a debt to our parents.
- We should pay back this debt by serving our parents with gratitude and love.
- Paying back the debt creates a deeper bond of love with our parents. This makes the base for an ever-developing relationship, energy, prosperity and happiness.
- As a result, we gain much more, including good fortune in the future.
- This logic applies on ever-expanding levels of our existence.

(to be continued...)

(from the book “True Family Values” by Wilson and Pak <http://www.hsabooks.com/books>)

The Lie That Creates Deep Harm: Same-Sex and Biological Parents Rear Children Equally Well

by Stephen Stacey

continued from previous issue...

What happens if, in 10 years from now, China and India go down the same route of legalising same-sex marriage? We already have developing nations that are overwhelmed by drug wars – producing drugs to numb the pain of the ‘no-fault’ divorce countries. We already have countries in the world that are being turned into massive brothels to fulfil the lusts of the broken, single Western man.

And now we ‘developed nations’ want to turn even more developing nations into baby factories – as if the smartphone sweatshops are not enough. How can we call ourselves civilized people? There is only abuse and slavery here.

Some countries in Europe, like France, to their credit, refused gay married men the right to gain access to children through surrogacy. That, however, hasn’t stopped many gay men from doing this. Now, many gay men have these children, children who have no State recognition. Now they are imploring the State to think about these innocent unrecognized children. “How cruel of the State to not give them a legal parent” is their appeal. In the USA, however, the issue of the harm to children is almost completely buried by the media. There is no discussion here says the same-sex lobby. All the children are happy; very, very happy. All of them – only perfect homosexual parents here. When society believes this lie: “That any married couple can do as good a job as the biological parents can” - other challenges also arise. It is this lie that paves the way for the ongoing redefinition of marriage within the law. If two parents are good, maybe five will be better. This lie, therefore, opens the doorway to a whole host of troubling futures for many children, futures we both can and can’t imagine. Another way of saying: “Any married couple can do as good a job as the biological parents can” is “Biological parents are expendable, unnecessary!” Put this way, one can’t help but see how redefinition produces a new, very dangerous can of worms, and we have no idea what’s at the bottom. If this lie grows in strength and is accepted by the wider society might a State one day be able to take a child away from its parents – just because the parents hold viewpoints that are deemed to be unhealthy by the State – and the child given to another couple or group of married people because they can do “just as good a job?” A worrying future awaits if we start going down this newly opened path. When same-sex marriage was legalized in Canada in 2005, parenting was immediately redefined. Canada’s gay marriage law, Bill C-38, included a provision to erase the term “natural parent” and replace it across the board with gender-neutral “legal parent” in federal law. Now all children only have “legal parents,” as defined by the state. By legally erasing biological parenthood in this way, the state ignores children’s foremost right: their immutable, intrinsic yearning to know and be raised by their own biological parents... If your beliefs, values, and political opinions are different from the State’s, you risk losing your professional license, job, or business, and even your children.

We see that through illegally taking the word marriage away from Mother Nature, from parents and from children, politicians now gain unprecedented power over the family lives of the citizens. People in political life should ideally be serving the people and nation, not controlling them. People have little idea of what is

truly at stake here; the loss of freedom on an unprecedented scale and the handing over of vast amounts of power to both elected and unelected officials who now can impose their will on family life as never before. If people really understood what was at stake they would be protesting in the streets at the usurpation of power that redefinition brings. Here, in treating marriage as a constantly redefinable legal construct, politicians create a situation where they allow homosexual adults to create families that can lead to poorer outcomes for children. Of course, these politicians go off and retire on gold plated pensions while the children involved have an increased chance of growing up amid extra life struggles. Is that fair? Are children just pawns in the game of adult, sexual politics? By ripping the right of the child to the love of their biological parents out of the definition of marriage – many boys and girls are now doomed to have poorer life outcomes.[1] Once again we need to remind ourselves that marriage has NEVER been about the legal rights of adults. Historically marriage was always about adults acting responsibly - acting to best fulfil the RIGHT of their CHILD to the best possible start in life. This is why the State became involved in marriage - to SUPPORT parents who were acting in the best interests of their children. It is now astounding that the State now thinks that it should redefine marriage in such a way that it makes it seem marriage is about ADULTS’ rights and that children now have no rights - that they are now to be seen as accessories, like a new handbag - an accessory which can be bought to make the life of gays and lesbians “A little bit happier, a bit more meaningful.” It should be so obvious: Children are not accessories. They are human beings with lives to lead, and they need the best possible start in life. But you cannot give the child the best possible start in life if you separate him or her from the love of their biological mother or father, or both, at birth. You automatically place them on a shaky foundation, a foundation which always has the potential to create a more troubled life. This is just deeply unfair. One cannot play with the word marriage in this way without creating deep social harm. Marriage cannot be, at one and the same time, the best place to raise children and also potentially, one of the worst places to raise children, without creating lasting, social confusion. If politicians have anything to do with marriage they need to act in the best interests of the children because that is the original meaning of the word marriage - to act so as to best protect children. That’s what citizens are doing when they marry for the sake of their future children - they are acting responsibly. Is it too much to ask the politicians to do the same? Creating more harm for children. This is not what politicians are paid to do. [1] www.familyfacts.org/briefs/35/family-structure-and-childrens-education [2] www.civitas.org.uk/pubs/experiments.php [3] Web Search: The New Silence: Family Breakdown and Child Sexual Abuse. See also USA: www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV112.pdf [4] Web Search: The New Silence: Family Breakdown and Child Sexual Abuse. See also USA: www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV112.pdf [5] www.frc.org/issuebrief/homosexual-parent-study-summary-of-findings [6] Solomon, M. & Tatkin, S. Love and War in Intimate Relationships: Connection, Disconnection, and Mutual Regulation in Couple Therapy [7] www.lifesitenews.com/news/growing-up-with-two-moms-the-untold-story [8] www.truthrevolt.org/news/children-gay-parents-testify-against-same-sex-marriage [9] www.supremecourt.gov/ObergefellHodges/AmicusBriefs/14-556_Robert_Oscar_Lopez_and_BN_Klein.pdf [10] <http://thefederalist.com/2015/03/17/dear-gay-community-your-kids-are-hurting>; See also www.supremecourt.gov/ObergefellHodges/AmicusBriefs/14-556_Heather_Barwick_and_Katy_Faust.pdf [11] www.supremecourt.gov/ObergefellHodges/AmicusBriefs/14-556_Dawn_Stefanowicz_and_Denise_Shick.pdf

The Importance of True Values

[This article is based on a talk given by Theresa Quarmby in 2000. It has much relevance for our society today]

A decade after warning that Britain had a growing underclass, the American academic Charles Murray finds that British Society is in danger of self-destruction. To define 'underclass' Charles Murray does not mean people who are merely poor, but people at the margins of society, socialised and violent. The chronic criminal is part of the underclass, especially, the violent, chronic criminal. So are parents who mean well but who cannot provide for themselves, who give nothing back to the neighbourhood and whose children are the despair of the teachers who have to deal with them. People seldom fall into neat categories. The dole came into being because many hard-working people were down on their luck and needed help for a period of time. They bear no resemblance to the underclass. A criminal can be a loyal friend to those he chooses not to assault and rob. The single mother whose children are out of control may be the backbone of her neighbourhood in other ways. Now, 2 out of 5 children born in Britain are illegitimate. The dropout from the labour force among young males, violent crime and births to unmarried mothers... will be associated with the growth of a class of violent, unsocialised people who, if they become sufficiently numerous, will fundamentally degrade the life of society.

Now... successive governments have stressed the value of education, especially the present Labour government. But what do ministers mean when they talk of education? The area that is missing is character education. The movement for character education is essential to solving the basic crisis in education itself. We have abandoned the age-old mission of moral instruction. The present age has given human beings power and affluence unprecedented in history. The question of how one uses it depends on one's moral maturity. This is expressed by our historian Arnold Toynbee, who in his work, *Civilisation on Trial* warned of the need for modern technological civilizations to give greater emphasis to the moral and spiritual dimensions of life: "The greater our material power, the greater our need for spiritual insight and virtue to use our power for good and not for evil... We have never been adequate spiritually for handling our material power, and today the morality gap is greater than it has ever been in any previous age." Raising people of good individual character shapes the destiny of all humanity. Raising people of good individual character is the greatest hope for peace in the family, peace in the society, and of course, peace in the world. Hence the need of moral and ethical education is great indeed.

At the core of good character is a well cultivated heart, which is a moral heart. Heart is the core of human nature, the deepest motivation for all moral striving. In particular, heart is the source of the fundamental impulse for relatedness. It is what motivates a person to yearn for the joy of loving and being loved, the satisfaction of valuing and being valued. Love and relatedness describe a human need no less strong than that of food or shelter. Indeed, people have forsaken both for the sake of love. A mature person is one who is capable of loving others. The heart's impulse to seek joy through love can only be realised through the way of morality, developing maturity of character. To conclude: Here is a reflection from a headmaster who survived one of Hitler's concentration camps. From his experience, he realised that without setting the proper priorities, the most educated people can become criminals. So, when he engaged new staff, he sent the teacher a letter reminding them that the atrocities he had witnessed were engineered and committed by the highly educated.

"My eyes saw what no man should witness... gas chambers built by learned engineers, children poisoned by learned physicians, infants killed by trained nurses, women and babies shot and burned by high school and college graduates. So... I am suspicious of education. My request is... help your students become human. Your efforts must never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, educated Eichmann's. Reading, writing, arithmetic are important only if they make our children more human." Incidentally, Charles Murray concludes that the leading reason for our present problems is that children are not being raised by two mature married adults.

The model answer to ending abortion

Posted by Alithea Williams on 27 February 2017

Growing up in a pro-life home, I was always very aware of the facts of life in the womb. In fact, my parents, as erstwhile SPUC speakers, even had a set of foetal models, which a young me saw more in the way of dolls than scientific models. (I later donated these to my university pro-life group, but they were so disfigured with crayon that I doubt they used them much!) It was at university that I realised that not everyone knew about what was obvious to me - the development of the baby in the womb. I remember my first year flatmate asking me about my precious feet badge, so I explained that they were the feet of a ten week old unborn baby. She responded "I didn't know they had feet at that stage". My experiences running various forms of pro-life outreach have brought home to me that many people really are just not aware of the basic facts of foetal development. The "clump of cells" argument may be a tired one from professional pro-abortion advocates, but if people really don't know what a ten week old baby looks like, they are vulnerable to this. The fact that people don't see the humanity of the child in the womb of course has great implications for the abortion debate. This is why accurate foetal models are so important. Now that I work at SPUC, it's been fascinating to discover how people around the world have been using them to change hearts and minds. Since the SPUC Educational Research Trust developed the "How You Began" models in 1990, thousands of sets have been made and sold all over the world - from Canada to Australia, from Spain to Russia. The extremely realistic models were designed and manufactured under the expert guidance of a team of leading foetal authorities including obstetricians and gynaecologists, pathologists and other experts in anatomy and embryology. There are models of the unborn child at 4, 6, 10, 14 and 18 weeks, of which the three largest are life-size. (You can buy a set from the SPUC shop!) Let me share some examples of where in the world

the models have made their way recently...



Rocío, a medical student in Madrid, sent us this picture of a group of teenagers with the models. She also wrote to SPUC to thank us for the models, and to let us know how useful they have been. So far,

Rocío and a group of helpers have organised talks in four locations, and have already reached 324 people! Most of these were teenagers, with some even younger children (10-12). With this age group, Rocío explained, they focused mainly on the value

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and beauty of life. On the reaction at these events, she said: "Overall, the reactions have been very good. It has been an uplifting process. Most of our listeners have been participative and respectful...Most of our listeners touched the models and we could tell they were moved by them. Some people were so in awe that they were afraid to touch them. It has touched me personally seeing the look in people's faces as we told them the corresponding ages of the foetal models and how abortion was



legal in our country at each of those moments. We have seen the great need there is in our area for solid pro-life education." Our friends in Poland have even translated the title! In the last few months, SPUC has sent "How you

began" sets to four different locations in Russia. Our contact Alexey sent us this photo of it being used in a school.

Solutions for the Knife Crime Epidemic

By John O'Neill

This year, youth knife deaths have escalated in their barbarity with such deaths occurring in broad daylight in front of parents and school children. In Mottingham, SE London, a design graduate, Dean Modeste, aged 21, was stabbed to death in front of children. In Southall, a 27-year-old man was beaten and stabbed to death in the street. A 31-year-old mother who lives close to the scene said: "The place was full of school kids – everyone was leaving school at that time." A teenager, Quamari Barnes, aged 15 years, was stabbed to death yards from the school he attended in Willesden, NW London. Fellow pupils screamed in terror as he tried to evade his attacker while shouting: "He's going to stab me". In Leeds, 16-year-old Irfan Wahid was stabbed to death on his way home from school.

The number of people caught with knives has risen to its highest level in six years. There were more than 19,000 knife possession cases dealt with by the courts last year. Incredibly, official figures show that 2,006 people with previous convictions for knife possession escaped jail – despite the Government promising a six-month sentence for reoffenders. The Metropolitan Police said it was called to more than 9,000 knife crime incidents in London in the year ending April 2016. There were 1,623 victims under the age of 25 including 866 teenagers, it said. Twelve were knifed to death. Navin Shah the London Assembly Member for Brent and Harrow speaking about knife crime stated: "The knife attacks that blighted our borough since Christmas, including the tragic death of a 15-year-old school boy, bring home the need to urgently curb this trend of increasing violence. The lack of explanation for rising knife crime is deeply frustrating. Knife crime is a complex issue, without straightforward resolution...It's a minority that carries out knife crime, but as we've seen, they do

so with devastating effect. We must act now." Mr Shah suggested the need for conversations with young people about the dangers of carrying knives, peer pressure, better stop and search and dialogue with communities etc.

There are various prominent relevant factors concerning the knife crime epidemic: the question of negative influences in our society regarding where our young people obtain their values and goals in life: Rap music that encourages violence and drug taking etc. Family breakdown, the lack of father figures and good role models. The "me first" and gang cultures and the appalling impact of the permissive society and the sexual revolution, which has coincided with huge increases in crimes and social problems. Especially relevant is the decline of moral and spiritual values in our society and the advent of the secular humanistic agenda. A major factor concerning the escalation of knife crimes is the lack of proper sentences for such barbaric crimes, in relation to the fact that our Criminal Justice System urgently needs reforming. When the death penalty was withdrawn in 1965, it was stated that "life will mean life", instead of the death penalty. What does "life" mean now? 10 years, 12 years, who knows? Many of the perpetrators of knife crimes receive manslaughter verdicts for their crimes and receive totally inappropriate lenient sentences. This only exacerbates the suffering of the devastated, grieving families. People who carry knives know full well that when they carry a knife that they can easily kill somebody, and should be punished accordingly. Anybody carrying a knife in a public place without a proper reason should be jailed for five years, which was a plan originally initiated by the previous Conservative Government, but then withdrawn. Also, the death penalty should be brought back for heinous knife crimes, such as stabbing somebody to death (for over 18's) in broad daylight in front of parents and children. Such heinous crimes for sure will have a traumatic impact on the parents and children involved in observing such atrocities. When criminals are committing heinous crimes, they have to be properly punished, for their own sakes, so that they will not commit such crimes in the future, as well as to protect the public.

To get to the real root of the knife crime epidemic problem, we urgently need a religious ethos to be prevalent again in our nation, as was the case back in the 1950's. In those days criminals were properly punished and the crime rates were very low. Also, divorces and teenage pregnancies were rare. Our young people grew up in those days in a Christian culture which gave them the norms and values which were conducive to living in a righteous and moral way. Respect and concern for others was the norm in those days. The most important point concerning our young people is for family stability. The God-centred nuclear family is the key to peace and stability in our troubled world. Becoming beings of true love through living for the sake of each other in the family; living for the sake of others in the society, nation and world. Purity before marriage and fidelity in marriage are vital components in relation to family and societal stability. Instead of legislating concerning liberal, humanistic, harmful policies such as the redefining of marriage and quickie divorce etc., our government should be initiating positive programmes such as character education in our schools and highlighting the importance of traditional family ethics and absolute family values. Let us all pray that our Government will have the wisdom and the courage to implement such policies, then our young people can have genuine hope for their futures, and knife crimes will become a thing of the past.