

Morality Forum Update

Standing up for family values in society

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Realising a world of peace through interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal shared values

By John O’Neill

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) concluded its second Rally of Hope on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020. The 3-hour event, held in Korea and broadcast online to the world, hosted 12 distinguished world leaders, along with first-class entertainment. According to the Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Mr. Yun Young-ho, two million people from 194 nations were given tickets to watch online, while millions of other viewers observed the Rally via various broadcast providers and internet platforms.

The following excerpts are from the keynote speech given by the co-founder of The Universal Peace Federation, Rev. Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon: *The day when all nations become children of our Heavenly Parent, the Creator, is the day when we can truly become one family of humanity that attends Heavenly Parent. The day will come when all two hundred or so nations will live happily with one another as brothers and sisters under their Heavenly Parent. When all leaders and all people in the world begin to listen to Heaven’s voice, become aligned like sunflowers facing the sun and usher in the day when everyone truly becomes one family of peace, all problems will be solved. Only by meeting our Heavenly Parent can we have a future and the earth have a future. Leaders of the world must listen to Heaven’s voice. People alive in the present time must put aside their greed, which leads to division and prevents all people from uniting.* The following excerpts are taken from other distinguished speakers at the event: *Human effort alone cannot and will not bring about world peace. We need to connect to our roots, our*

(Continued on page 2)

GENERAL IMPORTANT NEWS

Birmingham Teens Become Youth Ambassadors for Peace

By Nancy Flanders - April 8, 2020

Birmingham, United Kingdom—UPF concluded a summer program in which local teenagers earned the title of Youth Ambassadors for Peace. The program was held on five Saturdays from July 11 to August 8, 2020. It was a cooperative venture of UPF with Women’s Federation for World Peace (WFWP), an affiliated organisation, and two local organisations, EPIC Ltd., and Teen Girls Networking. A grant to support the project was provided by the office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, from its Active Citizens Fund. This fund consists of money that has been recovered by the police from criminals and organized crime, and should be invested into the community. At the Women’s Peace Meetings that WFWP has held in Birmingham, many participants had expressed the desire for their children to receive character education. We were very excited, therefore, when Najma Begum of EPIC Ltd. secured the grant from the Active Citizens Fund and then collaborated with UPF, WFWP and Sandra Joseph of Teen Girls Networking to deliver this program to many young people.

Around 30 young people, ranging in age from 11 to 18 years, met online, for one hour or so, on five consecutive Saturdays during the COVID-19 lockdown. Ms. Joseph of Teen Girls Networking gave two presentations on “Mindset, Well-Being, Self-Esteem” and “Confidence Building.” Dr. David Earle of UPF gave two presentations on “My Place in Society and in the World” and “Becoming a Peacemaker and Resolving Conflict.” Patricia Earle of WFWP brought many children through the women involved in her Peace Group. In addition, a young partic-

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:	
Realising a world of peace through interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal shared values	1
General Important News	1
Morality Forum Action	2
True Family Values	5
Letters and Emails Received	6
The Harming of the Child	6
Irreversible Damage: The Transgender Craze Seducing Our Daughters	7
Human cost of UK DIY Abortions in Lockdown	8
NGO Webinar Discusses Helping Children in All Circumstances	9
Women’s Federation World Peace USA Joins Peace Road 2020	10
Report affirms lockdowns are causing major harm to minds, bodies, livelihoods	11
The ‘effective abolition of the marriage vow’. No fault divorce finally becomes law	11
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creator, the Heavenly Parent. The family is the bedrock for peace and sustainable development for any society. Africa's success depends on the protection of family values. The family must come into focus in the agenda for world peace, family values must be promoted. Encouraging the unit of marriage, we learn the principles of coexistence, conflict resolution, self-denial and living for the sake of others. Marriage helps us to deal with selfishness that is at the core of the deterioration of world values. We have come to a place where world peace is not possible with the absence of building strong family units. God's ideal is to use marriage and the family as a prototype for world peace. With the help of God there is no challenge too great if we are willing to work together. We are all God's children. We have a sacred duty to work together to bring peace to the world, and hope where there is despair. Be agents of hope in a troubled world. See God's image in every human being. Students should be educated on the issues of norms, ethics, universal values, virtues and altruistic love, and the sense of selfless service. A strong generation of youth with strong hope can create miracles. There are universal values that can serve as a compass setting for everyone. One family under God. Service creates a positive ripple effect that can change people's lives. Living for the sake of others, and critical challenges can be solved. 'Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.'

Well-known USA evangelist Rev. Franklin Graham has called for Americans "to pray now more than ever, more than we've ever done in our life. America is in distress, but we do have hope and that hope is Almighty God. I don't believe that our country is going to be spared from God's judgment. We are a secular nation and the secularists are wanting to strip God out of everything." Rev. Graham was critical of many pastors who he said, "won't be vocal on and give the Biblical view on controversial subjects, because they don't want to rock the boat." The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has urged Church of England clergy to embrace prayer as England heads into a second national lockdown. Other key UK Anglican ministers are also supporting Archbishop Welby's call to the nation for daily prayer. This is a welcome development because, sadly, national level religious leaders in the UK have been criticised for their lack of leadership during the pandemic crisis. The national level UK religious leaders should have been calling the nation to prayer and repentance from the beginning of the pandemic. Unfortunately, Archbishop Welby supports aspects of the LGBT agenda as do other national level UK religious leaders and so, because of their compromised positions there has been a distinct lack of national level spiritual leadership in the UK.

If Archbishop Welby and the other relevant UK national level religious leaders genuinely want to help our nation to be free from the pandemic then serious repentance needs to be highlighted also, as well as general prayer. Pacifically, repentance is particularly needed for the deafening silence that has been predominant from such leaders in the past decades in relation to not challenging the secular, materialistic, humanistic agenda which removed Almighty God from the centre of our nation, and which has resulted in record levels of crimes and social problems. This has in particular, resulted in the sexualisation of children in our schools, extreme abortion and divorce laws, the redefining of marriage and allowing immorality to become rampant, which included pornography becoming mainstream. *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all*

unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

Extreme selfishness and individualism have given rise to hedonism. Many modern-day politicians say that religion and politics should not mix. The reality is that politics and religion cannot be separated. If we say that there is no God and that human beings are no better than machines or animals then there is no basis for morality. Politicians should be basing their policies and legislation on our creator's universal moral and spiritual laws of which the traditional family is of primary importance. Healthy nations can only appear if the people have healthy families. Also, politicians should be praying for God's blessing and guidance every day because their decisions can have incalculable consequences for the many millions of people in their nations. *Jeremiah 29:12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.*

Let us continue to keep in our prayers the urgent need for religious revivals, especially in the advanced nations; and also, for the success of the Peace Rallies which offer genuine hope for the better world that we all long to see, bringing people together from different cultural and religious backgrounds. *Psalms 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*

Morality Forum Action

The latest *SPUC Safe at School* bulletins continue to be widely distributed, online, and also hand delivered to religious organisations, as well as being given to adults in shopping areas. On October 1st John O'Neill gave the bulletins to adults collecting their children from the local school near to where he lives in Kenton, NW London. Copies of the latest *SPUC PRO-LIFE TODAY* newsletters and also the latest *SPUC Say No to DIY abortion* leaflets have also been widely distributed. John O'Neill has distributed approximately 950 *SPUC* abortion information leaflets door-to-door on 3 separate occasions in recent months in the North London area.

John O'Neill continues to speak at Christian churches. Speaking at Dominion Faith Chapel in East Ham on August 23rd, John highlighted the importance of family values, true love and living for the sake of others. John has also been explaining to various religious leaders about the vital importance of religious people being in regular contact with their MP's about key moral, family issues.

On August 31st in Southend, Essex, John O'Neill noticed a very lewd and offensive picture advert in the window of an Ann Summers sexual lingerie shop in Southend town centre. This was clearly a breach of common decency laws. John contacted the Southend Police but was informed that this was a matter for the local Council. The Council responded to John after a delay stating that this was a Police matter under the 1986 Public Order Act. In the meantime, John contacted the Advertising Standards Authority, and, on October 21st John received an email from ASA stating that his complaint had been upheld and that the Ann Summers shop had received a warning about their lewd advertisement and how they needed to adhere to the regulations concerning future advertisements. Because of the lack of action taken by Southend Police concerning this matter John wrote to the Chief Police Officer for Essex. John later received a phone call from a police officer in Southend saying that they had now sent officers to the Summers shop to speak to the proprietor of the business. John received full support from Southend Mosque while dealing with this matter, and also from Sallyann Franklin a Morality Forum supporter who lives in the Southend area.

On September 10th John O'Neill participated in the Worldwide 40 days for Life campaign, outside the Marie Stopes abortion clinic in Maidstone, Kent.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1: General Important News)

ipant from Uganda joined the webinar, had a very good experience, and said he would tell all his friends! The children interacted well with the presenters and the course material, and were given a little “homework” each week. At the end of the fourth session, there was an essay competition, with prizes starting at £10 and going up to £50. The young people wrote a brief summary of what they had learned, and a short essay as to what they would do to help others, if they were to win the prize money. In addition, those who attended all five Saturdays received a certificate as a Youth Ambassador for Peace. On the fifth Saturday, West Midlands Police Commander and Recruitment Officer Rani Gundhu, and Anthea McIntyre, a former Member of the European Parliament and the founder of West Midlands Together, presented the awards to the children. It was a very nice occasion, very positive and optimistic, with some of the children sharing their reflections, and the first-, second- and third-place winners telling us how they would use the prize money to help others. An independent judge decided who should receive which prize, but when it came to fifth place, it was difficult to separate the entries, so in the end we gave a total of six fifth-place awards of £10 each, and everyone else who submitted an entry received £5, as well as their Youth Ambassador for Peace certificate!! Many thanks to all the children for their commitment over these five weeks, their parents for encouraging them, the West Midlands Police for the funding, and our two excellent award presenters for their time and involvement. Also, thanks to Sandra Joseph and Dr. David Earle, who delivered the program, and special thanks to Najma Begum for so much time, effort and commitment in bringing everything together. All in all, a very worthwhile endeavour!

Jim Caviezel Slams the “Barbarism of Abortion.” Killing Babies is “Immoral and Wrong”

Actor Jim Caviezel is a rare, pro-life standout in Hollywood. Known for portraying Jesus in “The Passion of the Christ,” Caviezel recently spoke on the Christian podcast “Edifi With Billy Hallowell” about his Catholic faith, his new film “Infidel” and his pro-life convictions, Live Action News reports. Caviezel said he once saw the horrors of abortion in person, and he knows how barbaric it is. “I’ve looked at the barbarism of abortion,” he said. “I’ve seen one of them ... there is no hiding anymore. Even if I don’t really know who Jesus is ... something in me, my own conscience hits me: ‘That’s immoral. That’s wrong. Why are we doing this?’” “Quoting the Declaration of Independence, Caviezel said all human beings are supposed to be created equal, but society does not recognize the truth. He said there are “highly immoral” things being done to people that violate that ideal, including killing unborn babies in abortions. Caviezel said human rights should begin when human life does: the moment when the sperm fertilizes the egg at conception. “But some governors will tell you different, when they’re born now you can go ahead and kill them,” he said, likely a reference to Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam’s comments about infanticide. “And people will sit back and go, ‘You know what? To each his own.’ Well, until it comes to your back door, until it’s your own kid, or until it’s your own life,” Caviezel said.

The Christian actor has been an advocate for life for many years. He and his wife Kerri adopted two children from China, both of whom had special needs. Their first adopted child, Bo, came to the Caviezels after a traumatic first five years of life.

The little boy had a brain tumor and had been abandoned before he was taken in by an orphanage and subsequently adopted by his loving parents. Caviezel told Catholic Digest in 2009 that being pro-life is more important to him than his career. He said: “How are we so arrogant to think the 51.5 million babies who have died in this country... Look, I am for helping women. I just don’t see abortion as helping women. And I don’t love my career that much to say, ‘I’m going to remain silent on this.’” *MICAH BILGER SEPTEMBER 8th, 2020, WASHINGTON, DC LifeNews.com*

34% of Canadians killed by assisted suicide claimed they feared being a burden on family and carers posted on 31 July 2020 17:32 - SPUC

Over one third of Canadians who were killed by assisted suicide in 2019 claimed that they feared being a burden on family, friends and caregivers if they continued to live. Michael Robinson, SPUC Director of Communications said: “These are devastating statistics which show that offering people the choice to end their lives creates unacceptable pressure for them to choose death. Our current law protects every citizen and we should work to enhance life for sick, disabled and elderly people, not pass a law which offers them death as a solution to their problems.”

The suicide statistics, First Annual Report on Medical Assistance in Dying in Canada 2019, was published by the Canadian government in July 2020. According to the statistics, 5,631 Canadians were killed by assisted suicide in 2019, which is almost double the death toll compared to 2017. The report details how 34% of those killed by Canada’s suicide programme claimed that they “feared being a burden on family friends or caregivers” if they continued to live. Since assisted suicide was legalised in Canada in 2016, 13,946 Canadians have lost their lives.

Assisted suicide puts pressure on vulnerable people: Although distressing, the suicide statistics documented in the Canadian report are not uncommon. In many of the world’s regions where assisted suicide is legal, many who ‘choose’ to die report that they want to avoid becoming a burden on family and carers. In Washington State in 2018, 51% of people who were killed by assisted suicide said that being a burden on family, friends and caregivers was a reason to end their lives. Similarly in Oregon in 2018, 54.2% of people killed by assisted suicide said that being a burden on family, friends and caregivers was a reason to end their lives. SPUC’s Mr Robinson added: “Assisted suicide fails to protect the right to life of all citizens no matter how weak, vulnerable or disabled their lives may be. It is vital that we resist all attempts to embed the abhorrent practice of assisted suicide into our society.”

The resurgence of demands to legalise assisted suicide in the UK: Assisted suicide in the United Kingdom is currently illegal. However, in recent weeks, the UK has seen a resurgence of demands to change the law on assisted suicide. Earlier this month, SPUC reported on Shropshire MP Daniel Kawczynski who said he would be lobbying the Government to legalise assisted suicide. During the same week, Derbyshire woman, Mrs Munns also confirmed she would be calling on MPs launch an inquiry in the law which **prohibits assisted suicide. Mrs Munns wants assisted suicide to be legal after her mother** faced a criminal trial for helping her husband to die. You can find more information about SPUC’s campaign against assisted suicide at www.spuc.org.uk

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 2: Morality Forum Action)

The purpose of our life on the earth is to perfect our love. We were born for just that. Our days on the earth are certainly numbered, which means we do not have endless time to work on the growth of our heart and love. Every moment in our life becomes precious, as long as we use this moment in God's ways, in the ways of true love, a love that loves the way God does. Many people do not even believe in God, let alone know God's standard of love. God's standard may seem challenging, but we have the potential to get there. We have the potential to love the way God does. God gave us this potential for a reason, that is for the purpose of us inheriting the very heart of God. And "inheriting" here means "developing" our heart by exercising it. How do we love all people of the world? We certainly cannot meet them all. But we can inherit the heart that God has for all of them, no matter if good or bad. And with this heart we can pray for all people in the world, and with this heart we can encounter everyone we meet. With this heart we can even love those who seem unlovable.

Sent out by Bruno Klotz to relevant people on his email list. Bruno sends out a weekly spiritually inspirational email.

(Continued from page 3: General Important News)

The ABCs of Safe Online Home Learning

Technology brings many gifts, but also comes with serious risks of which parents must be aware: particularly the high potential of exposure to harmful sexually explicit material and even predators. We know that predators have openly shared strategies online about grooming children for sexual abuse and exploitation during COVID-19. However, predators aren't the only online threat. Unfortunately, sexually exploitative material—including hardcore pornography—is all too-easily accessible by children, especially when Internet filters and device controls are non-existent or inadequate at home or at school. Exposure to pornography and sexually explicit material threatens young children's and adolescents' well-being and is antithetical to a safe, healthy, and productive learning environment. To support overburdened families during this unprecedented, vastly virtual school year start, we've compiled the ABC's of creating a safe online home learning environment to protect the children in your life – during the pandemic and once it's (hopefully soon) over.

A – Awareness: Awareness of online risks and how to mitigate threats to your child's safety and well-being needs to be every parent's priority. Ask school administrators and teachers what – if any – safety measures are in place to protect students from access to harmful material during virtual learning. Educate yourselves about the apps, games, and social media platforms popular with your child and his or her peers. Monitor their activity, who they're interacting with, and who is reaching out to them. **Ask your child questions and let them know you will be involved and aware of their online life, just as you are in their non-virtual one.** **B – Boundaries: Boundaries are essential to keeping kids safe online.** We're talking about literal boundaries (filters, parental controls, privacy settings, rules) to keep harmful content and people away from your child, as well as personal boundaries within a virtual world. Whether your children are using their own or school-issued digital devices (Chromebooks, iPads, laptops), it's paramount that parental controls are activated on the devices and search engines (Google Chrome, Safari, etc). Remember, most school-issued devices are placed in your children's hands (or

shipped to your home) with no safeguards in place. It's also paramount you and your child determine online/screen time boundaries that align with your family's values and priorities. No matter what boundaries your family sets, clearly stating them and even having them in writing will lead to a healthier, safer online environment. **C – Communication: Consistent, open communication with your children is key to keeping them safe while they're learning, playing, and socializing online.** Use age appropriate language to explain the risks of Internet usage and let them know your primary concerns. Teach them to recognize pornography and predatory behaviour from strangers (and even known adults) and develop a clear set of actions they should take – including immediately telling you, a teacher, or another trusted adult. Kids are more likely to help protect themselves if they understand what they need to watch out for, can name it, and know what to do when confronted. *This article is published by permission of National Centre on Sexual Exploitation*

Examples of Individuals and organisations defending traditional moral and family values



Special thanks to JK Rowling for standing firm against the vitriolic hatred expressed against her by the totalitarian transgender lobby.

CBR-UK have been showing people in town centres a one-minute video of what an abortion procedure looks like and how developed the unborn child is; that it clearly is a human being. The 4 people who appear in the video all had open minds about



abortion before looking at the video. They were all very shocked at what they saw on the video and they all expressed that they were now against abortion. One lady said that it was a murder that was

taking place.

Mass Resistance in the USA have highlighted about the Marxist cultural aims and ideals of the Black Lives Matter organisation:

When parents happen to watch their children's Zoom classes and notice an offensive Black Lives Matter assignment or diatribe by the teacher during an academic class, they might assume it's an isolated situation. But in fact, the vast national and local Black Lives Matter (BLM) curriculum materials are very sophisticated and extremely well-planned. Their aim is to transform every child's mind starting as young as possible. The BLM founders admit to being trained Marxists and LGBT activists – and the BLM ideology now flooding the nation's schools fully reflects that. **Learning BLM's "13 guiding principles":** Normal parents would want their young children told the truth that all people of all races have the same common humanity. They would not want them given the racist poison that one race is more "special" or "deserving" or "better" than the others. But there's more to BLM than just that. The starting point of the BLM curriculum is infusing children with their "13 Guiding Principles." They are basically Marxist philosophy. These principles are drilled into the kids' minds quite thoroughly.

(Continued on page 12)



TRUE FAMILY VALUES MINISTRY

The One Family of Humankind

A. The global village

7. *The family of humankind embraces the physical world and spirit world.*

- The fellowship of humanity extends to the spirit world. The spirit world is the extension of the human mind. Every culture has give and take with the spirit world. Ancestor worship east and west; aboriginal worship of nature spirits; the Roman Catholic communion of the saints.
- Spirit world extends to all generations, past and future.
- We are the product of spiritual as well as physical lineage and cultural heritage.
- We are divided by historical fear and resentment nursed by generations of ancestors, between Jews and Christians, blacks and whites, men and women, etc.
- To create one great family, we must deal with the history of suffering, which remains festering with passed-away people in the spirit world.

B. God's purpose of creation is a world of freedom, peace, unification and happiness. This is the world of one great family which reflects God's divine image.

1. *God created us as His manifest, tangible form-His image.*

- Human beings are created in the image of God.
- Human true love is the image of God's love.
- Human beings have a divine nature, in potential.
- Human beings embody God's image when they are free to grow to complete their potential as mature, loving and true.
- Therefore, freedom is a prerequisite to realizing the divine image.

2. *God created us as His partners of love. Nationalism is overcome by parental love.*

- The beloved resembles the lover, and there is peace and harmony between them.
- Human beings are God's love partners.
- Peace and harmony in human relationships constitute divine image.

3. *God created us to multiply Himself and fill God's kingdom with His true children.*

- Human family and society are the horizontal multiplication of God in manifest form, that is, it is the expansion of God's love.
- God's image thus expands, and the potential within God, which is infinite, develops in beauty, truth and goodness.
- Multiplication in nature occurs through intense and inti-

mate give and take, achieving unity.

- Unity is the divine image.

4. *God finds joy when He senses His own nature reflected and expanded in the creation.*

- Joy is the fulfilment of the purpose of creation.
- Therefore the divine image is full of happiness.

5. *The divine image.*

- It begins with the individual family and is completed in the one great family of humankind.
- It encompasses the cosmos.
- It is a world of freedom, peace, unification and happiness.

Freedom and Peace

A. An ideal world is one of freedom

1. *The difference between freedom and license.*

- We have both spirit and flesh, and hence dual purposes, the purpose of the spirit and the purpose of the flesh.
- Freedom means to fulfil both purposes, but in the proper order, with the spirit having priority over the flesh.
- True freedom means to follow one's conscience. The conscience always guides us to live for others. Therefore, the freedom of the conscience exists within the context of the whole. The conscience leads us to fulfil the purpose of life. The conscience leads us to take responsibility for our lives. The conscience leads us to live according to God's will. To live in the context of the whole will also bring satisfaction to the self.
- License means to do whatever the flesh desires, without regard for the effect upon myself or others. Taking license actually enslaves the mind, because the body's desires, by the nature of the physical world, can never be satisfied. Therefore we are constantly on the treadmill of satisfying the body's appetites. Because we are violating the universal law, we suffer from a guilty and crippled conscience. As St. Paul expressed, "I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do" (Rom 7:19-23). If we are "captive to the law of sin," as Paul expressed, then we are not free.

2. *The precondition for true freedom is the liberation of the conscience from captivity to the body's desires.*

- Liberation of the conscience which had been dragged about by the desires of the flesh, constantly complaining and regretting, but powerless to resist.
- Freedom blossoms, because it is based upon true love (life for others), and true love is always expanding.
- Therefore the scope of one's power, which is the realm of freedom, is ever-increasing. From prison, St. Paul, M. Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela changed the society, because they were there for conscience.

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

Letters and Emails Received

Good morning John. I am so happy to see the results of your efforts. May Allah bless you. [From Mr Haq, Imam at South-end Mosque, concerning the lewd advert in the window of the Ann Summers sexual lingerie shop which was removed]

Hi John, Well done! Paid off to get hold of the Chief Police Officer! all the best. Sallyann [Concerning the Ann Summers sexual lingerie shop in Southend]

Dear John, Thank you very much for the Morality Forum Update, uplifting and instructive as always and a boon in times of crisis. Jacqueline.

Dear John, Thank you for your e-mail and nice meeting you last Sunday. I went through the materials you gave me and I am so impressed at the work you and your team do. God bless you. Pastor Daniel

Thanks John, I have signed the petition [RSE SCHOOLGATE CAMPAIGN] and will forward it to others Thank you for all your good work. Best wishes, Françoise

Good morning Brother, I took my time to read through this newsletter. [Summer Update] It is so rich bordering on family values. You are impacting lives, communities and our world with this 12 page newsletter. As you may be aware I have been delivering parental training for Black and ethnic minority families and one of the modules is: Understanding Family Values. This is not a coincidence. I will invite you some day to address these parents in one of the sessions. Keep the flag flying for Jesus. Yours in Christ, Pastor Chika

Thank you, dear Elder John. Informative and thought provoking as usual. [Summer Update]

God bless you. Sharon Armstrong [Pastor]

Dear John, Keep up the good work. Cllr. John Nottingham.

Dear John: Thanks for sharing this with us. It is much appreciated. [Petition – Freedom of speech and assembly] (Pastor KM: Please help disseminate to all members of our EMRI Board asking them to please disseminate it widely while providing leadership by signing the petition before the deadline date please.) DELE OLOWU Assistant General Overseer Regional Headquarter, RCCG Europe Mainland.

Thanks, John, I have signed. Keep up the good fight. [Freedom of speech and assembly] Hamish

Thank you Mr O'Neill; I am really blessed by this Update [Spring]. God bless and prosper your efforts in Jesus' Mighty Name. Pastor Saidu Daniel Bangura

spiralling out of control. However, though many can identify the problems, many find it hard to pinpoint the real cause. The basic principle is this, "If you want your society to have improved outcomes twenty years from now, then adults in this generation have to work together to improve the wholesomeness of the children they give birth to and raise." If the children are, on average, in some specific ways, a bit more wholesome than their parents, then social outcomes will improve. The central idea is, "How one treats the child, so will be the future of one's nation." To allow for this to happen, society needs to acknowledge that children have natural rights. Children have a right to a childhood that doesn't seriously impair their ability to build a flourishing life. For example: - Children have a natural right and desire to be raised, if it is at all possible, by their two biological parents. Babies and children, like everyone else, have an equal right to life. Children also have a natural right to expect adults to protect them from the abusive desires and behaviours of other adults. Like everyone else, children have a natural right to be free from slavery—free from the painful thought that they were bought and sold to fulfil someone else's needs. In general, all of us have a natural right not to be forced to pay off someone else's debt.

Because of the above, the core sentence that drove the development of our Christian nations for centuries was, "We, parents, will sacrifice our own happiness to make a better future for our children. We seek to uphold the natural rights of the child within the law." However, today, in the "advanced civilizations" of W. Europe and America, legislation, or a lack of needed legislation, causes us to do the following cruel things to our children: There is the social issue of the unwanted child in the womb. Legislators had three choices. They could ensure that the young were taught about how human sexuality has the ability to achieve the most wondrous outcome—the creation of a precious new life. Surrounded by the right form of cultural support, ever-fewer unwanted children would have been created. Humans would have learned to use their sexuality more respectfully. Alternatively, the politicians could have left things as they were. Social development would have still occurred, as happened over the last several centuries. Instead of the above, in the name of "compassion" for the women involved, we accepted the legal killing of the innocent child—some 140 million so far in W. Europe and America. Today, in our schools, we do not clarify all the adverse outcomes of out-of-wedlock sex. We would rather kill a child than teach the truth. The broader social effects of allowing abortions are profound. Both men and women can still feel guilt and shame. A loss of honour for both men and women accompanies the killing of an innocent. In such a space, women start to act less honourably and find it harder to find honourable men. This ultimately makes it harder for both men and women to marry and stay married. With the breakdown of the family that follows, single parenting rises. Fatherless children now fill many a fractured community and our jails.

There is the issue of the husband or wife who wishes to divorce. In the 1970s, our social representatives had three choices. They could have asked themselves how citizens might be raised so that they were better prepared for the marital and parenting journey. Alternatively, they could have left the divorce

(Continued on page 7)

The Harming of the Child

By Stephen Stacey



Today, many people notice that Western civilization is dying. Social problems are rising, increasing numbers of citizens find it harder to marry and stay married, and, in an attempt to deal with the damage, our national debts are

(Continued from page 6: *The Harming of the Child*)

laws as they were. Western nations had developed despite the problems within marriages. It would be painful to look at some marriages, but still, community improvement was taking place. Instead, to satisfy adult desires, politicians introduced more liberal divorce laws. These laws allowed millions of parents to disconnect from their children. Tens of millions of children have suffered attachment traumas and experienced worse lives as a result. Even today, when we have so many marriage strengthening books and programs available, we do not even try to offer marriage education or counselling to try to uphold the child's natural desire for connection, protection, and well-being. We would rather hurt the child than grow. Increased rates of depression, homelessness, drug abuse, crime, and more are a natural outcome. Today, the legislation allows children to be bought and sold in both IVF and surrogacy—all without asking the children if they want to be bought and sold—as we sold slaves some years ago. Again, the law, in a desire to please adults' demands, violates the child's natural rights and desires. If the politicians asked the children if they want to be sold by their mother, they would say no. The intrinsic attachment trauma that comes with such practices can cause havoc with the whole of the child's life. In IVF and surrogacy, the adults' emotional longing now often becomes the child's life-long emotional pain. In IVF, a considerable percentage of children end up with disabilities and life-long illnesses—all without asking the children if they wanted such a harmful start to life.

The above legislation violates all the fundamental rights of the child—their natural right to life, their natural right and intrinsic desire to know the love of their biological parents, their natural right to protection, their right to not be bought and sold, and their right to not be forced to pay off anyone else's debt. With every right being violated, many citizens today become blind to the natural rights of the child. Thus, adults increasingly feel they have a right to violate children in new and painful ways. Today, we offer the young no protection from pornography. Many addicted young males and females are now incapable of building a lasting relationship. Social media channels like SnapChat allow men to abuse countless naive children. Tens of thousands of children are now trafficked for sex every year. Millions of videos and images now exist online—of adults sexually abusing children. In Europe, hundreds of thousands of children have been groomed and raped by Muslim men. In comprehensive sex education—teachers teach our children about same-sex eroticism. If one asked the children if they want to be taught such content, they would say no, but nobody asks the child. Also, we do not teach children about the profound risks of such conduct. Many teens experiment with such behaviour and experience more significant risks—diseases, higher rates of rape and abuse, increased rates of drug abuse, and more.

As the growth of unstable cohabitation with children occurs, millions of children suffer increased problems in their lives. We now sterilize under-aged gender-confused children and cut the penises and breasts off children who, after a few years, wake up to realize they were just temporarily confused, and now can't go back to everyday life. Often, a miserable life awaits them. All of the above causes some 50 percent of our

children to suffer worse life-outcomes than they would have experienced some seventy years ago. It is utterly impossible to bring about a flourishing future tomorrow when legislative design is harming so many children today. It is unbelievable how desensitized we have become to such behaviours. More than this, today, politicians ask us to become tolerant of such child-harming behaviours. Those who care for the child are increasingly told to keep quiet because caring for the child causes other adults to feel judged. Our nations are post-Christian precisely because Christianity understands that each child is a child of God—precious with infinite value. Today, the legislation says the opposite. Only when some people are willing to express immense courage will we be able to honestly discuss whether it is honourable to sacrifice the well-being of children for the sake of adult feelings. And only then will we have any chance of saving our nations from the challenging and impoverished future that awaits. *The above is an excerpt from Stephen Stacey's latest book: Be Fruitful, Multiply, and Take Dominion: A Pathway to Happiness and World Peace. The book looks at the core principles that allowed Europe and the U.S. to flourish*

Irreversible Damage: The Transgender Craze Seducing Our Daughters

By Abigail Shrier

Regnery Publishing, 227pp, £28.99, ISBN 978-1684510313

This harrowing book deals with the effects of transgenerism on adolescent girls. In researching for the book, the author conducted nearly 200 hundred interviews and spoke to nearly 50 families of adolescents. The result is a thorough and comprehensive study of the transgender phenomenon covering multiple areas including the teenage mental health crisis, the effect on parents, the role of social media, transgenderism in education and health care and the damaging effects of puberty blockers, testosterone and the surgery associated with transition. One of the most striking features highlighted by Shrier is how recently and suddenly the transgender phenomenon has taken root among girls. Until 2012 gender dysphoria overwhelmingly affected males and no scientific literature existed on dysphoria among adolescent girls. Today however it is primarily these girls who are seeking treatment for dysphoria. Shrier writes: Between 2016 and 2017 the number of gender surgeries for natal females in the United States quadrupled, with biological women suddenly accounting for 70% of all gender surgeries. In 2018, the UK reported a 4,400 percent rise over the previous decade in teenage girls seeking gender treatments. Shrier links this with a general teenage mental health crisis. Today's teens are lonelier than any previous generation, spending more time online and less with friends. They have record levels of anxiety and depression. Says Shrier: Between 2009 and 2017, the number of high schoolers who contemplated suicide increased 25 percent. The number of teens diagnosed with clinical depression grew 37 percent between 2005 and 2014. And the worst hit—experiencing depression at a rate three times that of boys—were teenage girls. 95% of today's teenagers possess an iPhone which for many is a substitute friend. Many effectively live on their iPhones and maintain a social media persona that is highly

(Continued on page 8)

susceptible to peer pressure. Transgenderism has become a craze with 2% of American high school students identifying as transgender according to a 2017 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Shrier draws on the research of Dr Lisa Littman of Brown University to paint a revealing picture of transidentifying young people. Dr Littman collected data from 256 parents whose children had never experienced gender dysphoria in childhood, but suddenly identified as transgender in adolescence. Her survey discovered that: Over 80% of the adolescents were natal females with a mean age of 16. Almost a third of the adolescents did not seem at all gender dysphoric, according to parents, prior to the adolescents' announcement of being trans.

A majority had one or more psychiatric diagnosis and almost half were engaging in self-harm prior to the onset of the gender dysphoria. Nearly 70% of the teenagers belonged to a peer group in which at least one friend had also come out as transgender. In some groups, the majority of the friends had done so. Over 65% of teens increased their social media use and time spent online immediately prior to their announcement of transgender identity. Over 60% of parents said the trans announcement brought their child a popularity boost. Over 88% of parents surveyed reported being supportive of transgender rights. Fewer than 13% of parents believed that their adolescents' mental health had improved after transgender identification. Over 47% reported that mental health had worsened.

The Influencers: Shrier stresses the harmful impact of the internet in influencing young people's choices. She chronicles the work of online trans 'influencers' who encourage young girls on their transitional journey. One of the foremost influencers is the YouTuber, Chase Ross, a female-to-male trans guru whose channel has had over 10 million views and has more than 166,000 subscribers. Ross has taken testosterone for more than a decade and has developed a beard though she is still struggling with her period. Her basic message is that being trans is innate and permanent. Ross encourages girls to experiment. Girls are encouraged to wear breast binders.

Ross will send young girls breast binders at a friend's address if their parents disapprove. The trans influencers are not above telling children to cut off their parents if they are insufficiently supportive of the new identity. The influencers diagnose vague symptoms which they claim may be indications of a person being trans. These include 'feeling different, not really fitting in...not feeling feminine or masculine enough...feeling uncomfortable in your body.' Most disturbing is the influencers' willingness to encourage experimentation with hormones and testosterone. One influencer states: You don't need to be a hundred percent sure you're trans to try hormones...You can try hormones for three months. After three months there starts to be permanent effects, but until around then you can just try hormones and see how you feel. It's great, it's that easy. Shrier writes of the influencers: Many of them peddle misinformation, outright medical falsehoods, and just bad advice. They extol the glories of testosterone as if it were a protein shake, not a Schedule III controlled substance. They enthuse over double mastectomies as if they were of no more significance

than a haircut...They coach you to lie to doctors by inventing a history of childhood dysphoria or omitting your own mental health history.

The Damage: One of the most troubling parts of this book describes the damage done to girls' bodies by puberty blockers and testosterone. She writes: Suppression of normal bone density development and greater risk of osteoporosis, loss of sexual function, interference with brain development, and possibly suppressing peak IQ are all risks puberty blockers carry...these risks increase dramatically if an adolescent moves straight from puberty blockers to cross-sex hormones...infertility is almost guaranteed.

Shrier continues: If a biological girl regrets her decision and stops taking testosterone, her extra body and facial hair will likely remain, as will her...deepened voice, and possibly even the masculinization of her facial features...eliminating testosterone doesn't whisk an adolescent back to where she started...The long-term effects include heightened rates of diabetes, stroke, blood clots, cancer, and...heart disease...mortality risk rises. Shrier also describes some of the horrors that can result from gender surgery. Reading this requires a strong stomach. This is a well-researched, often moving and deeply disturbing book full of heart-rending personal stories that effectively illustrate the damage done to individuals, families and society by the transgender agenda. If you are a parent this book will make you want to put strong limits on your child's internet use and exercise extra-caution over what your child may be being exposed to by teachers, doctors, counsellors etc. It also contains useful advice for parents on how to protect their daughters from exposure to the transgender nightmare. *This article is published by permission of Family Education Trust*

Human Cost of UK DIY Abortions in Lockdown

SPUC's Tell The Truth campaign is spelling out the risks for women

Abortion pills lead to 4 times more serious complications than surgical abortions: The largest and most accurate study of medical abortions, a Finnish study of 42,600 patients, found that women had four times as many serious complications after medical abortions: **20% compared to 5.6%. Taking abortion pills unsupervised is dangerous – even the other side admit this:** Abortion campaigner and obstetrician, Peter Boylan, has warned of the danger of “very significant haemorrhage...**And if that happens in the privacy of a woman's home or perhaps in an apartment somewhere, that can have very, very serious consequences for women.** So, it's really important that these tablets are...dealt with in a supervised way...” **There is no 'authentic' demand for home medical abortion:** It is argued that women need to take misoprostol at home because they often experience bleeding on the way home. Yet former RCOG President, Professor Lesley Regan, has admitted that there is no hard evidence or data showing that women were having prob-

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8: *Human Cost of UK DIY Abortions in Lockdown*)

lems with that arrangement. Abortion campaigners rely instead on (limited) anecdotal evidence. **Onset of bleeding is within four to six hours after taking the first stage abortion, misoprostol, giving sufficient time for most women to get home.**

Medical abortion is contraindicated for women with transport problems, or living at a distance from the clinic: Women should not be offered medical abortion if they are not easily available for follow-up contact or medical evaluation or if they lack access to emergency services. **Doubt over the lawfulness of most DIY abortions:** “Telemedicine” interviews - when a doctor asks questions over the phone or a video link – make it impossible to determine the baby’s gestation. *Thousands of abortions could have taken place already after the legal 10-week cut off point for DIY abortions has passed and no one would know.* **Coercion taking place:** A remote assessment cannot ensure that women are not being forced into abortion by a partner, parent, pimp, employer or abuser. **Ectopic pregnancies:** A major cause of maternal deaths in early pregnancy – cannot be spotted when consultations are conducted electronically.

Figures released in June show that medical abortions have **virtually doubled** in the UK in the last ten years. And no wonder. They are: Cheaper for the Government to fund than surgical abortions. Profitable for the abortion industry to peddle (*with no staff supervision or abortionist fees to cover, overheads are slashed with DIY abortions*) They can be sold to women as being “quick” and “convenient”. [Now 3-in-4 abortions in England and Wales are induced medically with pills, and that figure is higher still in Scotland.](#) And with 95,000 DIY medical abortions registered since lockdown begun, only the credulous would claim that abortion in Britain today is “safe”, “lawful” or “rare”. A recently leaked email from NHS Regional Chief Midwife in England highlighted **serious problems** with the Government’s DIY medical abortion policy. Since DIY abortions were sanctioned in the UK in March, at least 13 serious incidents have been referred to the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the independent regulator which oversees “TOP” (termination of pregnancy) procedures in the UK. [These include the deaths of two women who underwent medical abortions.](#) Tragically for the victims of these abortions, the Government could have stepped in and protected them. Instead it chose to ignore the warnings of SPUC and others and **did nothing**. The pain and misery suffered by women who have needlessly fallen foul of the reckless DIY abortion protocols is seen only as collateral damage to be tolerated. **ABORTION HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER TO ACESS:** Making abortion easier to obtain only leads to the deaths of more babies and increased risks to women. We must block our opponents’ efforts to use this cynical “consultation” ploy to usher in permanent DIY abortion. We must turn around the consultation and make it a ringing endorsement of life, babies and mothers instead. We must ensure that the consultation responses are so overwhelmingly pro-life that the only course open to Government will be to reject DIY abortions permanently. *SPUC recently had a cash deficit of £156,000 caused by the pandemic. For those who would like to donate to support the SPUC’s bid to stop “permanent” DIY abortions this Autumn please telephone: 02070917091*

NGO Webinar Discusses Helping Children in All Circumstances

Written by Universal Peace Federation International
Thursday, October 22, 2020

New York, United States—On October 22, 2020, the NGO Committee on the Family hosted a webinar on “Helping Children and Families in All Circumstances” to an audience of UN staff, delegates and NGO representatives to the UN. This webinar commemorated the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in October 1989. The CRC, ratified by nearly every country worldwide, cements a commitment to the best interests and rights of children, including non-discrimination, right to life, survival, and development. The focus of this discussion was the unique role of parents and the family to protect these rights and ensure that children receive optimal opportunities for development. The Convention upholds the family as “the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members and particularly children, [which] should be afforded the necessary protection and assistance so that it can fully assume its responsibilities.”

Dr. Rima Salah, chair of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC), has served in numerous roles at the UN such as former Deputy Executive Director of the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General in Peacekeeping Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad, and member of the UN High-Level Panel on Peace Operations. Dr. Salah began by applauding the impact of the CRC that brought about some major gains worldwide in children’s well-being and protection. Through her extensive work with children and families around the world, however, she shared her concern that still many children are behind in many areas such as education, health care, and food security. Additionally, many live in unstable, high-conflict areas: 250,000,000 children live in active conflict areas witnessing violence, killing and maiming. Additionally, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a tragic toll on gains that had been made in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, especially with the increase in poverty worldwide. Dr. Salah reminded participants that children—especially those whose families are poor, lacking resources, displaced, and unstable—are the most at risk, but this vulnerability has heightened terribly with the pandemic. She emphasized that the CRC acknowledges that parents have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of children and that parents should be rendered assistance by the state and society in order to do so. However, Dr. Salah admonished that there is a great lack of family-oriented policies around the world that would improve the welfare of families and their children.

Dr. Salah closed with hopeful examples of initiatives of UNICEF and the ECPC in partnership with NGOs, such as the program “Families for Families.” This program has helped families in Beirut come to the rescue of other families suffering from the recent explosion. She also said that the advanced neuroscience revealing the critical importance of early child-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9: NGO Webinar Discusses Helping Children)

hood development has resulted in greater awareness and focus on empowering parents. There are many programs that support and guide parents, strengthening their capacities to bring emotional, social, and economic stability within the family and their community. Dr. Salah clarified that there is actually a global early childhood development “movement” utilizing neuroscience and practice showing the critical affects when effective early childhood development is stressed and parents are empowered. She added with passion, “This movement is about the transformative power of early childhood development, not only for the well-being of children, but for peace and cohesion in society.”

Mr. Nuno Crisostomo spoke from his three years of experience as the emergency specialist for UNICEF in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). He explained that when the 60 years of violence and instability in DRC had finally ended, he witnessed the Convention on the Right of the Child effecting some substantial changes for the first time in the country’s history. For the first time, children were not being recruited by armed forces to fight in the conflicts, children could go to school as free education was offered, and polio was finally eliminated from the population due to vaccinations. Mr. Crisostomo explained that much of this was accomplished through the partnership of UNICEF and faith-based NGOs. However, the country still faces terrible challenges with numerous Ebola outbreaks and now the Covid-19 pandemic. Strengthening the family, Crisostomo said, is an important solution for increasing children’s well-being and social development, noting also that the problem of absent fathers needs to be addressed. Concluding on a positive note, he stated that he is encouraged that a framework of strong partnerships has been established, and this will continue to assist progress in the rights and well-being of children and their families.

Ryan Koch, co-chair of the NGO Committee on the Family and director of the International Affairs Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, moderated the panel and handled questions and answers.

Women’s Federation World Peace USA Joins Peace Road 2020

Written by Natascha Phillips



After a very successful kick-off event in Plymouth, Massachusetts on July 29, the National Peace Road tour continued

with a wide array of exciting programs in the Northeast region of the United States for the next few days, before moving south. This article includes some highlights shared by WFWP members who participated in Peace Road events in the states

of Maine, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware. On July 30, Patsy Onatah and other members of WFWP Maine hosted the national Peace Road USA team on the top of Mount Agamenticus in York, Maine. The site was chosen both for its historical significance and its sweeping views of all that is beautiful in Maine – the ocean, the forests and the mountains in the distance.

“My first thought when asked to host was how could we embrace our team – make them feel welcome, make them feel at home,” shared Patsy. “This came from my maternal instinct, my maternal heart. I knew this would be their last stop of the day. They would be tired and hungry. What could we, as a group Living by the Logic of Love, do to address those needs? We gave them an opportunity to rest and we fed them with the bounty from Maine.” There was a picnic dinner of lobster rolls, blueberry cake and watermelon.

The following day, WFWP USA Senior Vice President Rev. Juanita-Pierre Louis presided over a special ceremony of repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation at Foley Square in New York City, in remembrance of the 419 souls buried there during the Civil War. These souls comprised people of the African Diaspora, who were brought to America as slaves to help build the nation against their will. In keeping with the overall Peace Road theme of “Reconciling all People,” this tributary event served as a reminder for Americans of all races to heal the past for a brighter future, especially for future generations not to bear the burden of the past. WFWP was given a warm welcome and thanks from Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, a strong leader in the city of New York. She commended the women of WFWP for coming out and making people aware of the road we must travel to bring equality and peace to all people. Sunday, August 2, was a very busy day, with Peace Road events in both Pennsylvania and Delaware. It began in the city of brotherly love, Philadelphia, where no less than 17 representatives from WFWP participated, including our beloved long-time WFWP supporter Mother Gail, according to a report by WFWP Philadelphia Chairwoman Rev. Jizly Dohou. Mama Gail Clouden, founder of Universal Love Ministries, was invited to give a message of peace and love right in front of the Liberty Bell near Independence Hall. Independence Hall, she asserted, was a holy place with all kinds of memories pinned into the hearts of African Americans today. As she concluded her message, she stated that God, our creator, will reset the button of forgiveness so that love and healing will take place in the new age. The closing prayer was then offered by Rev. Juanita Pierre-Louis. The WFWP team and its chairwoman Rev. Dohou signed the Peace Road Proclamation right in front of the congress hall, proclaiming and commemorating the longest religious and political historical records of American Constitutional history. The group then walked to the Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which was founded in 1794 and is the oldest African Methodist Episcopal congregation in the US, and offered sincere prayers and meditation. Mama Gail prayed that the world would wake up and repent and that no mother would ever face the tyranny of seeing their family torn apart again.

In a unique and eye-catching twist, the WFWP members con-

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10: Women's Federation World Peace USA)

cluded their Peace Road experience with a guided tour via horse-drawn carriage ride through the historical neighbourhoods of the city, with a Peace Road banner proudly displayed on the carriage that attracted the attention of passers-by. Rev. Pierre-Louis continued on to Wilmington, Delaware, where another Peace Road event was held that evening at the Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park. The park featured a beautiful statue of Harriet Tubman, the legendary American abolitionist, mother and freedom fighter. "The spirit I felt in Delaware was that of a mother gathering her flock," reported Rev. Pierre-Louis. "This is the spirit that Mother Hak Ja Han Moon, the Mother of Peace, carries with her wherever she goes. WFWP, founded by Mother and Father Moon, carries the spirit of unity, true love and peace wherever it goes." The program featured powerful speakers that addressed the desire for peace and freedom. Rev. Pierre-Louis led the participants in a soulful rendition of 'Amazing Grace' and offered a heartfelt prayer to raise up the consciousness of the American people. The event concluded with the presentation of Mother Moon's memoir, 'The Mother of Peace,' and more joyful singing. www.upf.org/programs/peaceroad

Report affirms lockdowns are causing major harm to minds, bodies, livelihoods. Evidence compiled from various studies shows that lockdowns negatively affect quality-of-life issues.

November 19, 2020 (LifeSiteNews) — The American Institute for Economy Research (AIER) released a report yesterday affirming that virtually all aspects of day-to-day life have been harmed by the COVID-19 lockdowns. The report, containing evidence compiled from various studies, assesses the damage inflicted by the lockdowns across a spectrum of quality-of-life issues, including mental health, the economy, unemployment, crime, and education. **Mental Health:** CDC numbers released in August revealed that adults' suicidal thoughts more than doubled, with 10.7 percent reporting thoughts of suicide compared with 4.3 percent in 2018, and a whopping one in four young adults ages 18-24 reporting suicidal ideation in late June. At that time, 40 percent of American adults said they were struggling with mental health. Anxiety symptoms had tripled, and depression symptoms had quadrupled compared with 2019 rates. Children have not been immune from the mental health toll of the lockdowns either. The CDC reported that mental health-related emergency room visits shot up by 24 percent for children age 5-11, and by 31 percent for children age 12-17, compared with 2019. **Unemployment:** Quite remarkably, the unemployment rate increase to 14.7 percent in April 2020 was reported to be the highest rate of unemployment, and the "largest over-the-month increase" since 1948, when these data were first recorded.

The pandemic's impact seems to have hit the lower-income bracket particularly hard. "In March, 39 percent of people living with a household income of \$40,000 and below reported a job loss." The food and hospitality industry received such a blow that the report devoted a section just to their losses. The restaurant industry alone was reported as "set to lose" eight million employees in 2020. Loss of childcare during the COVID-19 crisis has also taken its toll. "One out of four

women who were surveyed reported their job loss was due to lack of childcare, twice the rate of men surveyed," reported The Washington Post. **Crime:** While the media and politicians focus on the number of deaths associated with COVID-19, deaths resulting from crime increased substantially during the lockdowns. A 53 percent increase in homicides was reported for the period of June through August by the National Commission on COVID-19 and Criminal Justice, which was an apparent surge from already-increased homicide numbers. Statistics released by the FBI in September revealed that murder and non-negligent manslaughter offenses increased by 14.8 percent during the first half of 2020. There have been spikes in reports of domestic abuse as well, as indicated by a 25 percent increase in calls made to the U.K. domestic abuse charity Refuge since the onset of lockdowns. **Health care:** The report revealed marked decreases in diagnoses, referrals, and treatment for diseases other than COVID-19. For example, the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) reported a 75 percent decrease in U.K. suspected cancer referrals since the beginning of COVID-19 restrictions, and a 46.4 percent decline in diagnoses for six cancers in the United States since 2018. "When cancer becomes more advanced before it is detected, it becomes a ticking time bomb," noted Debra Patt, MD, Ph.D, the lead author of a study on the impact of Covid-19 on cancer care.

"The decrease in screenings, diagnosis, and treatments this year will lead to later-stage cancers for patients, increasing morbidity and mortality for years to come." **Lockdowns getting stricter:** In many parts of the world, lockdowns are getting stricter after a surge in positive COVID-19 tests in recent weeks. Austria has essentially placed residents under house arrest, with certain exceptions for basic grocery shopping, and several other reasons. In the United States, Republican Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine announced a curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. for the next three weeks, starting today. The Pennsylvania Department of Health, led by a man pretending to be a woman, indicated that masks need to be worn at home, "where another person or persons who are not members of the individual's household are present in the same space, irrespective of physical distance." More states have begun to implement other restrictions ahead of Thanksgiving Day next week. *American Institute For Economy Research, Covid-19, Lockdowns, Mike Dewine*

The 'effective abolition of the marriage vow'. No fault divorce finally becomes law

On 8 June the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill had its second reading in the House of Commons and was passed by 231 votes to 16. While the coronavirus situation kept many pro-marriage MPs away from parliament for this crucial vote, a handful of valiant members did their best to warn of the dangers of this radical legislation. In opening the debate on behalf of the government the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, Robert Buckland stated: We believe that the family is a vital component of what it takes to be a civilised society. It is the source of stability, safety, love and all those things that we should be cherishing as a society.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11: The 'effective abolition of the marriage vow')

Fine words, but how ironic given that the legislation he was proposing to the House amounted to, in the words of Conservative MP, Danny Kruger, 'the effective abolition of the marriage vow.' Mr Kruger's speech was one of the highlights of the debate as it summarised exactly what was at stake if the legislation passed: What is the difference between marriage and any other romantic relationship? It is this: people promise... in a legally binding commitment, not to walk out...the wedding service has these portentous words: marriage is "a solemn, public and life-long covenant."...This Bill proposes to abolish all of that...to say instead that the vows do not have to be kept; that it is not solemn, public and lifelong, but trivial, private and as long or short as people want it. Mr Kruger continued: The reliance on objective facts is now being abolished in favour of a subjective declaration that one party wants out of the marriage, and that effectively means that the vows made at the beginning have no legal force and no moral value.

Other MPs also made fine contributions to the debate. Sir Desmond Swayne highlighted what is obvious to many, but apparently not to the present government, that if you make something easier you get more of it, while also highlighting how marital and family breakdown contributes to other social problems:...by making divorce more straightforward and easier, it becomes the first resort, rather than the last...We should remember that divorce is the swiftest route to poverty. Of the people who might come through the door during one of my morning surgeries, if you scratch the surface of their problem— whether the problem presents as debt, housing, education or access to children—nine times out of 10, divorce and family breakdown are the root cause. And the easier we make divorce, the more we shall have of it.

Sir Edward Leigh indicted the government for ignoring the results of its own consultation which showed the public to be less than enthusiastic about no-fault divorce: We know that 80% of the people who were consulted opposed this measure. In another poll, 72% said that if we were to bring in compulsory no-fault divorce, people would get more blasé about divorce. Leigh also highlighted the cruel and extreme nature of the bill in creating divorce without any need for a reason: ... many...would like to be given a reason why they are being divorced. Many people feel that marriage is a most important thing in their life...the Secretary of State is ploughing ahead with the most extreme and most radical measure he could dream of. This is one of the most radical and most extreme divorce laws in the whole of the European continent...Why are we not prepared to compromise? Why are we not prepared to give an unequivocal message that we believe in marriage and will support it to the hilt?

Fiona Bruce underlined the fact that the new legislation allows a person to treat their spouse in a way that an employer could never get away with in treating an employee:...there is no one to answer the young woman with a baby in her arms and a toddler at her feet, who has just received a notice in the post—a notice that says, "... I am divorcing you in a few short weeks, and I do not have to give you a reason..." Of course, he could not do this to an employee...That would be called

unfair dismissal.

Sir John Hayes highlighted why it is so important that divorce should not be a quick and easy process: About one in 10 divorces that are started are never actually completed, and that is because of the time available for counselling, for reconciliation...for trying again. The Bill removes that opportunity. It removes protections for individuals whose spouses seek to terminate their marriage in times of hardship or illness. For many, the changes could mean that faithful, committed husbands lose access to their children, while women cruelly abandoned by errant husbands will have no way of marking that betrayal and no reason offered for why their marriage has ended.

Sadly, the warnings of these MPs fell on deaf ears. The bill was passed by a massive majority and obtained Royal Assent on 25 June 2020. The passing of this bill makes it all the more essential that we continue to promote the institution of marriage as the basis for a stable and fruitful society.

Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill, Second Reading debate, House of Commons, 8 June 2020.

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(Continued from page 4: General Important News)

'God has not called us to be cowards': Another pastor stands against church closure

Pastors across California are beginning to stand up against the church closures forced upon them by Governor Newsom. Sun Aug 16, 2020 By LifeSiteNews

PASADENA, California, August 16, 2020 (LifeSiteNews) — California Governor Newsom has been forcing the churches in the state to stop all indoor worship services. But some pastors are saying 'enough!' Pastor Che Ahn of Harvest Rock Church in Pasadena, California told LifeSite correspondent Lisa Stover that God did not give us 'a spirit of fear,' quoting 2 Timothy 1:7. In that mentality, the network of 162 churches called Harvest International Ministry filed a lawsuit against Governor Newsom, citing First Amendment rights are being violated. After talking with his attorney, Anh decided to open up for services in May.

During these last several months, they've battled the courts, as well as individuals calling the police, complaining about the large gatherings. Ahn mentions in the video that they've been meeting since May without a single case within their congregation. While their physical well-being is important, and they're taking precautions, he's very focused on their eternal well-being. "We want to win souls, see people come to know Christ as their Lord and Saviour, and that's much more of a value for us," Ahn shares. Ahn states that during this time, they've been able to raise \$100,000 to give away to various businesses in LA, California to just say "we love you, we want to bless you." The church has also started One Race for Life, a pro-life ministry. They included "race" in the name for two reasons: first, to show the bringing together different ethnic groups together to set the example that there's no racism in the Body of Christ. Secondly, to talk about how it's a race against time to overturn Roe v. Wade. Their mission is to encourage everyone to register to vote, and to vote Biblically. Ahn encourages other pastors around California and the United States that there comes a time when we have to exercise our First Amendment rights in this country, "I haven't broken the law, but the governor has," Ahn says.