

# Morality Forum Update

*Standing up for family values in society*

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## 2015 GENERAL ELECTION URGENT NEED TO QUESTION CANDIDATES

By John O'Neill

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children are asking people to contact all the main political party candidates in their areas regarding key moral/family issues. The SPUC are highlighting 3 particular very important areas of concern: Abortion, Sex Education and Assisted Suicide, and there are various questions to ask the candidates.

“Abortion: The Department of Health has recently told doctors that it is not lawful to offer abortion solely because the woman is unhappy about the sex of her unborn baby. We welcome this move. However, 97% of abortions are done because doctors claim that an ‘unwanted’ pregnancy is a risk to mental health and therefore justifies abortion under the Abortion Act. Research commissioned by the Department of Health found that there is no such risk in most cases. Question 1: Would you oppose moves to require the Department of Health to tell doctors that ‘unwanted pregnancy’ is not a legal basis for abortion?”

“Sex Education: Some people believe that classroom sex education in schools reduces unplanned pregnancies and abortions, though the evidence does not support this belief. Question 2: Would you support changes to end or restrict parents’ rights to withdraw their children from sex education lessons which they consider inappropriate?”

*to page 3*

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Devastating impact divorce has on children’s lives



A survey of 500 young people and children aged 14 to 22 by Resolution, the association of family lawyers in England and Wales found that divorce can lead children of divided couples achieving poor exam results and turning to drugs to ease stress. Almost two thirds of children said that their parents’ break-up affected their GCSEs, while one in eight turned to alcohol or drugs. Eating disorders have been experienced by nearly one in three children, caused by the pain of watching their

parents’ divorce. Jo Edwards the chairman of the survey stated that the findings showed the far reaching impact of divorce. She said: “Almost half of all break-ups occur when there is at least one child in the relationship, and with 230,000 people in England and Wales going through a divorce each year, this issue affects hundreds of thousands of families.” A further study by Millennium Cohort shows that by the age of 11, more than one in three children has already lived through seeing their parents break up, and only half have still married parents by the time they finish primary school. There are various factors as to why couples divorce, but the devaluation of marriage by successive governments and ‘quickie divorce’ have been key factors regarding this serious matter.

#### Victory! It is illegal to display porn around children!-Kirsty Hopley

3 Dec 2014 - Congratulations all supporters and campaigners who signed this petition, there are two amazing successes to announce. The Home Office has confirmed that supermarkets displaying magazines and newspapers with sexualised front covers at child height are “not observing current legislation in relation to the Indecent Displays Act 1981.” Minister Baker said, “I am particularly struck by the difficulties and resistance parents have been experiencing when seeking the co-operation of supermarkets who are often not observing current legislation.” He added that it is “vital that a robust approach to promoting the self-regulation is in place and that the Indecent Displays Act is able to provide for sufficient protection.”

As a result of this confirmation of the law, and relentless campaigning by thousands of parents, many big changes are happening out there! Tesco are no longer displaying front

*to page 2*

### Inside this issue:

2015 General Election	1
News in Brief	1
Morality Forum Action	2
Letters & Emails	4
The Cube of Love	4
True Family Values	5
Are Parents Important for Human Development?	6
Serious Complications from Abortions	7
Lynda Rose at the UN	7
Pro-Life Essay	8
Focus on the Family	8

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from page 1 News in Brief

pages of newspapers in child eye line after making a massive alteration in-store based on parents' concerns. This means that not only has it been confirmed that it is illegal to make displays containing sexual imagery that are visible to children but that huge retailers are now taking action. Waitrose is expected to announce the same news shortly and it is hoped that these changes will trickle down to smaller retailers and make a huge culture change with regard to the type of media we accept on public display around children. Well done to everyone who has campaigned on this, every signature, every letter, email and tweet has made this reality! People power really can make a positive, more equal future for our kids!

### **SPUC's Safe at School campaign has condemned plans to sink £2 million into dealing with alleged homophobic bullying in schools.**

Safe at School supports parents who object to inappropriate sex education. Antonia Tully of Safe at School told the media earlier today (October 29th): "Tax-paying parents will soon become aware that their money is actually being spent on the promotion of homosexuality. This has certainly been the experience of parents at Welford Primary School in Birmingham, who are protesting against the introduction of a teaching programme named Challenging Homophobia in Primary Schools (CHIPS). CHIPS was introduced without any parental consultation and many parents in the school are worried sick about what their children are being taught." The CHIPS programme includes getting six and seven year-old children to design a dress for a "princess boy", getting little girls of six to role play lesbian mothers, and showing 10-11 year old children a news report about a transgender six year-old. The stress on homophobic bullying could result in other incidents of bullying being overlooked. In 2012 Ofsted brought out a report: "No place for bullying" <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/no-place-for-bullying> This report placed a great emphasis on homophobic bullying. Yet in Ofsted's sample of 1,060 pupils, children and teenagers spoke of being bullied for being too clever, having a learning disability, being too fat and wearing glasses, among other things. Ofsted could only find three primary school and five secondary school pupils seemingly bullied over sexuality. Antonia concluded: "We're advising parents to insist that any advice given by the new government-funded advisers does not indoctrinate children or undermine parents."

### **A fresh approach to sex and relationships education (SRE) in primary schools.**

Safe at School has issued guidelines for head teachers, governors, and parents on teaching sex and relationships education (SRE) in primary schools. The guidelines titled "Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) for today's primary school children" offer a fresh approach to the subject. The new guidelines encourage parents to regain their confidence as the best people to educate their own children about sexual matters. At the same time, schools should be confident in developing an approach to SRE which harnesses the expertise of parents. The guidelines focus on the importance of fully engaging parents in developing the policy for SRE. A robust

policy sets out the overall approach to SRE, as well as more specific requirements about how SRE should be taught. Too often a school's SRE policy is vague and open to multiple interpretations. The fresh approach developed by Safe at School builds on existing government guidelines, which repeatedly stress the importance of involving parents. The new guidelines also advise primary schools that, as from September 2014, sex cannot be taught in science lessons. Action: Please order copies of "Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) for today's primary school children" to give to primary schools and parents in your area. Call 02084073463. Also available online at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/campaigns/safeatschool/sreprimary201409>

### **Morality Forum Action**

Dear John, Just to let you know that together with your efforts we distributed over 1,000 [abortion] leaflets at the last session in Central Harrow. Many thanks for your efforts! Best wishes. Ian [Secretary-Harrow branch SPUC]

The sex education bulletins, Pro-Life Times newspaper and abortion petition forms, from the SPUC continue to be distributed to relevant people as well as to numerous religious organisations.

On Saturday, January 31st the Harrow branch of SPUC held a seminar entitled: Abortion-mis-certification. The two speakers were Paul Tully, General Secretary of SPUC and his assistant, Katherine Hampton. Very valuable and important information was conveyed, covering all aspects of the Abortion issue.



In recent weeks John O'Neill has spoken in various churches about how children in Birmingham primary schools are being indoctrinated by the homosexual ideology. In the photo John is seen speaking at Waterstone Christian Centre in Luton on January 25th. The sex education bulletins from SPUC have been given out to the various congregations. Prayers are being



offered by various churches concerning this serious matter. The information has also been sent out by email to numerous religious organisations and individuals.

On Monday, November 24th, John O'Neill attended a conference at the Houses of Parliament entitled: *Ending The Sexualisation of Our Youth and Violence against Women*. John spoke from the floor mentioning various points, but in particular about the importance of a religious ethos being prevalent again in our nation.

from page 1 2015 General Election

“Assisted Suicide: The Assisted Dying Bill debated in July 2014 in the House of Lords aims to make it legal to help certain people commit suicide. Question 3a: If as an MP you were asked to vote on the principle of the Bill, would you support or oppose it? Question 3b: Will you support a request to party leaders to resist such legislation, and not to give it parliamentary time if they are in government?” The SPUC are collating information from people visiting parliamentary candidates and would be grateful for any rel-



evant feedback. If required, Information and help is available from SPUC in relation to contacting candidates. Tel: 02070917091 Email: [political@spuc.org.uk](mailto:political@spuc.org.uk).

It is very important to find out the views of the parliamentary candidates because we have seen in the past decades here in the UK just how much harm has been done to our nation because of the humanistic, anti-Godly policies and legislation which have been enacted by successive governments in relation to traditional moral, spiritual and family values. The roots of this decline started in the 1960's with the advent of the permissive society which was spearheaded by Roy Jenkins the then Labour Home Secretary. This resulted in the abolition of capital punishment and theatre censorship; the legalisation of homosexuality, and gave us abortion and divorce on demand. In the intervening years since the 1960's there have ever increasing levels of sex, violence and bad language in the media etc. Pornography has been allowed to become mainstream-with devastating consequences for both adults and young people. Immorality is rampant and amoral sex education lessons have become the norm in many schools, with parents of children in schools not informed when their children are given contraceptives and recommended for abortions!

John Smeaton the Chief Executive of SPUC made the following comments recently about homosexuality: “ Cases are multiplying all over the world of individuals who have seen their livelihoods destroyed or threatened by a vigorous and intolerant homosexual lobby which demands complete approval and compliance. Cases include attempts to force Bed and Breakfast owners to accept homosexual couples sharing beds on their premises and to force bakers to bake cakes celebrating ‘same-sex marriages’. We have also seen employees punished for expressing their views on ‘same-sex marriage’ and homosexuality and religious ministers and street preachers arrested for sharing their traditional Christian views. Most seriously of all we see children being indoctrinated into the same-sex rights agenda in their schools. All of this has developed against a longer term

background of threats to the right to conscientious objection to involvement in grave moral offences such as abortion.” Tragically, the Catholic adoption agencies had to close down because of the homosexual agenda.

In recent months various government ministers have been talking about “British values,” such as tolerance, respect, liberty and the rule of law etc. This is in relation to efforts to try to help to make better community cohesion in our nation, which is, in theory a very good idea. However, the problem is that the ‘rule of law’ and ‘tolerance’ etc. is being used to discriminate against religious people and their values and beliefs and not allowing people to follow the dictates of their consciences, especially in relation to the homosexual agenda. In Birmingham at the present time children in Welford Primary School are being indoctrinated by the homosexual ideology, despite this causing deep pain and worry to the parents of the children. Instead of taking this highly offensive programme out of the school Birmingham Council want to put the *CHIPS* programme into 36 more schools! Also, the government has given 2 million pounds to the homosexual lobby to enable them to go into schools on the spurious context of preventing homosexual bullying!

The true values that our nation needs to bring us together as one nation are the universal values which are enshrined within the beliefs and values of all the major religions. The core message at the heart of all the major religious teachings is: to live for the sake of others. The great civilisations throughout history endured because of their religious and spiritual foundations. The God-centred nuclear family is the blueprint for peace, harmony and stability in our world. The family is the foundation of the society, nation and world. Many of the deep rooted problems in our society such as huge increases in crimes and social problems are the results of family breakdown. The family is meant to be the training ground that educates people in love for humanity. It is the representative environment for establishing the centre of heart.

Parliamentary candidates need to be made aware of the importance of the traditional nuclear family. We need to ask them about their opinions about the homosexual agenda and the horrendous impact pornography is having upon our nation, and other relevant issues. Also, to ask them what measures they will take if elected to deal with these issues. Informing them that how we vote will depend on if their answers are in line with our own values and beliefs.

Let us all hope and pray that many people will be elected into parliament this year who can understand the absolute necessity and importance of the fact that our nation desperately needs



a religious ethos to be prevalent again. Almighty God is looking to religious people to act as the conscience of the nation. Through our consistent prayers, repentance and responsible actions, and by the grace of our Heavenly Parent,

we will surely be able to have a positive impact on the general election, which if so would make for a better, more prosperous society and a better future overall for our young people.

## Letters and Emails Received

Thank you. I always appreciate your newsletters. Ann Whitaker

Thanks John. I am very grateful for the very beneficial emails. Please keep up the excellent job you are doing. Let us hope people take notice and practice the moral ethical and religious values. I attended a good function in the House of Commons today. Willayet Khokhar

Dear John, This is awful! Good of the parents to stand up. Hopefully more and more parents will oppose those evil teachings!! Keep up the good work. Françoise. [This email (and the following 3 emails) is regarding schoolchildren in Birmingham being indoctrinated by the Homosexual ideology]

Calvary greetings John, I got this message and I felt very bad about this. We will fight it in spiritual and God will help us. I will send the mail to people. Have a great day God is our strength in this battle. Helen Adejumo. CEO. TTMCO.

John, it's such a breeze to know that you are fulfilling your calling and helping to keep Britain's children safe. This will make way for my unborn children to have a safer upbringing in these last days we are living in. God bless you and happy New Year. Leah. Cornerstone church Brentford.

Thank you John. This is v. important. My new MP is David Laws and I'll do what I can locally. Every blessing for 2015. Pippa

## The Cube of Love

By Jon Dal Din

For the workshop on Conflict Resilience at the IFN AGM in Birmingham, I was going to introduce a way that has proved useful for many people throughout the world. It stems from Christian experience but is based on the Golden Rule, which most faiths share in one form or another: Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself. Some say that the Golden Rule is not enough, but I think it forms a sound basis for good relations between people. It just needs teasing out a bit. The Focolare Movement has done just that for many years as a 'Way of Love' or the 'Art of Loving' as Chiara Lubich, founder and president of the Focolare Movement defined it many years ago. This Art of Loving is shared as a way of life by all kinds of people regardless of their religious beliefs or other human convictions.



The Art of Loving is based on the following points: Love everyone without distinctions or exception; be the first to love-be proactive in reaching out to people; love your neighbour as yourself (this can include love your neighbour's country as your own/your neighbour's religion as your own); make yourself one with your neighbour, put yourself in their shoes, try to

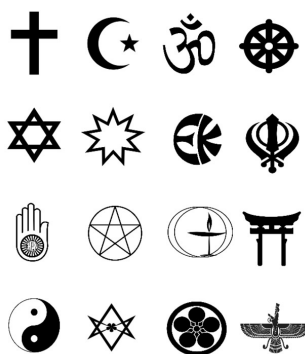
see and understand the other's point of view; love Jesus in everyone (for Christians) or see the presence of the Divine in everyone, or as Brother Daniel would say: "see each person as a UMG: a Unique Manifestation of the Godhead," Love your enemies, which involves loving them as individuals not necessarily what they do; love to the end so that love becomes reciprocal. Love is also self-denial, sacrifice, almost always suffering, losing one's own agenda to let the other live. One needs to love till it hurts and go beyond the suffering.



The Art of Loving is a great challenge and opportunity that requires selflessness, humility and perseverance, but ultimately it leads to a climate of mutual trust between people, where everybody is equal and honesty

and truth abound. We become real brothers and sisters of the one human family, journeying together as pilgrims towards the Ultimate Reality. The experience of the Focolare Movement in these years of interreligious dialogue encounters is that when one of these points is lived fully and sincerely, believing in the power of love, which is in fact the power of God, this dialogue has already the quality of unity and God is present 'in our midst'.

On a practical and educational level, the Art of Loving has been adapted to children's needs as a game and as a way of life. It is called The Cube of Love. It has been used successfully, around the world, in the family, at school, in multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious contexts. It allows students, as well as teachers and parents, to respond with very real and tangible experiences of love. The Cube not only helps to prevent conflict but contributes to a growth in faith, to the building of a more egalitarian community, and to an ever greater awareness of the universal family and the needy worldwide. It's a game we can all take part in.



Recently, it has been adapted as the Cube of Peace. On each of its six sides it has a phrase, based on the Art of Loving, which becomes like a password for the day: Be first to reach out to others; Treat each person with respect; Share each other's joys and hurts; Discover the good in others; Treat others as you want to be treated; Forgive those who hurt you. The die is cast. Every-

body, individually and collectively, tries to live that word that appears throughout the day. At the end of the day they share experiences of how they lived that particular phrase. There have been some simple but amazing stories from both adults and children alike. The Art of Loving has borne many fruits leading to the unity of people of different faiths in many parts of the world. There is still a long way to go for the unity of the human family, but we have to start again every time we fail or fall. *Published by kind permission of Westminster Interfaith*



## True Family Values

### We put forth the following seven principles, which we believe bring about the growth of love:

1. Make a commitment to your family and hometown.
2. Live for the greater whole.
3. Learn true love in the school of the family.
4. Dedicate your own family to the global family of humankind.
5. Strive daily to put the spiritual above the physical.
6. Align with heaven to share blessings on earth.
7. Be sexually pure to create the true culture.

### The Consequences of Family Breakdown

#### A. Why does family breakdown have such devastating consequences? It is because the family is the foundation of civilization.

##### 1. The family is the most important school for our lives.

- The family is the school of love (Reverend Moon) and school of peace (Pope John Paul II). Bill Clinton, in his 1996 State of the Union Address, stated: Our first challenge is to cherish our children and strengthen America's family. Families are the foundation of American life. If we have stronger families, we will have a stronger America.
- The experiences which shape our fundamental character take place in the family from the moment of birth.
- The place where we have our first experiences of human behavior.
  - \* Children learn filial piety as induced by the genuine care of their parents for them, and seeing the behavior of their elder siblings toward their parents.
  - \* Children learn harmonious relations between brothers and sisters by the example of the harmonious love between their father and mother.
  - \* Children learn parental heart by taking care of their younger siblings.
  - \* If they don't see these things, they grow up with scars.
- The place in which people and things are valued.
  - \* Children learn their own value through the love they receive.
  - \* Children learn the value of other persons by the way others express love to each other.
  - \* Children learn the value of things through how others treat things in the household.

##### 2. The first school of ethics and morality.

- The school of manners and deportment.
  - \* Parents naturally and irrepressibly try to instill moral norms in their children.
  - \* No parent wants their child to be violent, rude or selfish. Parents are proud when their children respect others and earn the respect of others.

- Family characteristics are handed down.
  - \* Many clans excel because of the family tradition of education or public service.
  - \* Bad characteristics and habits, such as smoking, alcoholism and mental illness, also run in families.

##### 3. The basic structure of human existence.

- Animals form families only to multiply. The bond of kinship is temporary and biologically-based.
- Human kinship bonds are permanent elements of our lives.
- The family is the first institution of human life.
- The family is the universal institution for human existence.
- Therefore the family is not created by culture. It is the creator of culture. It is a primary expression of our common human nature. Therefore it is the basis for common values and understanding among people the world over.

##### 4. The family is the model and microcosm of society.

- Society is composed of citizens expressing the quality of love learned in their families.
- Social relationships follow the pattern of family relationships.
  - \* Male and female.
  - \* Leader and follower.
  - \* Teacher and students.
  - \* Friends and colleagues.
  - \* Organization based upon common purpose with partnership, hierarchy, and division of labour. This is the nature of the family. In an effective family, roles, relationships and responsibilities are clear.

##### 5. The family is intended to operate in accordance with natural law.

- The family is a microcosm of the cosmos.
- The family has biological, social and spiritual underpinnings.
- Family relationships are set basically by natural and spiritual law, not social convention. Therefore their root is not human reason, law or custom. They have another source, and are a part of natural law and principle. This is why social strategies fail to halt the breakdown of families.
- Families breakdown when a society's laws or customs are violating the principles of true family life. Human strategies to solve this do not address the moral and ethical issues of human relationships, responsibility and purpose.

##### 6. We can solve social problems when we establish true family life.

- True Family Values is a guide to the principles of true family life, which are based upon universal natural and spiritual law.
- True Family Values can help everyone regardless of their religious faith.
- True Family Values builds from the individual to the family, community or hometown, society, nation, world and cosmos.

(to be continued...)

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

## Are Parents Important for Human Development? [Abridged]

By Mrs. Lynn Walsh, Director, UPF Office of Marriage & Family Education and Mrs. Alexa Ward, Deputy Director, WFWP UN Office June 17, 2014 - UN HQ New York



In commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family and the Global Day of Parents, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and the WFWP UN Office partnered to host a forum entitled, "The Significance of Parents in Human and Societal Development," which took place on June 17 at the United Nations headquarters in New

York.

The Speakers. The first session, chaired by Mr. Taj Hamad, secretary-general of UPF, opened with H.E. Denis G. Antoine, permanent representative of Grenada to the UN, sharing about the challenges parents face with the many social changes and stresses, including social media. He especially spoke about the anguish of parents in Nigeria with the recent abduction of hundreds of young girls. The ambassador stated, "Parents are indispensable," and he said that without parental love, guidance, and values, children have little sense of belonging or moral guidelines for their decisions; therefore, it is essential to reflect on and strengthen the role of parents for the sake of building strong societies.

During the forum Ms. Amira Fahmy, counselor at the Permanent Mission of Egypt, spoke with great forcefulness on children's inherent need of parenting from both a mother and a father for their optimum development to become contributing members of society. Mr. Masni Eriza, counselor at the Permanent Mission of Indonesia, emphasized parents' unique role in giving children stability and love and teaching values and responsibility. He stated that because "parents unlock the maximum potential for children," we need to take seriously the inclusion of the family in the Sustainable Development Goals. Ambassador Noel Sinclair, deputy chef de cabinet of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly, shared how his parents taught him about coexisting cooperatively with others, caring for and respecting others, and living for the common good. As his family of nine was poor, he had to share a pair of sneakers with his sister, so they had to alternate going to school week by week. He said being poor surely has significant disadvantages; but the security and love of his parents was far more important to him and made all the difference in who he became.

The Forum. The second session was moderated by Ms. Alexa Ward, deputy director of the UN Office for the Women's Federation for World Peace International. Mr. Fernando Vial, advocacy fellow at the World Youth Alliance, shared a striking personal story of how his mother's small but sacrificial act had a lifetime impact on his learning the value of integrity.

Next, the keynote speaker, Dr. Catherine Panter-Brick, professor of anthropology, health, and global affairs at Yale University, gave an informative PowerPoint presentation on, "Effective Parenting: Promoting Health, Development, and Peace," which was based on her years of research done around the world. Dr. Panter-Brick summarized her research into both disadvantaged and middle-class populations by saying, "to prevent mental health disorders, we need to prevent childhood

adversities, and for this we need family-focused policies that strengthen the capabilities of parents to reduce violence, illness, and poor functioning." She said that unless we strengthen parents, both rich and poor, so they can raise their children without the toxic stresses of violence, neglect, and family dysfunction, we are turning "gold into lead" or "turning normal children with great potential into mentally diseased adults."

Showing graphs of the cost effectiveness of different interventions, including job training and school programs, Dr. Panter-Brick made clear that the earliest programs that strengthen parenting abilities are by far the most effective for children's well-being. She stressed that secure attachment to both the mother and the father are predictive of the child's success on all levels of development throughout life, since the parent-child relationship "sets the stage for the chemical and structural changes in the brain that govern emotional, social, and physical behaviors throughout life." Emphasizing that the father's role cannot be underestimated, she said, "The benefits of being securely attached to a father are paramount when children enter their period of adolescence."

Dr. Panter-Brick introduced recent research answering the question, "With effective parenting, can we raise our children in ways that reduce violence inside and outside the home?" with a resounding, "yes." These research findings will be discussed this September at the UN at the launch of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium and in the publication *Pathways to Peace*.

In her conclusion, she pointed out that policies and investments for social development are amiss if they exclude the family. Instead she argued for early childhood investments and parenting education, especially ones that engage fathers as "the key to boost adult health, to reduce crime, to raise earnings, and to promote education and global citizens ... because the scientific evidence links substantial family investments to real boosts in adult health, social and economic development, and a disposition to peace."

After Dr. Panter's presentation, Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF, responded, praising the presentation for making clear the essential role of parents, the importance of engaging fathers, and the need for early intervention. We must create family-focused policies and programs, he said, because mothers and fathers are the best resource we have for raising children to their full potential, ensuring "gold into gold for life."

Development Goals, WFWP maintains over one hundred service projects in fifty nations, in the areas of education, vocational training, microcredit, AIDS prevention education, technical support, medical assistance and nutrition guidance. WFWP Chapters adhere to the principle that women, working together, taking initiative and empowering one another across traditional lines of age, race, culture and religion to create healthy families, are resolving the complex problems of our world. Ultimately solutions come as true partnerships between men and women are established in all levels of society. The beginning point is within society's most elemental level - the family. From there, Peace will naturally expand. Aims & Activities Realize a peaceful and harmonious global family...Through two major activities worldwide: poverty eradication projects targeting the empowerment of women and children; and the peace-building "Bridge of Peace" sisterhood project.

## Serious Complications from Abortions

Approximately 10 percent of all legal abortions end with one or more of the following complications, and 20 percent of these complications are life threatening.

Reported Physical Complications From Abortion: Accidental tearing of uterine artery, heavy bleeding requiring blood transfusions, abdominal cramping, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, infection, allergic reaction to drugs or anesthesia causing convulsions, heart attack, tearing of the cervix, scarring of the uterine wall, perforation of the uterus, damage to internal organs, breast cancer, miscarriage of future pregnancies, infertility, increased risk of subsequent tubal pregnancies, hepatitis, blood clots, embolisms, sterility, and death (it is estimated that 20 percent of maternal deaths are due to abortion).

Reported Psychological Complications from Abortion: Guilt, anger, anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, anniversary-grief, flashbacks of abortion, sexual dysfunction, relationship problems, convulsions, eating disorders, sleep disorders, alcohol and drug abuse, and memory repression. Important Statistics: Women who aborted in the year prior to their deaths were 60 percent more likely to die of natural causes, seven times more likely to commit suicide, four times more likely to have fatal accidents and 14 times more likely to die from homicide.

International Consensus Against Abortion: The international community recognizes abortion as a serious violation of the rights of the unborn child. For example, the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child states: "Whereas the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth." Other UN consensus documents, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, contain similar protections.

Policy Implications: Humane societies protect their most vulnerable members, especially their unborn children who are the future of any society. While working to overturn laws that legalize abortion, pro-life advocates should work to establish: Laws that require doctors to inform mothers of all the potential physical and psychological complications of abortion - Mandatory waiting periods for women contemplating abortion - Laws requiring doctors to (i) inform mothers that their children may feel pain; and (ii) offer anesthesia for the children.

- Restrictions on which trimester a child can be aborted -  
 Strict regulations for abortion clinics - Bans on all partial birth abortions.

## Presentation given by Lynda Rose at the UN on 5-12-14 as part of a Transatlantic Summit on Strengthening the Family for Sustainable Development

Family, in the UK, is under threat. According to the Office for National Statistics, in 2012 47.5% of births were outside marriage, compared with 11% in 1979. It's confidently predicted that by 2016 the majority of children will be born to parents who are not married. Contrary to what has been asserted, the

legalization of same sex marriage has not helped strengthen marriage, but appears, on the contrary, to be encouraging couples to regard 'legal' recognition and sanction of their relationship as irrelevant.

This should worry us. It's estimated today that 42% of all marriages end in divorce, while non-married partners are four times more likely to split than their married counterparts - which means that over 50% of children today will never know the reassurance of a stable home life with their birth mother and father. The reality, in fact, is of an extended, complex, and shifting family structure, where children experience lone or serialized parenting, and often live with a range of blood, half-blood, and non-blood related siblings. The majority of children today do not have a stable home environment.[1]

This matters because the evidence is clear that children develop best in a stable, non-violent family environment - preferably, if not necessarily, with their biological parents. What matters most is stability, absence of abuse, and a feeling of security.

Yet it is precisely this that so many children today are not getting, and the result is an unprecedented rise in mental health problems. In 1995, in A Handbook on child and adolescent mental health, the Department of Health said that severe mental illness was rare in young people. Sadly, this is not the case today. Estimates vary, but research suggests that in any given year 20% of children under the age of 16 have a diagnosable mental health problem - mainly relating to conduct and emotional disorders.[2]

On top of that, in 2013 the NSPCC [3] reported that a third of Britain's young experience suicidal thoughts, while in the same year Childline, a UK based telephone helpline for children, announced that it had had more than 34,000 consultations with children who talked about killing themselves.

The conclusion is inescapable that in 21st century Britain children are becoming increasingly alienated, while what we know as traditional 'Family' is disintegrating - caused by the prioritization of adult sexual behaviours and desires over children's needs. Worse, as self-justification, we are imposing these same sexually lax behaviours onto children - through education, the media, and a weasel interpretation of human rights and equality law. The message being given is that children are sexual beings, so it is their 'right' (if not obligation) to have sex as soon as they 'feel' ready. According to Brook Advisory Service, a leading UK sexual health charity, endorsed by the Department of Health, masturbation at age 9 is fine, while sex at 13 is now officially seen as a normal part of growing up. To quote, they give the "Green light" to "Consenting oral and/or penetrative sex with others of the same or opposite gender who are of similar age and developmental ability" [4]

Never mind the epidemic levels of sexually transmitted infections currently afflicting our young, many of which remain untreatable, or the almost 200,000 abortions a year - never mind the explosion in pornography and child abuse... And never mind that as result of these behaviours, young people

from page 7 Lynda Rose at the UN

today are becoming emotionally dysfunctional and finding it increasingly difficult to form long-lasting and meaningful relationships.

The truth is, unless we take urgent measures to reverse this ideological and damaging self-indulgence - teaching kids responsibility, self-value, and real respect for others; regulating media presentations of body image and relationships; providing financial incentives for marriage - not just the family, but the whole of society as we know it will be under threat. [1] *Family Breakdown is not about divorce, H Benson (2010), in a report for the Centre for Social Justice.* [2] *Lifetime Impacts: Childhood and Adolescent Mental Health, Understanding The Lifetime Impacts, Mental Health Foundation, 2005.* [3] *National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.* [4] *Reported in The Telegraph, 27 November 2014. Published by kind permission of Voice for Justice.*

## Pro-Life Essay

*The National Right to Life Committee [USA] recently announced the winners of its national speech contest. Here's a 9th grader, Rosalia Palumbo, who explains why she is pro-life. Clearly this pro-life young person has wisdom beyond her years!* **From her essay:** Why am I pro-life? I have never asked myself that question, I just knew I was. Before I answer it, I should define what being "pro-life" means to me. Being pro-life is protecting life, the lives of innocent, defenseless unborn babies, and the sometimes dependent, and yet invaluable, lives of the elderly. It means standing up for that third of my generation that is missing because of abortion, pressing the fact that equal rights, the right to life, belongs to the unborn, too. Acknowledging that all are gifts from God, and therefore are not burdens. Using our freedom of speech to stand up against this modern world, which frowns upon pregnant women, using our words of comfort, strengthen to reassure them. Being pro-life is more than just saying so. It is standing up for your beliefs and taking a stand against the injustice of this world, setting our eyes on heaven, and doing the most good for those who need it.

I am pro-life because I believe in equality. I believe all life is equal. From conception to natural death, all life is special. God has a plan for everyone and everything. It is not up to us to decide that because of their stage in life, there is no need or purpose or plan for the unborn. Selfishly choosing to kill them because of this is wrong, and I will not stand by and watch it happen. I am pro-life to bring an end to this. Depending on their family, friends, and caregivers does not mean the elderly are unable to do anything. Our selfishness is no reason to end their lives. They can give us knowledge and advice on those obstacles in life when we may think there is no one to help. Most likely they have been there before, and we can learn a lot from their triumphs and mistakes.

I am pro-life because I believe a life is a gift from God. I believe that pregnant women and unborn children are priceless in God's eyes, and shouldn't be any less in ours. I believe all life is in, and from, God's hand, and that He is in complete control of when someone's life ends. I believe that we have

no authority, whatsoever, in this matter. It isn't up to us to pick and choose who lives and who dies. It is not our place to decide that the unborn are "worthless," and therefore have no place on earth. If they had no place on earth, God would not give them to us. They are not "worthless," for God has a plan for each and every one of us, and mercilessly killing the unborn is not part of that plan.

I am pro-life because, as it has been defined, pro-life is "The radical idea that the elderly and the unborn are people, too." I believe, and will stand up and fight for, this truth to be realized by all.

## Focus on the Family; a Plea for the 'Father-Mother-Child' Principle

Giessen, Germany, 11. October 2014

The Giessen branch of the UPF organized a conference on 11 October on the topic "Focus on the Family; a Plea for the 'Father-Mother-Child' Principle". Even before this conference, we had a lot of material to reflect on, since UPF Giessen, initiated by the Women's Federation, had previously hosted an event on the topic of 'Gender Ideology'. Benedikta Becker (Youth UPF) moderated the conference and also provided musical accompaniment. The first presenter was Hildegard Piepenburg, mother of 4 grown children and just completing her Bachelor studies in Psychology. She outlined the historical development of the family from the Stone Age and Ancient Greece and Rome, through the Middle Ages and up unto the present time. Whereas in early day the family structure was marked by matriarchal or patriarchal characteristics, the structure of today's family, the so-called 'nuclear family' developed in Europe from the Middle Ages onwards because of the feudal system and Christianity. In 1275 the Council of Lyon declared marriage to be a sacrament, where man and a woman enter marriage as equal partners. So the modern nuclear family is a cultural achievement centered on a couple. The second presentation was delivered by Karl-Christian Hausmann, deputy district chairman of the CDU in Stuttgart, and chairman of UPF Germany. He highlighted current tendencies that weaken the family and down-play its importance in society, and commented on new trends in family politics. Instead of stressing the importance of a young (0-3 year old) child's bonding with its parents, especially the mother, emphasis is given to day-care center education. In 'Einstein's Day-care Center', children should become smart. This distortion of childhood needs has a negative impact on the further development of children and young people. The 'modern' woman's value should come not from her role as mother, but almost exclusively from her role as a wage earner. Thus the establishment of day care facilities is expedited, and there is an 'outsourcing' of education, away from the family and towards state-run establishments. Therefore the emphasis needs to put the family back in the forefront and to strengthen and protect the authority of the education it offers. Thankfully more and more people are ready to stand up against interfering state paternalism. In demonstrations, in the social media, in talk-shows and in books-more and more reference is being made to the family of origin and its meaning for society. And indeed, the call is for every single one of us to involve ourselves with this issue.