

Morality Forum Update

Standing up for family values in society

Issue 99

Autumn 2025

Universal Peace Federation Marks 20 Years as a Global Beacon of Peace

This September, as the world observes the United Nations International Day of Peace, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) also commemorates its 20th anniversary—two decades of advancing dialogue, reconciliation, and global cooperation under the conviction that humanity is one family under God. **Founding a Movement for Peace:** Launched at New York's Lincoln Centre in 2005 by its founders, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han, also known as Holy Mother Han, UPF was envisioned as more than an organization. It was the birth of a movement—a bold effort to unite institutional power with spiritual and moral conviction. At its founding, Rev. Moon declared, “*The mission of UPF is to renew the existing United Nations and provide a new level of leadership.*” This vision has since guided UPF’s growth to more than 190 nations, with a network of over 100,000 Ambassadors for Peace serving at both grassroots and global levels. Their efforts echo the International Day of Peace’s global call to replace division with dialogue and conflict with reconciliation. **The Founders’ Philosophy of Peace:** At the heart of UPF’s mission is the philosophy of its founders, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han. They taught that peace begins in the family, where empathy, responsibility, and reconciliation are first nurtured. They emphasized that living for the sake of others is the path to healing division, and that men and women must rise together as moral leaders in shaping a peaceful world. This vision directly complements the International Day of Peace, which affirms that lasting harmony requires the contributions of all people—across generations, cultures, and genders. **From Principles to Action:** UPF’s work is grounded in five guiding principles: Humanity is one family under God. Our highest values are moral conscience and compassion. The family is the school of love and peace. Living for the sake of others is the path to reconciliation. Lasting peace requires cooperation across ethnicity, faith, and nation. These principles are not abstract—they have fuelled practical peace initiatives across the world. From the South Asia Peace Initiative, UPF has convened heads of state, religious leaders, and scholars to tackle some of the world’s most protracted conflicts.

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GENERAL IMPORTANT NEWS

10,000 People Join UK March for Life to Protest Abortion



Life News. On Saturday 6th September, the streets of London bore witness to the largest March for Life UK in its history, with over ten thousand pro-life advocates gathering in a peaceful and joy-filled demonstration of

support for the unborn and their parents. Marked by a striking presence of young people, families, and children, the event showcased a growing generational momentum within the UK’s pro-life movement despite the very different backgrounds of many there. This year’s March was not only significant in scale but also in the profound message of unity it sent across Christian denominations. Seven Roman Catholic bishops, two CoE bishops, Orthodox clergy and laity, Evangelical pastors, and Christian leaders from across the UK stood shoulder to shoulder in a powerful show of solidarity. A special message of support from Pope Leo XIV was read to the crowd, offering encouragement and blessings. The march had been preceded by a Pro-life Human Rights Summit featuring a legal panel and live interviews with women impacted by abortion, sessions for children of all ages and stalls from many pro-life organisations, showcasing their work. Keynote speeches were delivered by pro-life MP Carla Lockhart, Scottish midwife Sara Spencer (censored for her pro-life stance), March for Life UK co-director Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (currently under police investigation for silently praying near an abortion facility) and abortion survivor Josiah Presley. Each speech highlighted the personal and political cost of defending life, but also the hope and conviction that fuels this movement. Josiah Presley shared his deeply moving testimony of surviving an attempted surgical abortion and being raised by loving adoptive parents. Presley, once filled with bitterness, shared how an encounter with Jesus Christ at 16 changed his

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Letters and Emails Received

Thank you, John, for the good work. [Summer Update] God bless you and continue to keep your family, Amen. Cheers. Alexander POPOOLA
Geophysicist/GIS Analyst |

Thanks, John. Great work! [Summer Update] Warm Regards, Dr. Thomas J. Ward, Professor of Peace and Development. HJI Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) to MSCHE

Dear John, Many thanks for the Update. It was informative- particularly on pro-life issues. I have always stood by Vatican 2, & tried to avoid some of the difficulties with the Humanistic Manifesto- Kim Leadbster etc, a local MP. Keep up the good work. Cllr. John D. Nottingham (Dewsbury, W. Yorks, UK).

Dear John, Thank you for making us aware of this, [Abortion information] let's pray for the Lord to execute justice in this time and for His will to be done. In Christ, Carl Willers, Christian Concern.

Thank you, sir. It is a serious and worthy point that you make, though I fear that battle was surrendered a long time ago. But I will mull on it. Yours sincerely, Quentin Letts. [Daily Mail. Use of the word "sexy"]

God bless you sir. Well received with much thanks. Hilda. [Abortion information]

Dear John, Thank you for taking the time to write in to the Leader of the Opposition. We appreciate you sharing your thoughts, beliefs, and the YouTube lecture suggestion regarding Christian faith. These have been read and understood by the Leader's office, and I have forwarded these on for further acknowledgment. Kemi has asked me to pass on her best wishes to you. With kind regards, Julia Richardson, Correspondence Officer, HM Leader of the Opposition, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Dear John, Many thanks for your email. It's kind of you to try to help. With best wishes to you and yours, Tom. [Utley. Daily Mail. Information sent about Almighty God's universal moral and spiritual laws for successful living]

Morality Forum Action

Bruno Klotz sends out a weekly spiritually inspiring email to people on his email list: The love of God is unconditional love of Parents. God loves everyone in this world unconditionally. That is what parental love is all about. That does not mean that God is happy with everything people are doing. But that does not stop God's love. God's love is always there, just like the sunshine. Even we do not see the sunshine, for example in cloudy weather or in the night, the sunshine is always there. The sun does not stop shining in all directions. It is the same with God's love. It is always there, in His heart. If we notice it or not, is a different thing. God always wants to see all of us, His children, living in happiness. That is God's first and foremost desire. Our happiness is God's happiness. God is not interested in "ruling" over us. He did not create us to rule over us like some dictator. He did not create us so we can glorify Him. He is not interested in that, but He is interested in having a deep relationship of love with each of His children, no matter what they have done in the past or are doing at present. If we act against the desire of God, then God will not cut us off. He is always ready to forgive us. He is always trying to lead us to the

right path, no matter what. Acting against God will hurt God, but it does not stop His love. He does not love our wrongdoings, but He loves us. And if we do wrong, He is waiting patiently for us to find the right way. Father Moon: "God is God because He has both qualities – the ability to take responsibility for those who sinned against Him and the ability to be sympathetic with them, ready to forgive them. If you have the same quality as God has, you are in the position of God to other people and there is no problem at all." With such a heart God conducted the whole providence, from the fall up to today. That kind of heart made it possible for God to keep going forward, in spite of all the disappointments He had to endure. With that kind of heart, God stuck to His original ideal, not willing to give it up, no matter what. God knew that because of His perseverance one day the ideal world would be established. He could have absolute confidence in that. Our task is to inherit such a heart of God. Then, just as God's final victory, our victory is guaranteed as well. Just as God, we, too, need to achieve the victory of love, by going forward with the same unchanging and unconditional heart as God. Nothing will be able to stop us then. And together with God we will establish the ideal world of God's design.

John O'Neill has spoken at different churches about the importance of religious people not remaining silent any longer, especially about religious freedom which is under threat in many nations.

On September 9th John O'Neill gave the sermon at Christ Apostolic Church in Wembley. John received positive feedback after speaking on the topics of religious freedom, witnessing and challenging the evil influences in our nation.

On August 28th John O'Neill spoke about Abortion on a conference call to members of the United Assembly of God International church from Muswell Hill. There was a Q&A section after John finished speaking. John highlighted how religious people must not remain silent about this very serious matter.

On September 6th John O'Neill participated in the annual March for Life in Central London. Around 10,000 people participated including many young people, families and children.

On October 18th together with other members of the Harrow group of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, John O'Neill delivered NO TO ABORTION UP TO BIRTH leaflets door-to-door in the Queensbury and Belmont Circle areas in NW London. John has also delivered these leaflets to all the religious organisations in the Harrow area and surrounding areas as well as handing them to people on the streets. In Manchester Brian Grayson has delivered these leaflets door-to-door in the Levenshulme area where he lives.

Items from the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children such as booklets, leaflets and pamphlets continue to be widely distributed to religious organisations and numerous individuals. The results of empirical studies and fact sheets are sent to key people such as journalists and politicians defending moral, family and spiritual values. Online petitions are forwarded to numerous individuals and religious organisations including all the UK mega churches.

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The Peace Road movement, uniting millions in symbolic and practical action, and Youth and Students for Peace, which equips young people with values-based leadership, illustrate how UPF brings ideals into practice. A Call to Peacemakers: Reflecting on this milestone, Dr. Tageldin Hamad, President of UPF, offered a call to action: "Let us recommit today: to bold dialogue where others remain silent; to reconciliation where others choose division; to building bridges where walls divide. If not us, who? If not now, when?" As the International Day of Peace reminds us that true peace requires both inner transformation and collective action, UPF's 20-year journey stands as a testament to the enduring power of faith, service, and moral leadership. UPF's legacy is both a celebration and a charge—to carry forward the work of healing and cooperation so that the decades to come are marked not by conflict, but by shared prosperity and hope.

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life, urging the crowd not to stop at speaking the truth, but to act upon it. Despite a background of tension with counter-protests, including vocal abortion-rights demonstrators and a large, disruptive pro-Palestinian protest leading to hundreds of arrests, the March for Life crowd remained peaceful, joyful, and resolute, a stark contrast noted by many onlookers. Notable Quotes from the Day: Josiah Presley (Abortion Survivor) speech: "Don't just speak the truth – find a way to act on that truth." MP Carla Lockhart speech: "If human rights mean anything they must be consistent, they must apply to all. If we are to see change, we must each play our part." Isabel Vaughan-Spruce speech: "Priceless human beings or worthless bits of tissue – What do you believe and more importantly, how will you respond? Parents, politicians, pastors, police, medics, lawyers, journalists and every single person here must make that choice. These two worldviews cannot co-exist. They can't both be right. Pick your side but remember what they say – the fence belongs to Satan." Co-director Isabel Vaughan-Spruce (Co-director, March for Life UK) reflection on the day: "While it was impressive to see such a strong crowd gathered, what pleased me more was the individual stories I heard from attendees who told me their pro-life plans because of what they'd experienced at the march – students pledging to start pro-life societies at their universities or churchgoers planning to hold pro-life coffee mornings at their churches to raise awareness in their own communities – these are the people who will help change the culture by passing on the truths they have heard today to others." Ben Thatcher (Co-director, March for Life UK) reflection on the day: "More and more people are recognising the reasonableness and consistency behind the pro-life movement. For us to care about human rights in any capacity we must start by valuing life itself and that means the right to life of all – no one is too small, too young or too dependent that their life is not valuable, and that right needs to be protected in law."

More Men Need Courage Like Charlie Kirk to Speak Up for Christian Values



Tony Perkins

Tony Perkins. **October 6th 2025. Life News:** Following the tragic assassination of Charlie Kirk, former First Lady and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton appeared on MSNBC's "Morning Joe." With a solemn tone, she urged, "We have got to

stop demonizing each other. ... We have got to stop with the finger pointing and the scapegoating." At first, that sounded like a hopeful statement. Yet my optimism was short-lived. Almost in the same breath, she pivoted to attack Republican policies: "The idea that you could turn the clock back and try to recreate a world that never was — dominated by, you know, let's say it, white men of a certain persuasion, a certain religion." No matter how carefully they frame it, the Left cannot hide its disdain for white, Christian men — men whose convictions give them the courage to stand for truth. I am often asked when I speak across the nation, "Tony, what keeps you up at night?" People expect me to say China, the national debt, or the Left's anti-Christian, anti-family agenda. And yes, those are serious threats. But my greatest concern is something deeper: a lack of moral courage. If we have moral courage — courage rooted in conviction and anchored in

a transcendent cause — we will confront China. We will address fiscal recklessness. And we will resist the Left's godless agenda. But without moral courage, we will fold under pressure. That is the most significant void in our culture today. The nation's response to Charlie Kirk's death proves this point. Millions have spoken in honour of his life. Why? Because America is starving for examples of young men who refuse to bow to the so-called intelligentsia. His boldness inspired admiration because it revealed what our culture is missing: conviction matched with courage. Meanwhile, the Left — on cable networks and even on Capitol Hill — has erupted in anger at the public displays of respect for Charlie. Why? Because they know that when men stand up and fulfil their God-given role, families grow stronger, communities grow safer, and the Left loses power. That is the bottom line. The attack on masculinity is not new. It has been raging for decades. Yet one group has refused to surrender: Bible-believing men. Despite relentless efforts to emasculate men and de-Christianize our culture, a younger generation is rediscovering truth — and with it, their manhood. They have tasted the emptiness of secularism, and they are choosing something greater. The Apostle Paul's charge to the church in Corinth rings out as clear today as it did two millennia ago: "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong." This is not a call to arrogance or violence, but to courage — to live as men and women of faith who will not shrink back. In this critical hour, the future of our families, our freedoms, and our nation depends on men and women who will rise with conviction, anchored in truth, and unashamed to act.

LifeNews Note: Tony Perkins is president of Family Research Council and executive editor of The Washington Stand. This story was adapted from Decision Magazine's October print version.

Cardinal Müller compares UK ban on prayer at abortion facilities to Nazi persecution



Cardinal Gerhard Müller

Andreas Wailzer (LifeSiteNews) Sept. 9th 2025 — Cardinal Gerhard Müller has said that the U.K.'s ban on prayer in front of abortion mills is comparable to persecution under Nazi rule of Catholic prelates who prayed for the Jews.

Müller sent a written address to the conference Le Tavole di Assisi on September 6, with the topic "The new U.S. presidency. Throne and altar together again? An opportunity for the Christian West?" "The Nazi ideologues knew in their hearts that killing innocent people was a crime before God and man," the German prelate and former head of the Congregation (now Dicastery) for the Doctrine of the Faith stated. "But they numbed their consciences with their racial ideology, which held that Jews and other peoples (such as Slavs) were not fully human and that therefore the law inscribed in the heart of every rational being, 'Thou shalt not kill' (Ex 20:13; Deut 5:17), did not apply in this case." "Similarly, abortion ideologues know that the child in the womb is an individual human being who must not be killed," he observed. "But in order to conceal the crime, they claim that children in the womb are not yet fully human beings and can therefore be killed if necessary." "To numb their consciences, they criminalize those who defend the right to life of the unborn," Müller continued. "In England, you can go to prison for praying for the lives of the unborn in front of an abortion clinic, just as in Nazi Germany, Berlin

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Cathedral priest [Blessed Fr. Bernhard] Lichtenberg died in Gestapo custody in 1943 simply because he had prayed for the persecuted Jews," he concluded. "This also applies to gender madness, which persuades adolescents that they can change their gender and drives them into lifelong physical misery and mental suffering through assisted self-mutilation," the German cardinal added. "That is why every Catholic in the United States, and especially the episcopate, should be grateful to the Trump administration for restoring the natural moral law, which is recognizable as a moral standard in the reason of every conscientious person, as the basis of government action in the leading power of the free West." The U.K. has introduced so-called "buffer zone laws" around abortion facilities, forbidding any pro-life activism and even silent prayer. U.K. pro-life activist Isabel Vaughan-Spruce was famously arrested and investigated several times for silently praying inside these "buffer zones" close to abortion mills. In June, the U.K. Parliament voted in favour of a bill that completely decriminalized abortion, allowing it up to the moment of birth.

VIDEO GAMES THAT BUILD RESILIENCE

By Myrna Lapres

Dr. Jane McGonigal is embracing technology for the sake of improving the lives of kids, youth, and adults. She is a world-renowned designer of alternate reality games—or games that are designed to improve real lives and solve real problems. Believing that game designers are on a humanitarian mission, her number one goal in life is to see a game developer win a Nobel Peace Prize. In 2009, internationally renowned game designer Jane McGonigal suffered a severe concussion. Unable to think clearly or work or even get out of bed, she became anxious and depressed, even suicidal. But rather than let herself sink further, she decided to get better by doing what she does best: she turned her recovery process into a resilience-building game. What started as a simple motivational exercise quickly became a set of rules for "post-traumatic growth" that she shared on her blog. These rules led to a digital game and a major research study with the National Institutes of Health. Today nearly half a million people have played "SuperBetter" to get stronger, happier, and healthier. Dr. McGonigal specializes in games that challenge players to tackle real-world problems, such as poverty, hunger, and climate change, through planetary-scale collaboration. Her game "SuperBetter" helps players tackle health challenges such as depression, anxiety, chronic pain, and traumatic brain injury. The online game for ages thirteen and up builds resilience—the ability to stay strong, motivated, and optimistic even in the face of change and difficult challenges. Playing "SuperBetter" unlocks heroic potential to overcome tough situations and achieve goals that matter most. Drawing on hundreds of studies, McGonigal shows that getting "SuperBetter" is as simple as tapping into the three core psychological strengths that games help you build: Your ability to control your attention, and therefore your thoughts and feelings. Your power to turn anyone into a potential ally, and to strengthen your existing relationships. Your natural capacity to motivate yourself and super-charge your heroic qualities, like willpower, compassion, and determination. As inspiring as it is down to earth, and grounded in rigorous research, SuperBetter is a proven game plan for a better life. You'll never say that something is "just a game" again. Check out her website: www.superbetter.com/ Dr. McGonigal also published a book on the same topic: www.amazon.com/SuperBetter-Living-Gamefully-Jane-McGonigal/dp/0143109774

Social media pushes pornography on children within minutes, report finds

Jonathon Van Maran (LifeSiteNews) Oct. 9th 2025 — Social media is now one of the primary pipelines to porn addiction for both children and young adults. Global Witness, a campaign organization that investigates the impact of Big Tech on human rights, recently conducted a number of tests to determine how quickly children could access pornography on social media platforms. According to the Guardian, Global Witness conducted one test before the implementation of the U.K.'s Online Safety Act in July, and one after. In just a few clicks, TikTok directed children's accounts to pornography. "Global Witness set up fake accounts using a 13-year-old's birth date and turned on the video app's 'restricted mode,' which limits exposure to 'sexually suggestive' content," the Guardian reported. "Researchers found TikTok suggested sexualised and explicit search terms to seven test accounts that were created on clean phones with no search history." I have seen similar tests conducted myself – a completely new account set up, with no history, and no algorithm as of yet – and highly sexual content was recommended within minutes. The Global Witness investigation found that the "you may like" feature for the children's accounts included "very, very rude skimpy outfits," "very rude babes," and "hardcore pawn [sic]." A few clicks later, the researchers reported, the pornographic content escalated from "softcore" pornography of bare breasts to hardcore pornography of "penetrative sex." The group emphasized that "the content attempted to evade moderation, usually showing the clip within an innocuous picture or video. For one account, the process took two clicks after logging on: one click on the search bar and then one on the suggested search." Even more disturbingly, Global Witness reported that two of the videos appeared to feature minors; both were sent to the Internet Watch Foundation as potentially criminal online child sexual abuse material. Ofcom, the U.K. communications regulator, stated that Global Witness's report has prompted an investigation into potential breaches of the Online Services Act. But parents should not wait for the government to step in. Social media is a pipeline to porn addiction for children, and we have known this for years. I have encountered countless young people who were first exposed to pornographic material on social media; many teenagers have told me that Instagram is a key on-ramp into pornography. If they so much as pause for a fraction of a second as they scroll past a sexually explicit image, the pause is detected by the algorithm, and more sexual content is pushed into their feed. That content escalates in explicitness, and the algorithm almost literally reels them in with a conveyor belt of sexual imagery. Many young men who had successfully freed themselves from pornography have told me that going onto Instagram caused relapses into addiction. Snapchat is no better. Pornography is easily accessible within five clicks without ever leaving the app. The National Centre on Sexual Exploitation has been urging parents to keep children off of Snapchat for years, and lists the social media app as one of the worst offenders on its annual "Dirty Dozen" list. Snapchat has consistently ignored warnings from lawmakers concerning the dangers of its app as a primary mechanism of sexting, sextortion, and worse offences. Despite all this – and this evidence has been mounting for years – many parents choose to deliberately turn a blind eye to what their children or teens are doing online; what apps they use; and which social media platforms they have. Having spoken to thousands of teens on pornography, I can state that this abdication of responsibility has led to enormous misery, addiction, and genuine damage, during the formative developmental years. As Tim Challies wrote years ago already when begging parents not to give their children smartphones: "Please don't give them porn for Christmas."

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TRUE FAMILY VALUES MINISTRY

The Kingdom of Heaven

5. *At this time in history, each family can connect, or engraft, into God's family.*

- We inherit the dignity of the one royal family by engrafting into "the true olive tree, to share the richness of the root" (God's lineage, Rom. 11:17). As Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, ". . . you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you!" (1 Cor. 4:8). He was speaking of spiritual kingship, given by Christ through true love.
- From the viewpoint of nobility and authority of true love, a true family stands as a royal family.
- By engrafting into God's lineage, we become part of the royal family, and gain the spiritual foundation before God to stand as people of true nobility and authority, based upon our sincere effort and investment.
- All true families have kingship granted from God.

6. *The spiritual authority of true love is the foundation of true kingship.*

- The kingdom of God is an environment in which the authority of true love is recognized and its fruits are abundant.
- A kingdom is a realm of royal authority.
- The authority of true love comes from true parents and true families. The kingdom of heaven, therefore, is the realm of the royal family.
- The true royal family is ultimately the family of all humankind, centring on God, filling heaven and earth (the cosmos).
- The era of kingship has three characteristics.
 - It is the age of conscience.
 - It is the age when the spirit world and physical world are in harmony.
 - It is the age of voluntarism to do God's will.

7. *True family values are the blueprint for establishing the kingdom of God through the vertical ethic.*

- They represent a new stage of our relationship with God.
- Thousands of years ago, the relationship between God and us was primarily based upon God giving prohibitions: "thou shalt not . . ."
- With the advent of Christ, our relationship with God turned primarily upon our petitions to God for His mercy and assistance: "Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. . . . how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Matt. 7:7-11)
- The principles of true family life call us not to ask God for help, but to take responsibility for God's true love and commit ourselves to His Will. This is the attitude of filial piety to God, the vertical ethic of holy sons and daughters. It is summed up in the words of Reverend Sun Myung Moon: I never prayed from weakness. I never asked my

Father to help me. My Father knows me so well. He already knows my suffering; how could I burden Him with more requests? All I could do was promise that I would never be defeated by my suffering.

Living the True Family Values**A. Brief review of the true family values.**

1. *We begin by making the commitment to become people of true love in our own family and hometown.*

2. *We develop our character through the vertical ethic based upon filial piety within our family, patriotism within our nation, saintly love of humanity throughout the world, and holy devotion as a child of God.*

3. *We practice the four types of love within our family: children's love, brother-sister love, conjugal love and parental love. By doing so we perfect the three kingships, those of grandparents, parents and children, to establish the authority of the family, the nobility and virtuous love of a royal family. This begins the horizontal expansion of God's true love.*

4. *Thereby we grow our love and substantial service to develop the one great family of humankind. Thus we help create a world of freedom, peace, unification and happiness. Such a world is the image of God and fulfilment of God's purpose of creation.*

5. *Through the growth of love, true families establish the right order of mind over body and the true spiritual order guiding the physical world. Thus we can liberate the evil spirit world.*

6. *Through the liberation of the spirit world, heaven and earth are harmonized, and the energy flow of the cosmos is restored, giving blessings abundantly. The essential Blessing is that of marriage under the auspices of God, and this is available today, for people of all faiths, through the ministry of Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon.*

7. *Creation of true families under God's Blessing establishes the foundation for a culture of heart, flowing through the free development of emotion, intellect and will. The life blood of this ideal culture is maintained through sexual purity.*

8. *The fruit of true family life, then, is the culture of heart, or literal kingdom of heaven on earth.*

The Family is the School of Love

Only by strengthening our families can we hope to have a prosperous, safe, and healthy society. But how do we strengthen the family? The crucial question, one that is rarely asked is this: Does the family exist only for itself, or does it exist for a higher purpose? When we conceive of the family as an end in itself, our efforts to buttress it will inevitably fall short. The secret to reviving the family is to discover its relationship to the larger wholes of society, the nation, the world, and God-its significance as a microcosm of universal love. We must understand the dynamics of a well-functioning family that is truly, as Martin Luther termed it, a "school of love." Almost the entirety of human life is lived in the context of a family. From birth until we are teenagers, we live in our parents' home. A few years later we marry and start families of our own. In the family we have our first experiences of love from our parents. This love molds our character.

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

More Pastors Need to Preach Against Abortion

Life News: Opinion. Bryan Kemper. Aug. 4th 2025. "We should be spreading the Gospel, not worrying about political issues like abortion." I cannot tell you how many pastors or priests have thrown this at me as an excuse for not getting involved with pro-life work or even talking about it from the pulpit. It should surprise me that a pastor would even try to justify his apathy and lack of involvement in standing up for life, but it happens too often. Obviously, we all know that as Christians our main focus is to spread the Gospel and share the hope we have in Christ. We are commanded to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation." (Mark 16:15) The idea that taking a stand for the almost 3,000 children who are being slaughtered every day by abortion is contrary to the Gospel is simply ludicrous. In fact, I would say that when we do not stand up for the voiceless or love our neighbour as ourselves, we are not truly preaching the Gospel. I remember one pastor in particular who told me I had no business telling anyone abortion was wrong. He said I should only tell people about Jesus and nothing else. I laid out a situation for him to answer using his logic. What if you came upon a man beating a woman in an alley? Would you walk up to the man and tap him on the shoulder and tell him about Jesus or would you first stop the man from beating the woman and make sure she was taken care of? He tried to wiggle out of answering the question at first but eventually said he would first stop the man from harming the woman. I asked him why he would not just tell the man about Jesus and not worry about his behaviour? He said it was because the woman was in imminent danger and needed to be rescued. We are called in Scripture to "Deliver those who are being taken away to death. And those who are staggering to slaughter, Oh hold them back. If you say, 'See, we did not know this,' Does He not consider it who weighs the hearts?" (Proverbs 24:11-12) We are also called to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind," and "Love your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:27. In Matthew 25 we are taught that when we do not feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty and clothe the naked, then we are not doing that for Christ. I could fill this commentary with pages of Scripture references that would show us that preaching the Gospel is more than just reading the words. When we ignore babies are being killed by the thousands every day, are we loving our neighbour as ourselves? Is our neighbour just the guy who lives next door? Did the Good Samaritan stop to see if he knew the man in the ditch or ask God if he was called to a ditch ministry before he helped the man? No, he saw his fellow human in distress and he stopped to help him. So many people tell me that their pastor or priest will not talk about abortion from the pulpit. They don't want to talk about political issues or possibly offend anyone in the pews. This is what I would like to ask them: If you were told as you were walking up to the pulpit to deliver your sermon that a man with a knife was heading to the nursery to stab all the children in the nursery, would you warn people from the pulpit or would you say that the pulpit is only for preaching the Word? I don't think there's a pastor anywhere in the world who would not immediately warn everyone about the danger the children were in. If that same pastor were told before his sermon that a new abortion mill was opening down the street, and that about 20 babies were going to be aborted daily, would he feel the same urgency to warn his congregation about the danger facing those children? Most of the time it would have to go through some kind of committee or vote to see if the church

wanted to have some kind of official outreach to that abortion mill. There would be so much red tape that it may take a year to even get an announcement in the bulletin about a ministry team being formed. Are the children who would die in the nursery more valuable than the children who would die in the abortion mill? Why is one more horrifying, more worthy of immediate action than the other? There is no excuse for the apathy and lack of involvement of churches when it comes to abortion. We have allowed the government to politicize abortion to the point that we just don't pay attention any more. We are more than happy to let our votes on Election Day be the only action we ever take as we leave it up to politicians who never deliver on their promises. Preaching the Gospel is not just leaving cheesy Bible tracts with a lousy tip on the table at Applebee's after church. Preaching the Gospel is not just saying "Jesus loves you" to your friends as work after laughing at all their dirty jokes. Preaching the Gospel goes far beyond our words and must also include action. Feeding the poor, giving water to the thirsty and yes, speaking up for the voiceless IS preaching the Gospel. *LifeNews Note: Bryan Kemper is the youth outreach director for Priests for Life and the founder of its youth outreach Stand True. He is the author of Social Justice Begins in the Womb and Pro-life is the New Punk Rock.*

Has the focus on mental health gone too far?

Dear Family Education Trust Supporter, **we need to talk about mental health.** Another day, another story about young people and their mental health, with the BBC running a news piece about students feeling 'let down' by universities failing to support them properly. The article discusses two female students with diagnoses of ADHD/autism and OCD who complained that the institutions where they were studying didn't help them enough with counselling or extending deadlines. It goes on to outline the hugely increasing number of students reporting a mental health condition, which has quadrupled in the decade to 2023/24, with the majority being women. **A quarter of young people say they have a mental health condition.** The latest figures from the NHS, released in June, reveal that one in four young people aged 16-24 in the UK say they are suffering from a mental health condition. Over 31% of young women report experiencing mental illnesses such as generalised anxiety disorder, depression, phobias, OCD, or panic disorder—significantly higher than men in the same age group. Since 2000, the rate of people reporting self-harm has quadrupled. Young people also report more severe mental illnesses than older people, which is reflected by the huge increase in claims for Personal Independence Payments (PIP) from young adults who say they cannot work due to their disability. Although many individuals have legitimate disabilities and require support, the increasing volume of applications may affect the availability of assistance for those in genuine need. The Government is projected to spend £70 billion a year on health and disability benefits by the end of the decade, with PIP spending expected to almost double to £34 billion annually by 2030. Currently, almost half of PIP payments are allocated for mental health issues. The Prime Minister Keir Starmer had planned reforms including changes to eligibility criteria and increased employment support, which were expected to save taxpayers £5 billion a year, but he has now u-turned on the PIP reforms due to a rebellion from Labour's backbenchers who believe it's inhumane to scrutinise who is receiving state handouts. Clearly this situation cannot go on; we cannot continue to have

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more than half a million 16–24-year-olds economically inactive due to mental health conditions, especially considering the birth rate is currently the lowest ever recorded in the UK. Who is going to pay the pension bill for an increasingly aging population? No chancellor is ever going to be able to balance the books when a substantial proportion of physically able young adults may never fully enter employment. It's right that mental distress is no longer stigmatised, but now questioning the mental health narrative has become almost taboo, especially given the amount of money involved in the therapeutic industry. The UK mental health market size reached \$14.78 Billion in 2024.

What does 'mental health' actually mean? As outlined by counsellor and author Lucy Beney in our latest report *Suffer the Children* which examined mental health initiatives for children in schools: 'We also need to have a clear understanding of what is meant by 'mental health', and indeed 'mental illness'. Increasingly, emotional distress is viewed through a diagnostic, 'medicalised' lens when frequently young people are in fact reacting normally to life's challenges or early adverse experiences. Both Labour and the previous Conservative government have had a reactionary approach to the rise in the number of children and young adults struggling with emotional distress. Rather than examine **WHY so many are in distress**, the response to the most recent figures is to provide mental health support through an NHS App with AI-driven support and plans for 85 new mental health emergency departments. Given that too much time online and lack of socialisation is a common driver of depression and anxiety, it is hardly a wise move for the Government to hand over such a responsibility to a computer-generated counsellor. This is especially worrying considering that Elon Musk's social media platform X's (formerly known as Twitter) latest chatbot Grok has just launched two new "companions," or AI characters for users to interact with—reportedly including a sexualised blonde anime bot called "Ani" that is allegedly accessible to users even when the app is in "kids mode." Labour also plans to install a mental health professional into every school, but as *Suffer the Children* points out, there is a lack of regulation and oversight in the therapeutic counselling industry and a growing number of counsellors now approach therapy through ideological lenses rather than focussing solely on client needs. While ministers insist that the focus on mental health campaigns in schools is the only way forward to stem the tide of children's increasing emotional distress, the most pressing question must be – are these measures improving the wellbeing of children and young people? The short answer is no. At best, there are mixed results on the success of psychological interventions delivered in school settings and the number of children being diagnosed with a mental disorder gets worse every year. Yet no politician has raised the fact that a good deal of this increase could be down to both social contagion and the impact of family breakdown.'

Family breakdown harms children: A 2009 Government Evidence Review into the Impact of Family Breakdown on Children's Well-Being concluded that "**Family breakdown in all its forms is strongly associated with poor mental health in adults and children.**" Children suffering the consequences of family breakdown are 50% more likely to fail at school, have low esteem, struggle with peer relationships and have behavioural difficulties, anxiety or depression. The Centre for Social Justice advised the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to "consider how relationship support for parents can be provided to prevent potential mental health problems before they occur." This was more than 16 years ago – yet more families than ever are

reaching breaking point. As our report concludes, 'It would appear that, as a society, we have a very large, complex and growing problem on our hands, and very little idea of how to solve it. A less charitable view is that we lack the courage or conviction to look beneath the surface of the 'mental health crisis' and address some difficult and controversial aspects of the way we live today, and the impact that this is having on our children.' **Lack of community:** With broken families and fractured communities, children have looked for a sense of identity elsewhere, finding community and attention through being diagnosed as neurodiverse or having a label such as ADHD. Social media sites such as TikTok have online groups dedicated to self-diagnosis of such disorders and popular 'sickfluencers' teach their followers how to successfully apply for benefits and PIP payments. Rather than encouraging isolated children and teenagers to look inward through mindfulness techniques, we need to encourage them to look outwards, beyond themselves and their own narrow interests. Employment or volunteering can provide a sense of purpose and social interaction which can positively impact mental health, especially since those aged between 16-29 are over two times as likely to report feeling lonely than those over 70. Creating community by a shared pride in our country would help to give young people a renewed identity in what it means to be British. Former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak came up with a brief plan for mandatory national service for 18-year-olds but received a huge backlash from MPs opposed to the idea. However, serving the country through volunteering in the local community or serving in the armed forces could be exactly what is needed to reverse the tide of emotional distress and rollback the financial strain of the ever-increasing welfare bill. Emotional resilience and the characteristic 'stiff upper lip' are often cited as factors that contributed to the British victory during WWII. Perhaps it's time that the wartime propaganda posters of 'Keep Calm and Carry On' replaced Pride Progress or social justice flags in schools? The current obsession with 'lived experience' and identity politics would certainly not help us win a future global war! We would love to hear your thoughts – do get in touch! With best wishes, Lucy Marsh. Communications and PR Officer, Family Education Trust. *This article is published by permission of the Family Education Trust*

To Make Birth Rate Rise, We Must Look to Spiritual Solutions

by John Horvat II

September 15, 2025. Birth rates are falling everywhere. Most analysts cite the material causes for the lack of babies. Economic hardship, insufficient childcare and political uncertainty are all cited as the reasons people don't want to have children. Those with a materialist mindset cannot conceive of any other reasons. Thus, they propose more government benefits, tax breaks and child support programs that they hope will turn the tide. While such programs might slightly increase birth rates, they usually do not have the major impact needed to avoid demographic meltdowns. They are also extremely expensive. Sadly, no one wants to consider the spiritual reasons or solutions that might help increase the birth rate. **Admitting the Religious Factor:** A few analysts will admit that religion is a factor in increasing birth rates. The facts show very clearly that the more secular a society, the lower the birth rate. A growing body of evidence is surfacing that leaves no doubt that those who go to Church regularly, especially Catholics, have more babies. However, those secular analysts who admit these facts insist upon seeing them through the materialist prism. They conclude that the Church's religious parishes and communities provide families with the material needs that are lacking. Parishes are reduced to safety nets and support networks that make

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it easier for parents to cope with more children. In other words, the Church does what the government should be doing, and it does it cheaply. **The Church's Social Benefits:** The Catholic Church, for example, used to supply nuns who ran schools and hospitals. Family Economist Kasey Backles told Newsweek magazine that "When the number of nuns declined dramatically in Europe in the latter half of the twentieth century, the hospitals, schools and family support services that those nuns provided disappeared, and this led to a big decrease in fertility among European Catholics." The materialist perspective also recognizes the social benefits of religion as a factor for increased fertility among churchgoers. Demographer Lyman Stone, director of the Institute of Family Studies's Pronatalism Initiative, affirmed that "Religious community is very helpful for parents, reducing the burden of parenting, providing role models of large families and helping parents exchange ideas and practices." For the materialist analysts, the solution lies in creating "enabling environments" where people feel secure in having children. It is all about financial security, not parental love.

Spiritual Considerations Neglected: No one wants to consider that spiritual considerations might be the only way to increase fertility and birth rates. Raising a child has always been expensive and is becoming ever more so. However, parenting is never a purely financial decision. The Catholic Church has always provided the greatest incentive for having children that far outshines anything that modern materialism can propose. The Church holds that each child has a soul with an eternal destiny. Every human being is made in God's image and likeness. Each child exists to know, love and serve God in this life and be happy with Him in the next. Parents who love God realize that their children can give glory to God if raised well. For this reason, they endeavour to have many children and provide meaning and purpose to those given to their care. They trust in God's Providence to provide for the family. Their aim is not only to provide for their material needs but to aid in their children's sanctification—and their own. The goal is heaven, not earth. **The Church Values Children to Advance God's Glory:** For this reason, the Church supplies all the magnificent material resources admired by the secularists. Its safety nets and networks are oriented toward securing this spiritual goal of giving God glory. She supplies role models in the saints. All this takes place in an atmosphere of charity where everyone gives freely to obtain this common goal. In such an atmosphere, everything becomes possible. The Church has always valued children because she is solicitous for their souls. Pagan cultures (like postmodern society) do not believe in souls, and give children no value and thus promote abortion and infanticide. To increase the birth rate, the solution is to look upward, toward these spiritual truths. Then, people will overcome the obstacles that bring birth rates down. *This article is published by permission of Tradition, Family, Property – TFP*

In Redlands CA – MassResistance comes to town!

September 14, 2025. Unhinged leftists can dish it out—but they can't take it! And confronting them with the truth makes them run for cover. In our previous post, we described how MassResistance was asked to come to Redlands, California (a conservative-leaning city 60 miles east of Los Angeles). Pro-family citizens asked for our help dealing with a terror campaign by vicious leftists aimed at a school board member and parents. The recent election victory by Candy Olson had tipped the

Redlands school board majority to 3-2 conservative. One big aim is to reverse declining school enrolment—largely due to radicalism in the schools. Candy led the charge on the board to successfully pass policies **banning boys in girls' sports and gay flags in the schools.** At the August 5 meeting, the initial vote was taken to **rid the schools of pornographic books.** **Leftists' goal: Intimidate the school board to prevent passage of the book policy.** But local leftists—clearly well funded and well organized—had been piling into school board meetings to curse, scream, and intimidate. They viciously attacked Candy personally and targeted her employment as a nurse. They wanted the schools to continue indoctrinating schoolchildren with the radical LGBT agenda. The leftists were determined to do everything possible to harass and intimidate the school board so that the proposed policy banning obscene books in the schools would fail to pass. It was frightening. So local residents contacted MassResistance to come and help them stop the leftist mob! When we got the call, there was very little time to organize local people before the August 5 school board meeting (where the first of two votes on the book policy would be taken). So our National Field Director, Arthur Schaper (who lives in nearby Torrance) went personally. And he gave the local pro-family people a clinic on confronting leftists! **Fireworks at the August 5 school board meeting!** As they had been doing for months before the school board meetings, the angry leftists gathered and organized just outside the building, near the entrance. They even had food brought in. They had signs and used their well-practiced intimidation tactics. But they weren't ready for Arthur! He walked up and directly confronted them one by one—with simple but powerful questions that they didn't want to answer. He unflinchingly pressed them hard to explain why they wanted to push pornography on other people's children, how they justified calling everyone they disagreed with a Nazi, why Candy Olson should lose her employment for wanting to protect children, and more. He wouldn't let them ignore him! They'd clearly never had to deal with this and were visibly rattled. In response, they basically acted even more childish. It was almost fun to watch! The pro-family people who came were inspired and emboldened by Arthur. When the school board meeting began and the testimony started, their testimony was strong! One man said it directly: "These school librarians aren't qualified. Who would put books there with this sexual content? There is no common sense, no morals. Please move forward with this policy. God is with you, Candy, against all this evil."



A mother read a repulsive passage from one of the school books in the school. Then, holding up two fingers, she said to the board, "There are two types of people here: groomers and people who want to protect kids."

When Arthur testified at the meeting, he continued his attack on the leftists.

The policy passes both votes! At the end of the meeting, the board approved the first vote on the book policy. At the next school board meeting on August 19, the final vote was taken on the book policy. The leftists came, but there were fewer of them and they were visibly less boisterous, almost quiet. Their social media posts that week and the signs they carried that day showed that Arthur had clearly affected them! Our people noticed that and were energized to fight back harder than ever. The leftists posted a pathetic social media message. Of course, everything they disagree with is "hate" (and everything they agree with

(Continued from page 8: In Redlands CA - MassResistance comes to town!) is "loving"). And at the next school board meeting, they had some equally pathetic new signs in reaction to getting stomped by MassResistance! At the end of the meeting, the second vote on the book policy also passed easily. A fine victory! Final thoughts: There's a lot more work to be done in Redlands. The town is mostly conservative (Trump won in Redlands), but the schools are still rife with radical leftism and LGBT propaganda. These newly passed policies are good first steps. Another policy on parental notification is coming next. But the goal is for families in Redlands to want to send their children to the city's public schools, not take them out. This means cleaning out all the radical rot from the school system. That must happen! They now have a school board majority who are up to the task. And MassResistance is willing to help the parents build a strong local grassroots movement to support the school board against the fringe leftist mob.

'Surrogates' are more likely to suffer mental illness than ordinary mothers

Frank Wright. Mon Aug 4, 2025. (LifeSiteNews) — The Irish state is a willing partner in the international sale of babies and the rental of women's bodies to supply them on demand. As it refuses to criminalize this evil trade, it also ignores the damage done by its permission of the reduction of human life to a mail-order consumer product. Scientific studies now confirm that women paid to give birth to babies they will then give away suffer mental illness at a far higher rate than mothers who do not sell their children. A leading anti-surrogacy campaigner has challenged the Irish Health Ministry with this evidence, in a move which further shifts the debate on the "surrogacy" industry towards criminalizing the trade. Lexi Ellingsworth, who leads StopSurrogacyNowUK, has written to Ireland's Minister of Health to ask what the consumer-nihilist Liberal government is going to do to help women who are used as living baby factories. Ellingsworth runs one of many campaigns to stop "surrogacy" internationally. She informed LifeSiteNews that she first contacted Minister Caroll MacNeill on June 24 to "highlight the issue of prevalence of Post Natal Depression in surrogacy." In the light of new research conducted last year, Ellingsworth has once again written to the Irish health minister to "ask, once again, what provision will [the Irish] government offer the surrogate mothers abroad for treatment of post-natal mental health conditions that are specific to surrogacy arrangements under the 2024 Assisted Human Reproduction Act?" Ireland's government has refused to review the legal position of the ordering, purchase and sale of babies on demand, preferring a stance of official neutrality on Irish citizens buying babies — nor on Irish women selling them. This despite the European Union's EuroJust recognizing that selling babies internationally looks a lot like human trafficking. "Cross-border surrogacy arrangements, where a woman agrees to bear a child and to hand it over, on birth, to another party, can lead to human trafficking and the sale of children," said the October 2024 report by the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation. What is surprising here is that the liberal bureaucrats of Europe recognize a basic fact of reality, as many "surrogate" babies are purchased from women overseas, and then transported to the purchaser's place of residence. This is done as babies produced in Mexico or Ukraine — for example — are significantly cheaper than those bought in the U.S. or Canada. The price ranges from around \$20,000 in poorer countries, to over \$250,000 in the U.S. Ellingsworth explained the workings of the international

babies to LifeSiteNews in May 2024, explaining how moves to criminalize the trade in some countries are countered by attempts to liberalize access — including in Ireland — in an attempt to corner the market.

'Surrogacy' causes mental illness in hired mothers: Ellingsworth's emails to the Irish Health Ministry, seen by LifeSiteNews, refer to a study completed in May 2025. Ellingsworth told the Irish Ministry this study proved a higher incidence of mental illness in "surrogate" mothers. It was, according to Ellingsworth "published in the Journal of American Medical Association" and it "concluded that there is a 43% risk of a surrogate mother developing a new-onset mental health condition, as a result of a surrogacy pregnancy (compared to 29% likelihood in non-surrogacy pregnancies)." This study was conducted over nine years by a group of Canadian obstetricians, psychiatrists and physicians led by Dr. Maria P. Velez. The study says it measured data from "all women from the entire province of Ontario, Canada, without known mental illness before pregnancy and who gave birth at greater than 20 weeks' gestation from April 1, 2012, to March 31, 2021." The study says its evidence "suggests gestational carriers ['mothers paid to sell their babies'] were more likely to be diagnosed with mental illness during and after pregnancy." Its conclusions note "potential risk factors for new-onset mental illness among gestational carriers" — meaning that so-called "surrogacy" should be recognized as very likely to damage the mental health of the women having these babies.

Selling your children is depressing: These "risk factors," it says, "include the emotional effect of separation from the newborn." In addition to this latest research, Ellingsworth also cited a "2018 study of 222 surrogate mother[s] in the USA" which "noted a 37.5% increased likelihood compared to 4% in non-surrogacy pregnancies." These findings are reinforced by a study of Indian "surrogates" in 2018, which found "surrogates had higher levels of depression during pregnancy and post-birth ... than the comparison group of mothers." This growing evidence base supports the conclusion of Dr Velez, who led the nine-year Canadian study: The findings of additional analysis suggest that some gestational carriers may experience grief from relinquishing the newborn, such as that described after adoption or removal of the child into foster care — something that needs detailed study.

Refusing to protect children: The tragedy of the Irish state's transition from Catholicism to amorality is demonstrated in its passing of the Assisted Human Reproduction Act 2024 — a bill which was denounced by Senator Ronan Mullen in June 2024. "The Bill enables the exploitation of poor women for surrogacy and denies a child's right not to be bought and sold through surrogacy," Mullen said, adding that it "also provides for experimentation on human embryos." Shockingly, Mullen also noted that "this Bill passed through the Dáil [Irish Parliament] without a vote." Mullen's claims about experimentation are legitimate and evidenced here — and they are not the only dimension of grave moral evil concealed in this bill. After the bill passed without a vote in May 2024, the bill was debated. Stephen Donnelly — Irish health minister at the time — then refused to add amendments to protect children trafficked by the state's legal indifference to "surrogacy." Donnelly claimed in June 2024 it would be "unacceptably discriminatory" to prohibit single men from buying babies — including those previously convicted of sexual crimes against children. None of the 15 amendments proposed by Sen. Sharon

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Keogan to protect children from exploitation and abandonment were adopted. It will come as no surprise to a readership which treasures the essential value of human life to discover that so-called "surrogates" (who are never called "mothers") experience far higher rates of depression and related mental illness than do women who do not sell their babies. With every examination, the profound evil of this trade in human life is further revealed in more detail. It is thanks to the unpaid campaigns led by women like Ellingsworth that this dehumanizing industry is exposed. As Ellingsworth told LifeSiteNews: Isn't it time that we recognise these risks and instead of arguing for 'regulation', we consider the very real dangers to be too much to ask of women and ban this controversial practice? It can only be a matter of time before the knowledge of the damage done to human dignity by the reduction of women and babies to consumer production lines sees this wicked business banned forever.

Can The West Be Saved?

By Stephen Stacey



We are in the midst of a profound cultural conflict—a struggle between competing visions for building a flourishing society. This clash of ideologies is fostering division and polarization, manifesting in the cancellation of speakers at universities and the arrest of thousands of citizens annually for alleged "hate speech" violations. At its core, this cultural war

pits two worldviews against each other: a traditional perspective grounded in historical and biblical principles, and a progressive ideology often associated with Marxist-inspired ideas. On one side stands the traditional worldview, rooted in values that enabled our ancestors to transition from subsistence living to a world of technological marvels—trains, planes, automobiles, life-saving medical advancements, and comfortable homes. This perspective emphasizes time-tested and rational laws that have historically fostered stability and progress. On the other side is progressivism, sometimes labelled as "wokeness," which draws inspiration from Marxist thought. Progressivism places faith in legislative interventions designed to achieve a vision of equality and justice, promising a utopian future. The cultural war emerges from the tension between those who trust in these modern interventions and those who see that they will lead to societal decline. In previous articles, I have argued that Western nations are currently grappling with approximately ten areas of legal jurisdiction saturated with progressive, Marxist-inspired policies. In contrast, the Soviet Union experienced a single Marxist-infused intervention (economic Marxism), and history demonstrates the devastation it caused. A Marxist-infused law might be defined as one that purposely seeks to create far more social harm than good. In the name of compassion, fairness, or tolerance, one creates even more citizens who need our compassion, who are treated unfairly, and the growth of intolerance. One might ask why the progressives always suggest laws that cause more harm than good. The answer is simple. If you wish to create high-tax, authoritarian, socialist state, you need to create a culture where more and more people struggle to build self-reliant lives—where citizens feel they need state intervention to survive. Unsurprisingly, with so many laws that bring about decay now in place, contemporary research on societal well-being in Western nations reveals troubling trends: rising national

debts, declining marriage rates, economic stagnation, increasing rates of depression, divorce, suicide, child abuse, and loneliness, and much more. The progressive agenda has manifested in several legislative domains, each with significant societal implications: 1. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Policies: These initiatives, intended to promote fairness, undermine organizational effectiveness and cohesion. 2. Redefinition of the Social Purpose of Marriage: Marriage shifted from being a child-centric institution to one focused on adult validation. This altered its social purpose and undermined the well-being of four specific groups of children. 3. Abortion Law: This law, while framed as protecting individual rights, causes a nation-imploding birth rate and disrupts mating patterns—thus negatively impacting the ability of people to enter into marriage. 4. Climate Change Policies: Aggressive net-zero targets have, for example, shifted economic activity from Western nations to nations like China, where environmental standards are less stringent, which in turn, has undermined Western economies and global environmental goals. 5. Immigration Policies: Laws that restrict action against illegal immigration weaken national sovereignty and strain public resources and cohesion. 6. No-Fault Divorce Laws: Poorly designed divorce laws end up causing far more social harm than good. 7. Various Welfare Policies: Many welfare programs foster dependency and weaken the work ethic and family structures. 8. High Taxation: Escalating taxes stifle economic growth and push more citizens toward poverty. 9. IVF and Surrogacy Laws: Undermine the well-being of many children in a variety of ways. 10. Hate Speech Laws: These laws, intended to protect marginalized groups, curtail the ability of people to speak about the damage that progressive laws create and lead to authoritarianism. If one doesn't want to make the effort to look at how each of these legal interventions causes extensive harm, then one supports the progressive agenda. A cultural war is inevitable. In the United States, Pres. Trump's recent election reflects widespread voter fatigue with some of the harmful laws mentioned above. His administration has prioritized the dismantling of five progressive policies—most of which have been pushed forward since 2013 namely: illegal immigration, DEI initiatives, transgender legislation, high taxation, and net-zero commitments. Also, one of his first actions was to halt funding for USAID. It was the primary sponsor that pushed progressive goals across the world, enabling corrupt leadership to maintain power through telling lies. In doing this, he stopped the Marxification of the world.

Pres. Trump's agenda is setting a precedent for emerging political movements worldwide. Reform in the UK and ADF in Germany are aiming to copy many of Pres. Trump's successes. In the UK, the Conservatives may face extinction because they seem powerless to act against the progressives' goals. Also, Labour may also fold due to their total embrace of woke causes. A Green/Social Democrat coalition may emerge, doubling down on progressive policies, albeit in a gentler form. Similar trends are evident in other countries, where citizens are weary of narratives that cause immense social division through prioritizing specific minorities at the expense of collective well-being. It's important to note that the West was already well down the road to decay before 2013. The question then is, after dealing with the most obvious nation-harming political interventions, will these new, anti-woke political alliances have the vision and determination to take down the rest of the progressive agenda? As political landscapes shift and new voices emerge, the resolution of these conflicts will determine whether Western nations can reverse troubling trends and restore a path toward prosperity and cohesion.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

By John O'Neill

On September 6th I attended the annual March for Life in London, with more than 10,000 people attending. There were some excellent, powerful and passionate speakers. Particularly prominent was Carla Lockhart, MP. Carla is a dedicated defender of the unborn. Carla highlighted: "If human rights mean anything they must be consistent, and they must apply to all. If we are to see change, we must all play our part." Carla added that God is on our side and we will win this spiritual/moral war. Co-director of March for Life, Isabel Vaughan-Spruce was also one of the speakers: "Priceless human beings or worthless bits of tissue – What do you believe and more importantly, how will you respond? Parents, politicians, pastors, police, medics, lawyers, journalists and every single person here must make that choice. These two worldviews cannot co-exist. They can't both be right. Pick your side but remember what they say – the fence belongs to Satan." I felt very encouraged and inspired by the passion and conviction of all the speakers and the overall spirit of goodness and sincerity which was prevalent throughout the whole event. It was a privilege to be among such dedicated defenders of the unborn. Carla Lockhart mentioning that "we must all play our part" is a challenge to all religious people that this is a time to be very vigilant, determined and focused, not just about the pro-life issue but also about other key moral/family issues such as freedom of religion and conscience which includes defending universal moral and family values. In this issue of the Update, Cardinal Gerhard Müller has said that the U.K.'s ban on prayer in front of abortion mills is comparable to persecution under Nazi rule of Catholic prelates who prayed for the Jews. "In England, you can go to prison for praying for the lives of the unborn in front of an abortion clinic, just as in Nazi Germany, Berlin Cathedral priest [Blessed Fr. Bernhard] Lichtenberg died in Gestapo custody in 1943 simply because he had prayed for the persecuted Jews," The freedom of religion issue is affecting many countries as was explained in the UPF article in the Summer edition of the Update: "We must not allow the global conscience to grow numb or silent in the face of hostility toward religion. Religious freedom is not a political privilege. It is a God-given right, essential to the dignity of every person. Faith must not be silenced. Sacred values must not be traded for convenience. Let us be unwavering in our faith, unrelenting in our solidarity, and united in spirit, for the sake of future generations and the sacred values that sustain our shared humanity." I saw a You Tube video recently where a Christian man was speaking about how the UK will face the wrath of Almighty God because of all the evils that are prevalent at this time in the UK. He highlighted how the mass murder of the unborn is child sacrifice; about the LGBT anti-family agenda which wants to eradicate all religious and moral values, and how the media fuels the sexual revolution with immorality, bad language and violence. How quickie divorce has had a devastating impact on families, and how parents are encouraged to leave their small children in nurseries, including babies, even though mentally, emotionally this is very damaging for the children. How pornography was allowed to become mainstream in many nations, having a devastating impact on marriages and corrupting the young people. Galatians 6:7 says that "God is not mocked and that we reap what we sow." Freedom of religion is granted by God and protected under international law in the UN General Assembly Resolution of its 36th session. Universal Peace Federation and individuals such as

Carla Lockhart MP are issuing a clarion call that being silent at this time in history is not acceptable as evil has clearly reached a zenith point and Almighty God needs to see all religious people responding in challenging these evils. The Trump administration has been at the forefront in speaking out in defending freedom of religion and conscience. They have been especially critical of the outrageous persecution of pro-life volunteers in the UK. They are also challenging the severe persecution of religious leaders in South Korea and also the massacre of Christians by Islamic terror groups in Nigeria. In South Korea President Lee is taking seriously the warnings from the American administration. He has said that in going forward the government would redouble its effort to ensure that the legal system was fair and unbiased. This should mean that religious leaders wrongly detained would be released. MassResistance based in the USA set the example for all religious people to follow. With relatively small numbers of people they gain great victories in challenging the anti-family, anti-Godly agenda; especially they challenge the LGBT agenda in schools. No issue is too much for MassResistance. May we all do our best to be involved in playing our part in defending this world-wide issue of defending freedom of religion and conscience. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Father S.M. Moon - Founder of the Universal Peace Federation: "Therefore, in the life of religious people, that which is more important than dreaming of eternity, is how they can work with Heaven in everyday life to eradicate evil and become fighters for goodness. We must know that, more than anything, this is a crucial matter." The German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer became known for his staunch resistance to the Nazi dictatorship whereby he emphasized: "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

Geneva Forum Stresses Women's Role in Peacemaking

By Mara Probst and Mariia Anaprechiky, WFWPI-UN



Geneva, Switzerland, October 16th 2025 – The conference "No Peace without Women: No More War – Can We?" featured two distinguished panels of UN officials, government

representatives, journalists, and civil society leaders, who highlighted the indispensable role of women and faith-based actors in peacebuilding and the prevention of war. The program was co-organized by the Women's Federation for World Peace International (WFWPI) and the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), and held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva on October 16, 2025. Other partners were UN Women, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women Geneva, the World Council of Churches, Global 100 Women, the International Association of First Ladies for Peace, Soroptimist International, International Association of Youth and Students for Peace, LDS Charities, and the Geneva Interfaith Intercultural Alliance.

Session I – No Peace without Women: Ms. Carolyn Handschin, director of WFWPI's Office for UN Relations Geneva, opened the session by explaining how recent regional conflicts led to the formation of a

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network of women leaders under the “No Peace without Women” banner, uniting for global solidarity and shared responsibility to end war. WFWPI, the IAFLP, and UN and government partners launched conferences across Europe and the Balkans, inspiring similar initiatives elsewhere. This conference marks the second time the movement returns to the United Nations in Geneva. Ms. Handschin highlighted the need to “create a vision and standard for peace that starts within the family,” and drew attention to the often undervalued role of mothers. She emphasized that “No peace without women” is not intended to exclude men, but is a call to prioritize and empower girls and women to be active in community building, reconciliation and restoring global order. **Ms. Kate Forbes**, representing the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), highlighted the humanitarian dimension of peace. She reminded participants that climate change and armed conflict are increasingly interlinked and that women and children bear the heaviest burdens. Ms. Forbes also noted that the majority of Red Cross volunteers worldwide are women, embodying the principle that peace “is not a document, but an act of service – people standing side by side.” **Ms. Asya Varbanova**, head of the Humanitarian Section at UN Women, presented alarming data on the persistent exclusion of women from peace processes. In 2023, women made up only 9.6% of negotiators, 13.7% of mediators, and 26.6% of signatories to peace agreements. Only a quarter of peace accords even mentioned gender, and none included women’s groups as signatories. She noted a doubling in the number of women killed in conflicts and a 50% rise in cases of conflict-related sexual violence. “We have the evidence, we have the frameworks, but what we lack is political will,” she stated, calling for increased funding for women’s local peace organizations and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which calls for greater participation by women in peace processes. **Ms. Giulia Clara Kessous**, UNESCO Artist for Peace, offered a profound reflection on the art of negotiation. “Women negotiate differently,” she said, “not to win, but to ensure shared survival.” She called for a paradigm shift toward “a diplomacy of collaboration,” proposing a 40% quota for women in formal peace processes. Citing economic data, she observed that the cost of war now exceeds US\$19 trillion annually, or 13% of global GDP, making peace “not only a moral imperative but an economic necessity.” Her call to “choose life over victory” resonated deeply with the audience.

From a journalistic perspective, **Ms. Olivia Le Poidevin** of Reuters offered firsthand testimony from conflict zones, including Ukraine, Gaza, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. She recounted her experience reporting from hospitals in Lebanon after the Hamas attack of October 7, 2023, quoting doctors who told her, “The longer the war goes on, the more women we will have to treat.” Ms. LePoidevin highlighted that women often bear invisible burdens as widows, heads of households, and survivors of sexual violence. Yet, she said she had witnessed that “even in the darkest moments, women do not give up – they continue to heal, rebuild, and lead.” **Ms. Patricia Elias**, intergovernmental advocacy director at G100 Women, closed the first session by reminding participants that gender equality is not peripheral to peace, it is its foundation. Referring to ongoing women-led peace initiatives in Libya, she called for women’s equal participation in decision-making at all levels, urging the international community to “act for peace now” and ensure that “we do not fail women again.”

Session II – No More War: Can We?: The second

session, moderated by Mr Heiner Handschin, president of UPF-Switzerland, explored faith-based and educational approaches to peace. In his opening remarks he emphasized the untapped potential of a faith-based approach in peace processes. There is a need for greater inclusion of the wisdom and efforts of the world’s religions, combining them with political, economic, and social perspectives, he said. At the outset of the conference, a message of endorsement by **Ambassador Mxolisi Nkosi** of South Africa was read. He stated that

“South Africa’s own journey from oppression to freedom has taught us that peace is never the mere absence of war, but the presence of justice, dignity, and inclusion. Women were at the heart of our liberation struggle, and they remain central to our ongoing efforts to build a democratic, equitable, and peaceful society. South Africa stands firmly with all those governments, faith communities, and civil society organizations who work tirelessly to promote peace and reconciliation. We commend the Universal Peace Federation and its partners for providing a platform where diverse voices can come together in the service of humanity.” **Ms.**

Frédérique Seidel of the World Council of Churches (WCC) reflected on the importance of healing as a prerequisite for sustainable peace. She drew from the Council’s global work with children and communities, emphasizing that “If you want lasting peace, you must help children heal the ruins of their souls.” Citing Poland’s post-World War II recovery and Rwanda’s reconciliation process, she stressed the transformative power of education and interfaith collaboration in preventing violence and fostering resilience.

Ms. Paulette Lacroix, representative of the International Office of Catholic Education (OIEC), presented the new publication “A School for Peace - Towards a Global Educational Fraternity.” She explained that education is “a lever for reconciliation and equality,” rooted in Pope Francis’ vision of the Global Educational Pact. “Peace is built in classrooms,” she said. “Teaching is already sowing the seeds of hope.” Ms. Lacroix called for global efforts to train teachers as peacemakers and to ensure girls’ access to education, inclusion, and safety. From a youth perspective, **Ms. Ejona Icka**, director of IAYSP’s office for UN relations, reported on the recent peacebuilding work of youth bringing political leaders together in the divided Kosovo city of Mitrovica. She urged governments and donors to dare to invest in young people. “If you don’t know what to do with your money, invest in youth,” she said, stressing the potential of intergenerational collaboration to transform conflict into cooperation enjoyably. **Mr. Stefano Bosco**, director of public and international affairs of the LDS community, drew on studies linking faith, purpose, and psychological well-being, emphasizing that the foundation of peace lies in finding meaning through faith. Through a faith-based approach, starting in the nurturing environment of the family, peace can be learned, practiced and taught.

Simple traditions learned and upheld in families can be a foundation and future security of peaceful and cohesive communities. **Mr. Jacques Marion**, chairman of UPF-Europe and the Middle East, wrapped up the conference by emphasizing the spiritual side of peace. He said that, although the United Nations was established without a religious chamber, it is time to introduce an Interreligious Council alongside political bodies. “Religion has too often divided humanity,” he said, “but if it can divide, it can also reconcile.” He encouraged faith communities to uphold human dignity and peace as sacred duties, echoing the conference’s central message: there can be no peace without women and dialogue. He criticized recent government crackdowns on faith-based organizations, citing cases from Japan threatening the eradication of an entire faith community, and the unjust imprisonment of faith leaders in South Korea.