



## Understanding The Crucial International Dimensions of the war against Life and Family

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### INTRODUCTION

Hello, I have been the Managing director of LifeSiteNews since its founding in 1997. LifeSiteNews has become the leading international Internet news service on life, family and cultural issues. We have reporters in the United States, Canada, Rome, Paris and Matthew Hoffman, here in Mexico.

I was raised as a Catholic and then went to university in the 1960s, lost my faith and became a supporting member of the Zero Population Growth organization. This pattern happened to many young men and women at that revolutionary time.

That was the time that Paul Ehrlich released his alarming book, ***The Population Bomb*** in 1968. In his book Ehrlich warned there would be mass starvation of humans in the 1970s and 1980s and other terrible consequences due to [overpopulation](#) and he advocated immediate action to limit the world's population growth.

Unfortunately, Ehrlich's book convinced many, such as myself, to become unthinking advocates of population control. I became pro-abortion and in many ways no longer lived a moral Catholic life.

Abortion was legalized in Canada during those years in 1969 thanks to our then Catholic Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who admired Mao Tse Tung and Josef Stalin and was a good friend of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

My wife Bonnie and I were married in 1972. We were 60s flower children who did not practice our faith. We contracepted and did not even once discuss having children during our first 5 years of marriage.

And now, we are the parents of 8 children and 7 grandchildren (so far) and I have been a leader in the pro-life movement for over 30 years. God has a sense of humour.

So what happened? To keep it very short, I experienced a dramatic conversion back to my faith in 1977. This opened my mind to consider more than the closed mind of an ideologically formed university student.

After this conversion, my wife nudged me into a pro-life education organization exhibit at a Toronto fair. The photos of aborted unborn children that I saw shocked me and I realized then that I previously had no idea at all what abortion was and had been lied to by abortion rights advocates.

My vision became clear due to conversion. I realized then how very closed minded and foolish I was before this.

In 1980 I started to support and then became a volunteer for Campaign Life Coalition (CLC), Canada's national pro-life organization. After a few years I was spending more time volunteering with CLC than at my large paint and wallpaper business. I sold the business and went fulltime with CLC.

From then on and still now, my family and I have depended upon Divine Providence. There has never been any financial security doing this work, but I often like to say, and genuinely believe, that the rewards for this work are out of this world.

In 1997 Campaign Life Coalition president Jim Hughes asked me to start a website. I was quickly joined by our current editor in chief John-Henry Westen who was 24 years younger than me and a Masters in Psychology graduate. He was also someone who had experienced a profound conversion back to his faith after a wild youth. He and his wife are expecting their 8<sup>th</sup> child next week. The website soon became LifeSiteNews.

## **WHAT IS LIFESITENEWS**

We have learned from extensive experience that the abortion issue is part of a far larger picture of many connected issues. We therefore strive to give our readers the big picture of all the connections between those issues to help them better understand today's great culture war. We believe this is crucial information that most pro-life persons and even most leaders are not aware of.

We say we educate and activate. That is, our news stories are intended to facilitate cultural change and help restore a culture of life. All of our stories are written and published with this purpose in mind.

One of the unique features of our news reports is that we often place at the end of our stories contact information for influential persons related to the developments covered. This allows readers, if they so wish, to more easily take follow-up action on the stories. We do not tell readers what to do or say.

LifeSiteNews reports on many of the most difficult issues that others will not or cannot report. We are professional and stress accuracy and the reporting of verifiable facts. Investigative reporting is one of our specialties. Many leaders rely on LifeSiteNews stories to guide their decisions. At the moment over 1 million pages of LifeSiteNews stories are read every month by readers from around the world.

LifeSiteNews attempts to lessen a common problem within the pro-family movement. We have found that most pro-life, pro-family activists tend to become so deeply involved in their local or specific actions that they think negative developments in their local area, their state or their nation, are caused by bad strategies, poor decisions by certain groups or persons, poor leadership and so on.

They often turn on each other and criticize groups or leaders. This is very counterproductive and misguided. We believe it happens mostly because of a poor understanding of the forces behind the Culture of Death. What they can learn from us is that pro-life and pro-family success is so difficult to achieve, more because of the power and shocking pervasiveness of international anti-life forces, than the human limitations of pro-life leadership.

It is our view that **all** committed, genuine pro-efforts by individuals and groups, doing a wide variety of necessary tasks, are worthy of praise and encouragement. The struggle is difficult, as you well know, and

anyone who is giving his life to this work is usually courageously going against the trends of the world and the grave moral corruptions in today's society.

Very few people are willing to be seen to be politically incorrect or to endure the inevitable conflict that accompanies standing up for life and educating, or protesting, or helping distressed pregnant women, or helping women who have been harmed by abortion, or proposing and fighting for pro-life laws, or showing the disturbing photos of aborted babies that reveal what abortion really is, and so on.

The forces against pro-life activism are in fact overwhelming.

Those involved in the many different types of pro-life work each have a role. Each is personally called to a different task that matches their interest, their skills, their strengths. Working together they make a powerful whole. They, you, are all heroes.

LifeSiteNews tries to be of assistance to all of you, everywhere.

## **THE REALITY OF AN INTERNATIONAL CULTURE WAR**

Now before I continue, I must warn that, for some of you, what Matthew and I will relate to you today may be overwhelming and disturbing, although last night you got a good taste of it from the movie [Blood Money](#). Still, it is important to endure all this information and consider what we have to tell you. I suspect that some of you, however, are already well aware of much that we will say.

Peter Kreeft, Boston College Catholic philosopher and writer of many books, in his talk, [How to Win the Culture War](#), notes that "To win any war" one of "the three most necessary things we must know" is "that we are at war."

As Kreeft says, "If you are surprised to be told that our entire civilization is in crisis, I welcome you back from your nice vacation on the moon." "Many minds, he says, "do seem moonstruck, puttering happily around the Titanic, blandly arranging the deck chairs." In other words, so many want to remain comfortable and undisturbed.

Kreeft explains that there is a deeper, more ominous dimension to the Culture War. He says, "eternal souls will die - billions will go to hell. That's what's at stake in this war." It is really, he says, a war against "powers and principalities" - on a very great scale - the greatest in all of human history.

**At this point let me tell you that is the main message of all of our presentations. Keep it in mind as we go on.**

Jim Hughes, who is also the vice president of [International Right to Life](#), reveals what we will be trying to tell you today about how much greater is the struggle to defend the sanctity of life than most realize.

Jim says, "The pro-life movement is **not only about abortion**. It is fighting an international movement engaged in a variety of efforts to massively reduce the world's population." "And to achieve that", Hughes explains, "they know they must also eliminate or at least greatly limit the influence of religion and traditional cultures that emphasize the dignity and sacredness of human life and the importance of the natural family. They are doing that now."

He says the anti-life movement "is a danger to everyone. Unless we take seriously that we have to fight this war, all the other good things that we do and support will achieve very little." "There will be far less of a future

for people of principle and traditional values. There will be a disturbing future for their children and grandchildren in this new world order that will be radically different from what we have worked and hoped for."

"However," Hughes stresses, "as big and as powerful as our opponents are, we are on God's side. We have truth on our side. We have natural law on our side." These will in the end overcome all the current evils. We are indeed David vs. Goliath. One condition for our success, he says, is that "we need much more support of every kind from those who know what is right and what is wrong."

## **ANTI-LIFE FORCES HAVE MASSIVE MATERIAL RESOURCES AND INFLUENCE**

One thing about our Goliath opponents is that they have enormous earthly resources and are massively funded.

PP US received taxpayer funds in 2006 totaling \$305.3 million and it has amassed assets worth \$839.8 million. For [2007-2008](#), their total revenue was \$1.038 billion and they made \$85 million profit.

Giant US foundations have given billions of dollars to population control initiatives throughout the world. The MacArthur Foundation, in 2002 had assets of \$4.2 billion and was reporting to be making grants totaling approximately \$227 million annually. LifeSiteNews [reported then](#) that a list of recipients of grants from the MacArthur Foundation includes most of the enemies of life, faith and family that exist on the international level, as well as those in specific countries which the foundation targets. Apart from funding 'Catholics for a Free Choice' and International Planned Parenthood, the foundation targets funds towards abortion and population-control-promoting groups in Brazil, India, Mexico and Nigeria.

Then there is the Ford Foundation, the [Rockefeller Foundation](#), the Hewlett Foundation, the Packard Foundation and the newer, far larger [Buffet](#) and [Gates](#) Foundations. For years, all of these have been pouring billions of dollars into initiatives and groups around the world that advance what we call the Culture of Death.

Every day you are being opposed by small and large groups that receive this money on a regular basis with very few people ever being aware of this.

Despite the massive evidence that Paul Ehrlich's dire predictions about overpopulation were totally wrong, the foundations and government agencies who fund these efforts, continue to advocate not only population control, but even world depopulation. Some have even called for reducing the world's population by 90% in order to protect the earth.

In a November 16, 2005 [LifeSiteNews story](#) we reported, "in the closing plenary session of the State of the World Forum convened in 1995 by former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, philosopher/author [Sam Keen](#) endorsed a 90 percent reduction in world population." Can you imagine the horror of what that implies. This is a madman.

Among numerous other notable persons at that conference were former US President George HW Bush, former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher."

Recently, through intensive investigative reporting, we have discovered another and very unexpected source of funding for anti-life groups. Social justice organizations of Catholic bishops [conferences in Canada](#), the US and Europe, have been sending millions of dollars for years to organizations that are pro-abortion, pro-homosexual or in other ways opposed to Catholic moral teachings. Many such Mexican groups have been receiving this money.

This issue has exploded in the last year. That has happened, to a significant degree, in response to LifeSiteNews reports, and especially those of Matthew Hoffman. The result is that dramatic, necessary changes are finally being undertaken by some of the bishops' conferences and [especially by the Vatican](#), to correct this great scandal. Matthew will have much more to tell you about this.

The other large recent development has been the influence of the global warming or climate change movement – another multi-billion dollar funded propaganda movement that is being used to convince the masses that we must stop having polluting, energy-using children and must suppress religions and cultures that encourage this. It is also being used to try to force a New World economic and political order. But that is another subject.

As you can see, the big picture that I have been presenting so far is about huge international developments and forces that we suggest are the real earthly source of what all of you are struggling against.

Although you MUST continue your current actions on the local level, your real enemies of life and family are at the international and ultimately the spiritual level. They initiate strategies and take actions that filter down to all the nations and then to the state and local levels, down to the smallest organizations and universities, schools, the media, and so on.

## **HISTORY BEHIND LIFESITENEWS 'BIG PICTURE' PERSPECTIVE**

The question you may be asking is how did LifeSiteNews learn about all this and develop its current perspective?

I was very fortunate to become involved in Campaign Life Coalition after my conversion because that organization was at the leading edge of understanding the international dimensions of the abortion movement.

We fought strongly against radical feminists' influence on the United Nations in 1979 to create a United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The document, or Convention, as it is called, that resulted from those negotiations came into effect in 1981. We worked with pro-lifers from other nations.

After careful study they realized that the Convention allowed for a socialistic state-controlled view of the family which is completely alien to Western culture. They saw it would be used to liberalize abortion laws. International Planned Parenthood Federation strongly supported the Convention. It has since been used to bully many developing nations who have failed to implement its policies.

### **UNICEF**

Also in the 1980s, Campaign Life Coalition (CLC), was fortunate to have a knowledgeable and very competent British researcher, Winifride Prestwich, who urged us to draw attention to her documentation on UNICEF's promotion of contraception and abortion in Third World countries. Attempts to convince Catholic UNICEF supporters, especially the Canadian Conference of Bishops of this alarming change in UNICEF policy, failed.

However, In 1990 miss Prestwich submitted her documentation exposing UNICEF's activities to the Vatican delegation in New York. In 1993, Miss Prestwich put the facts in her booklet *UNICEF: guilty as charged* and handed copies to Archbishop Martino, the Vatican delegate to the U.N., when he visited Toronto.

In 1996, the Vatican finally cut off its token payments to UNICEF. This was a major symbolic victory. Few people would look at our evidence or believe us before this and we had received much criticism from Catholics and others for publishing such critical reports about the United Nations' children's organization. Since then,

UNICEF has stopped trying to hide its support for population control, abortion, contraception and explicit sex education. It is very open about it now.

## **NSSM 200**

Just prior to Miss Prestwich presenting her information to Archbishop Martin, Campaign Life Coalition president Jim Hughes was given information about yet another ominous matter related to population control.

I should add here that we are often given such controversial and confidential information because people have come to trust that we will do our best to have these hard issues exposed and resolved whereas they find others in positions of influence want to avoid such difficult issues that place them in situations of uncomfortable conflict.

Back to Jim's new information: How many of you have heard of *NSSM 200* – the United States National Security Study Memorandum 200 – subtitled, *Implications of world-wide population growth for US security?*

Here is a brief snapshot of what we found out.

US president Richard Nixon commissioned secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, to direct the study. No doubt the study was in part commissioned in response to the alarming *Population Bomb* book that received massive international publicity. But then, you also heard last night in *Blood Money* about the strong eugenics aspect of population control and there is an indication from the Nixon tapes that the US president may have had racist views.

The 128-page classified NSSM 200 document was published in 1974. We learned about the secret document shortly after it was de-classified in 1989. Even today, very few people are aware of it and its enormous influence on world developments.

After it was signed by Henry Kissinger, it was directed to the secretaries of defense, agriculture and intelligence, the deputy secretary of state, and the administration of the Agency for International Development, with a copy to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

That is, the entire American government, including the military, was directed to play a role in a massive and secret plan to rapidly control the world's population.

And remember, this was way back in 1974 and the report, as far as we are aware, has to this day not been rescinded.

The study identified 13 "key countries" in which "special U.S. political and strategic interests" existed. The targeted countries were India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nigeria, Mexico, Indonesia, Brazil, the Philippines, Thailand, Egypt, Turkey, Ethiopia and Columbia.

Young people were considered a threat to multi-national corporations. But there was much, much more to the story. I have given you a copy of some excerpts from the report translated into Spanish. Note the mention of Mexico a number of times as a target nation.

You can see the entire report on LifeSiteNews at the address at the top of the excerpts page, although unfortunately we have not yet been able to translate it into Spanish. Alternatively, go to LifeSiteNews.com and in our search window enter NSSM 200. One of the results will be our special page listing the various NSSM 200 documents and links to a few articles about the document.

In the end, this report has had a great influence on worldwide population trends with the US, the United Nations and many other international agencies spending billions to urge, force, bribe and propagandize nations to limit their populations.

Dramatic cultural change, corruption of governments, educational institutions, aid agencies, health agencies and even religious institutions have resulted. Now, population growth is not only under control in most nations, it is dangerously crashing down far below replacement level and no one knows how low it will go. Countries are now beginning to experience population implosion with the worst yet to come. We have never seen such a development, caused by man, in all of history.

We don't know where it is all leading, but today's giant government debts and collapsing economies are said to be one of the results.

## **PRO-LIFE LOBBYING AT THE UNITED NATIONS BEGINS IN 1994**

In 1994, two years prior to the Vatican's decision on UNICEF, Pope John Paul II became very worried about the involvement of NGOs (non-governmental organizations) at the UN. In many cases these organizations were working for goals at the UN that did not match the goals of their governments. Many were aggressively secular, feminist, pro-abortion, pro-homosexual and socially leftist. The Holy Father sent an unprecedented letter to the bishops' conferences of the world asking them to encourage pro-life and pro-family groups to become involved at the UN to balance the alarming actions of the NGOs.

Campaign Life Coalition was one of the first of a small handful of organizations to send its first ever delegates directly to United Nations conferences. Nothing like this had ever been done before.

At the first meeting in New York a small coalition, working with the Holy See delegation to the United Nations, was formed. Those in attendance were former Canadian diplomat Gilles Grondin and Louis Dirocco, both representing Campaign Life Coalition, Dan Zeidler Representative in the USA for the Venezuela-based Latin American Alliance for the Family (ALAFA), Christine Vollmer of Venezuela, Jean Head of Manhattan Right to Life, Lawyer Richard Wilkins representing US Mormons, A priest from Australia, Peter Smith from the Society for the Protection of Unborn children from the UK and a few others.

From there, they went on to attend and greatly influence major United Nations conferences in Cairo, Copenhagen, Beijing, Istanbul and Rome. All of these conferences had agendas to implement UN resolutions to advance population control and radical feminist ideology.

We recruited many other pro-life, pro-family delegates to attend the conferences. They became part of a very well-coordinated, spiritually unified and emboldened team to undo the plans of the vastly better funded anti-family NGOs, UN agencies and government delegations. The knowledge we gained and the influence of our delegates on the conferences was astounding.

Time after time we derailed the plans of the other side and shocked them with how effective we were by simply presenting the truth to UN delegates who had never before been exposed to such honest revelations about UN manipulations that were a danger to their cultures.

Some of the more amazing results were achieved when we began to send groups of University age youth to these conferences. This happened in response to Planned Parenthood's tactic of sending youth delegates to lobby for reproductive health and sexual freedom rights. Of course, these PP youth did not at all represent the views of most of the world's young people.

The pro-life coalition first sent 17 youth to the August 1998 UN conference in Lisbon, Portugal, five of whom were from Campaign Life Coalition. This small group totally overwhelmed everything that the Planned Parenthood youth attempted to accomplish. The youth from the developing nations saw our youth and saw that they shared what we were looking for – genuine help for women and children – not condoms, abortion and sex education.

The World Summit on Social Development, held in Copenhagen in March 1995 was supposed to offer solutions to poverty, unemployment and social disintegration. Instead, it was hijacked by the population controllers who used every UN forum to perpetuate their over-population myth.

One of our most effective of all youth delegates, Anna Halpine, eventually formed the World Youth Alliance to counter the influence of the UN's Youth Caucus", a small group of young people who claimed to represent world youth at the 2000 Beijing +5 conference. The youth Caucus specially invited to the conference by UNICEF officials, attempted to word such issues as reproductive choice, sexual pleasure, homosexual rights, and diminished parental control into an international proclamation of child rights.

Their efforts were largely thwarted by the World Youth Alliance.

In a CLC training session for youth delegates in 2000, Gilles Grondin explained that many of the de-population efforts spelled out in NSSM 200 parallel the objectives of the international Planned Parenthood Federation and the United Nations fund for Population activities (UNFPA). So here we went round back again to NSSM 200.

Gilles also discussed "diplomatic insinuation", a practice by which wealthy Western nations withhold foreign aid dollars unless Third World countries agree to adopt population control measures, including abortion, contraception and sterilization.

The Habitat II conference in Istanbul in 1996 was supposed to be about housing. Instead, even here, delegates were forced to hear talks about reproductive and sexual health, various forms of the family and gender inequality.

## **MANY ISSUES CONNECTED TO RACIST POPULATION CONTROL AGENDA**

As we saw at Beijing +5 and Istanbul and other UN conferences, the population controllers were **not just about abortion**, but also homosexual rights, contraception, sex education to pervert young minds, pornography, legalized prostitution and now also euthanasia.

You see, our opponents have shown us again and again that all of these issues are connected to their overall depopulation, racist eugenics agenda.

And to do this they also have to suppress freedom of religion and conscience, corrupt religious institutions and destroy Christian civilization.

All of what I have said explains why LifeSiteNews stories cover such a wide range of issues. They are all connected. They are part of a big picture that we want our readers to understand. Our struggle is not and cannot be just about abortion, although practically speaking each group must pick its specific focus and tasks and a multiplicity of groups will cover all the other aspects.

However, they must all support each other or we cannot win this larger struggle.

We are in fact in a worldwide cultural war of a scale that has never been seen before in history. The total number of deaths and the dismantling of entire cultures has been on a scale vastly exceeding any past war in all of history.

Let me repeat that, because so very few people, including most secular and religious leaders still do not comprehend it.

**The total number of deaths and the dismantling of entire cultures in this current, on-going war has been on a scale vastly exceeding any past war in all of history.**

At the same time it is crucial to keep in mind that, as Peter Kreeft has emphasized, this is **not** a war against flesh and blood – against people. It is a war against powers and principalities. The evil is so great that, if one is to be honest and objective, it must be seen as an ultimately spiritual war.

With that in mind, we must still continue to do most of the things that we now do - but, with a different outlook and added dimensions. Your current varied tasks and specialties are your vocation and your service for the greater spiritual good of all mankind.

## **YOUTH ARE A KEY TO VICTORY**

Inspiring and recruiting youth is proving to be a key to victory. Youth want inspiration and once inspired will give their whole self to true ideals. Our current culture offers almost nothing for youth to be truly inspired to give of themselves as they desire to do.

If provided genuine spiritual and other good leadership, youth can become a powerful force for good as we saw repeatedly at UN conferences. They confounded powers that possess vastly greater resources and numbers. And they will do more of this in all kinds of social forums in the years ahead. Their enthusiasm and natural, spontaneous joy, properly directed, is infectious, very attractive and influential.

World Youth Days and well organized Marches for Life are proving to be the great evangelizing events of the age. The Washington and Ottawa, Canada marches have above all, a strong motivational and informative impact on the participants themselves, who are now overwhelmingly youth under 25. If you have not attended such events and their many side events, I strongly urge you to do so.

## **OTHER ENCOURAGING NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

We are also seeing the rise of powerful groups such as Silent no More Awareness where women and men who have been victims of abortion find healing and publicly witness to the great harm of abortion in their personal lives.

These groups find that a turning to God for forgiveness and strength is the source of their healing. And they in turn give powerful witness to others against the abortion culture and its many accompanying evils of sexual license, pornography and more. This is fast becoming one of the most effective pro-life evangelizing movements of all. Listeners are often moved to tears listening to their personal testimonies.

The increasing campaigns of showing large signs of aborted babies along busy streets and on college campuses powerfully increases awareness of the horror of abortion. Crisis pregnancy help centers continue to spread everywhere. Young Lila Rose and others are waging skillful, heroic campaigns to expose to the public the lies and criminal activities of Planned Parenthood and other abortionists. 40 Days for Life is sending out spiritual shock waves that are saving babies and closing abortion mills.

## **WE CAN BE CONFIDENT OF THE DEFEAT OF GOLIATH**

However, despite all these excellent new developments, what we are revealing to you today is that the evils we are fighting are so humanly impossible for us little people to defeat - that there can **only** be one ultimate solution that can fully defeat them.

We can be David, **confident** of this eventual defeat of Goliath by turning all our work over to the power of God and invoking His help and inspiration for all our actions - fearing nothing and doing what we would in the past have thought to be unthinkable.

People often ask us, "How do you keep doing what you do?" Doesn't it get you discouraged and depressed reporting on so many disturbing things? How do you accomplish so much with so few resources?

Well, I have just told you what keeps us going. It is not ourselves. Relying on ourselves and our own strengths is foolishness.

We proclaim truth. Truth has great power, if stated or presented with full confidence, with respect and in all social forums. Respect however, does not mean avoiding the presentation of disturbing realities. That's cowardice.

I can tell you that our LifeSiteNews mission has often been a heavy cross. We do not enjoy the negative reactions hurled at us so often, but we are overjoyed when, eventually, many of our critics discover the authenticity of the truths that we been trying to tell them.

We cannot be timid or shy or afraid of controversy or of upsetting establishment leaders or institutions or of being called troublemakers – if our actions are done with love for God and all people.

Look at the lives of all the saints and how most of them were persecuted, especially by those close to them. Christ caused division and disturbance – but – only because he loved and healed – and they crucified Him for this. We cannot seek to avoid conflict, nor however, should we ever seek it.

Our work can be seen as a vocation of spiritual deliverance - deliverance of evil out of this world, the evil having been brought into it by the evil one through militant secularists and population controllers who, I believe, do not understand the evil that they have unleashed.

Many, if not most of these people are themselves not evil. They are mostly well intentioned. In most cases I suspect, with their very narrow secular perspectives, they genuinely believe that mankind has no choice but to undertake their drastic, ultimately very unethical solutions. They lack the hope that solutions to seemingly impossible problems can be found by turning to God.

Love must be our motivation, **but** not a soft, everything must be beautiful and painless love. True love compels us to proclaim the truth - both comforting and disturbing – and to take action on the truth. Sentimentality is out of the question.

At LifeSiteNews we always avoid harsh language or personal condemnations. We let the facts be the judge. We strongly advise our readers to do likewise.

## **THE NECESSITY OF STRONG SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP**

Because victory can only come about with the use of spiritual weapons, Christian leadership or shepherding is of very great importance. We cannot advance far without such leadership. That is why we at LifeSiteNews do everything we can to encourage it and to strengthen the various Christian denominations. This is an act of love by us – for God and for our fellow man who so greatly needs spiritual shepherding, especially in this time of chaos

The sheep need to be fed solid food. Their fathers need to be courageous men of true faith and conviction.

I cannot comment much on the situation of religious leadership here in Mexico, other than to say, it generally appears far superior to what is being experienced in Canada, the US and Europe. There is great dissent from authentic church belief and principles in those cultures – although, at least in Canada and the US the situation is now notably improving.

LifeSiteNews publishes numerous stories about inspiring or courageous actions or statements by the Pope's, cardinals, bishops, priests and leaders of other denominations.

## **INTENSE REACTIONS TO LIFESITENEWS REPORTS ON CHURCH CORRUPTIONS**

We also expose unresolved serious problems in the Church that greatly need resolution for the good of the Church and of the people. Some people condemn us for doing this. This has been our greatest cross. Many Christians praise us profusely for being the ones to finally bring effective attention to issues that have caused great scandal or other problems for years.

We are currently being sued for \$500,000 (Canadian dollars) by a Quebec Catholic priest for the many stories that we have published over several years reporting his public statements and actions. For example, he publicly, in the Quebec media, rebuked Cardinal Ouellet, then the archbishop of Quebec City, for his statements that abortion cannot be allowed for any reasons.

The priest calls himself “pro-choice”, was an elected Member of Quebec's Parliament in a pro-abortion political party and is a strong public critic of the Church's teachings on homosexuality. This priest went so far as to say the Cardinal is not a Catholic. That same cardinal is now the head of the Congregation for Bishops and the third highest ranking Cardinal in the Church.

Our intent in writing the reports on the priest' statements was to put more public light on legitimate news about the unresolved issue of a very influential cleric being allowed to say and do what he has for years without any accountability.

The case is still ongoing and will probably last a few years but we are very confident of success in the case.

Matthew will relate the intense opposition we have experienced for our factual, professional investigative reports on the many misdeeds of the Canadian bishops' Development and Peace organization related to support for pro-abortion social justice organizations.

The hatred, lies and many manipulations that we have experienced over this have been intense. We unintentionally uncovered a large hornet's nest and the hornets have stung many times. Still, we have found joy to be able to suffer this persecution in the service of the Lord.

In the end, the truth that we have published on the development organization is being vindicated. Holding firm, retaining confidence in the truth and never responding in kind to our tormentors, we are winning the day – for life and family and for the Church. We have been told by many, even by some staff within the bishops' conference, that if it were not for us, this 40-years-long problem with the organization, that many have

complained about, would never have been addressed as it is finally being addressed today – by the Canadian bishops and by Rome.

Leading US abortion and homosexual rights advocate Senator Ted Kennedy was given an elaborate, large funeral by the Church in which he received three eulogies and was presented as though he were a saint because of his 'social justice' work. We published respectful, but unapologetic news reports and editorials that questioned how such a scandal and undermining of the causes of life and family could be allowed.

We **did not** judge Ted Kennedy, we only judged what he did and never publicly repented of. We wrote in charity, but also with emphasis. For this we received great support and some fierce criticism. Others, on their own initiative, wrote the same as LifeSiteNews. One critic priest even went on a public tirade accusing of us of all kinds of vile things - even of "doing the work of Satan"

However, as many told us, someone had to say something. The nature of the funeral caused anguish among all those who had given their lives for years to defend the unborn and protect the family from the corrupting modern culture, with Ted Kennedy being one of the most prominent persons who opposed them. To report the truth was an act of love - for Ted Kennedy, for the Church, for the unborn, for God.

## **THE RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING UNRESOLVED SCANDAL INTO THE LIGHT**

Our understanding is that all of us have a social responsibility and a right in Church law and tradition, when necessary, to appeal to Church leadership to correct unresolved public scandals or corruptions that have specifically been crippling evangelization and aiding the spread of the culture of death.

We first try to have the problems resolved quietly through the normal procedures. But when nothing is done, especially after repeated appeals, then we must go public so that these hidden things are placed in the light. This results in much greater motivation for those in positions of authority to finally address the scandals.

We have found this bringing of unresolved scandal into the light, if it is responsibly and professionally done, can often result in actions being taken that have in many cases been years overdue. It gives important information to the faithful who are then motivated to strongly appeal for resolution. It is amazingly effective. It allows the Holy Spirit to act through the faithful sons and daughters of the Church and others of good will who have now been made aware of wounds that need healing for the good of everyone.

As the Christian church leadership is strengthened in this way, support by the Church for the great pro-life, pro-family struggles increases, which is what we desperately need. We are seeing this happen in recent years.

The injustices of the holocaust of the unborn, the corruption of our children and youth, the killing of the elderly and handicapped and the spreading moral depravity of homosexuality, pornography, pedophilia and other travesties that cry to heaven for strong religious response, are starting to be responded to with bold proclamations of truth, bold teaching and bold actions - with less fear of possible criticism – and more fear of not doing what one will be held accountable for in the end.

We need religious leadership and the religious leadership needs your strong support when they do what they should regarding difficult issues. And, when they are failing in their serious responsibilities, they also need your firm, persistent, but always respectful appeals for them to act as they should on the issues of life and family that recent popes have been pleading with them to make their highest social priority.

For Catholics, it has been often said that it is the laity that will save the Church. We believe that, but not as the liberals and dissenters believe it. Lay people have their roles, which are not the roles of priests, bishops and

religious. Therefore we should not want to take on their roles. But we need them to live their roles to the fullest so that we may better fulfill our lay roles.

All that I have said today is our battle – LifeSiteNews, and all of you.

### **CONGRESSMAN HYDE: DID YOU TRY?**

And let me conclude with the following statement made by now deceased pro-life US Congressman Henry Hyde some years ago about the work that we do and the unborn children whose lives we are trying to save. I have always found this to be moving and motivating:

Congressman Hyde said:

*"When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God and a terror will rip through your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, "Spare him because he loved us," and God will look at you and say not, "Did you succeed?" but "Did you try?""*

May God Bless you all. I consider it a privilege to have addressed you this very special group of heroes.