

Family & ProLife News Briefs

A Service of Life Education Council, Inc.

October 2025

Pro-Life Speech Under Attack

- Kansas: Hutchinson Community College campus police told Nicholas, who invited students to read literature of a pro-life perspective, that the public college was “not public.”
- Erie, NY: James was told he needed a permit to speak on campus, yet no written policy requires this.
- San Jose, CA: A pro-life advocate was hauled into court simply for displaying a pro-life message.
- Conway, SC: Campus police indefinitely trespassed a former student after claiming her pro-life sign was “obscene”.

Thank God that groups like Life Legal defend their rights using legal, constitutional means. [email excerpt, Alexandra Snyder, 9/26/25, <https://lifelegaldefensefoundation.org>]

Planned Parenthood’s Stunning Admission

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin that operates 20 facilities in that state just announced that they will **pause scheduling abortions** at all of their facilities. The statement said they need to study and evaluate the best way to move forward under Congress’ recently passed tax and spending plan that **strips them of abortion funding**. This is **Shocking** because for over 40 years Planned Parenthood has stated, “We do not use taxpayer funds to pay for abortions.” They have stood behind this **blatant lie** for decades to justify receiving tens of billions of taxpayer money to fund their murderous empire. They’ve stood behind this lie under oath, in front of Congress, and in the courts, and they have murdered millions of babies using our tax dollars. [Judie Brown, American Life League, email excerpt, 9/27/25]

WHO Pushing Abortion Drugs

The Model List of Essential Medicines 2025, released on “International Safe Abortion Day,” has an abortion drugs section which for the first time has no restrictions. WHO (World Health Organization) wrote “the list no longer carries the boxed caveat, in place since 2005, that singled out these medicines as only to be used where legally permitted or culturally acceptable.” Dr. Ingrid Skop, VP/director of medical affairs, Charlotte Lozier Institute & board-certified OB-GYN, said these drugs were being recommended despite having **complications** much higher than surgical abortion.

“As many as 1 in 5 women will suffer a complication and 1 in 20 will require surgical completion,” Skop said. A new study “found that more than a third of women who used abortion drugs were unprepared for the amount of **pain and bleeding** they encountered. Yet, the WHO is recommending them for use in Third World nations with poor health care systems, where emergency care may be limited or nonexistent. WHO should “instead help nations obtain needed resources to impact maternal mortality, such as blood-banking for hemorrhage, antibiotics and critical care for infections.”

WHO calls abortion a “critical public health and human rights issue.” The USA withdrew from WHO in early 2025. A mounting body of scientific evidence and real-life horror stories show abortion drugs are far more dangerous than advertised, exposing the serious risks they pose to women as well as unborn children. The FDA is now reviewing the drug [Kate Quiñones, 9/12/25, www.catholicnewsagency.com]

Elon Musk Sounds the Fertility Alarm

One of Musk’s most consistent warnings in recent years has been the **collapse of global birth rates**. This stands in stark contrast to the story in Paul Ehrlich’s best seller *The Population Bomb* that predicted catastrophic famine, resource depletion, and societal collapse due to runaway population growth. These dire prophecies inspired everything from aggressive sterilization campaigns to China’s infamous and deadly one-child policy. Yet today, the world is heading toward population decline. Data from the United Nations and national governments confirm what Musk has been saying: birth rates are falling everywhere.

In 2022, birth rates in the **USA hit a record low**. Experts say that for long-term economic stability, it needs about 2.2 children per household, but the reality is closer to 1.6. Musk’s prediction reflects not only economic realities—fewer workers supporting more retirees, declining innovation, and shrinking consumer bases—but also cultural and spiritual ones. The Catholic Church teaches openness to life—an openness rooted in love, trust, and cooperation with God’s plan. St. John Paul II, in his *Letter to Families* (1994), said: “The future of humanity passes by way of the family. It is therefore indispensable and urgent that everyone ... strive to ensure that the institution of the family be safeguarded and promoted.”

In other words, falling birth rates reveal a crisis of hope, of love, of culture. **Children are not seen as blessings but as burdens**. Families are delayed or foregone entirely for fear of expense, inconvenience or loss of personal freedom, all self-centered, me-focused. The late Pope Francis criticized what he called the “demographic winter” afflicting many nations, where societies “close the doors to life,” equating them to places that are “devoid of hope.” The Church reminds us that people will not embrace large families—or even modestly sized ones—if they lack a vision of **life as a gift and a mission**. What is needed is not merely tax incentives but a cultural renewal that celebrates family life, sees children as blessings rather than liabilities, and trusts in God’s providence. [excerpt, Mark Haas, 9/25/25, <https://crisismagazine.com/>]

Change the Name For Goodness Sake!

If you call your organization Planned PARENTHOOD, might you celebrate **helping couples become parents**? No way. A recent mailing by PP of NJ touts these services: birth control, cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, and abortion care. The letter emphasizes patient comfort and sedation services. You see, it’s important to sedate women who are aborting their developing babies. What happened to planning for parenthood? Studies of PP in recent years revealed that the organization makes most of its money from surgical abortions and selling abortion drugs. I say they should **change their name from PP to PA, i.e., Planned Abortion, Inc.** [letter from Planned Parenthood of NJ, 9/25, and your editor]

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Moral Worth of Babies, Teens, and Adults

In the wake of World War II and the Holocaust, there was a desire in many philosophical and religious traditions to speak about human dignity without relying on reference to God, an urgent need to find a minimum ground of human dignity that many diverse nations could assent to. For some, a way of grounding human value was pointing to **care and love among human beings**. This humanist view emphasized the way we belong to each other, but it also made human dignity contingent on socialization.

When advocating for legal abortion, Dr. Alan Guttmacher, a president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, said children in the womb could be morally distinguished from their mothers because they “had no consciousness, no life experience, no previous association with fellow humans.” **The claim that a child in the womb has no association with fellow humans could only come from a man.** For a woman who is pregnant, it is obvious that her child is intimately bound up with her. Her blood vessels brush those of her child in the placenta. Even before her child’s movements are perceptible, the baby’s growth reshapes her hunger and makes her body tender and her stomach unstable.

Guttmacher’s view increasingly turned up in the arguments of liberal Christian denominations. But the moral reasoning of our throwaway culture errs when we imagine we can consider any one person “in isolation.” Human beings are not lone individuals. **The blunt fact is that we all need others.** We each begin life intimately and particularly dependent on our mothers, unable to reciprocate in kind what we receive. Yes, we have moral weight because we are loved. But human love, with divine love set aside, is not strong enough to give that philosophy a solid foundation. [excerpt, Leah Libresco Sargeant, *Moral Worth and the Legality of Abortion*, 9/22/25, <https://www.wordonfire.org/>]

October and November Voting: Election season is upon us, especially with early voting and mail-in ballots. **Get registered** if you’re not. Make sure your voice is counted. Carefully consider your selections, always keeping as our top priority whether our elected officials’ demonstrate **support or lack of support for life and for families.**

For Teens Who’ve Completed Junior Year

- Summer Great Books Program, July 12-25, 2026
- Northfield, MA, in the historic Connecticut River Valley
- It’s not too early to apply.

● See the 6-minute video: <https://youtu.be/Lj6pPFveVlc>

To ask the big questions, explore their answers, and forge new friendships. Discussions include questions concerning the sometimes-conflicting obligations to honor and obey parents, political leaders, and the Divinity. The Summer Program at Thomas Aquinas College encourages wonder, leading participants toward wisdom.

● *Note: In order to receive the full extent of religious-liberty protections under Massachusetts law, the College may admit only Catholic students.*

- Tuition (\$975) includes housing, meals, books, organized activities, and transportation to and from the Boston airport.
- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis; applicants are informed of a decision within 2 weeks. When a program fills, accepted students are placed on a waiting list.

Anglican Pastor Rev. W. Ross Blackburn

God offers forgiveness, and thus healing & peace, in Christ. “Shout Your Abortion” is a self-justifying cry of those who know of no other way to find peace. What else but child-sacrifice should we call killing children so we may live as we wish? Our recovery will only come from repentance.

[*Human Life Review*, Spring 2025, p. 60]

Young Woman Confronts Chastity

When I was younger, I signed the chastity vow card; I read the books on purity; I listened intently to every talk my youth group offered, even when my friends called it “dumb.” I never had strong romantic feelings growing up; I had no interest in dating. So I believed this battle with **sex before marriage** would simply not be one I needed to fight.

But none of this prepares you for the moment you look into the eyes of the man you’ve fallen in love with, when love becomes real, tangible, and the long-held ideas of chastity are no longer abstract – they’re tested. The desire I feel is not disordered – I don’t want to use him. I simply **want to be close to him.** I never expected how hard that desire would hit me.



I was not prepared at 20-years-old for the mix of emotions that came when I started dating, and the boundaries that needed to be established. What hurt more than anything was the thought of us falling into sin, not for the sake of what it would do to our relationship, but for the sake of what it might say about me. I’m the one with the theology degree, studying at a Catholic university. I was driven not by conviction about God’s design for love, but by **fear of what people would**

think if I failed to be pure. And somewhere in that spiral, I lost sight of what chastity is truly about. For a long time, I felt guilty for desiring someone I truly loved. But the more I lean into Christ the more I realize this season is not about failure, it’s about faithfulness. Desire itself is not evil. God gave us a place for these desires to flourish: the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

Until the time when we can be joined as husband and wife, God isn’t asking us to hide our desires -- He’s asking us to bring those desires and feelings to Him. To grow in a **self-mastery** not rooted in shame, but rooted in love and reverence for the beauty that awaits us. True chastity begins by remembering we cannot love apart from God. We need to invite Him into every season of life—in the waves of emotion that come with falling in love, discernment, and surrendering to His Will. If you are in a season of waiting, of feeling deeply, of falling in love, or learning to love, you are not alone. Be honest with the Lord. He knows and sees the deepest desires of your heart, and those desires will be answered. [read the full essay by Victoria Cardona, 9/24/25, <https://www.magdalaministries.org/>]

Harming Our Teens Every Which Way

A recent study of teen behaviors revealed that while in 1995 34% of high school seniors reported having zero or **one date per month**, by 2010, it was 50% and by 2019, it was nearly 70%. The male-female dance has broken down for Gen Z. The toxic world in which Zoomers have grown up was not shaped by bourgeois, middle-class norms. It has not been influenced by evangelical pastors or Catholic bishops. Rather, their world has been engineered by proponents of Pride Month & Drag Queen Story Hours. It has been shaped by adults who tolerate unrestricted internet pornography, who have embraced gay marriage and legalized marijuana. Fueling the worst aspects of this **toxic world** have been smartphones, social media sites, and apps designed to addict young people.

In a new book that every parent needs to read, *Tech Exit: A Practical Guide to Freeing Kids and Teens from Smartphones*, Clare Morell documents the devastating medical **effects of smartphones on young developing brains**. Limiting screen time won’t work. Would a mother accept that a “little bit” of lead in the water is okay for her kids? I don’t think so. The same holds for screens. [excerpt, *First Things*, Aug/Sep 2025.]