

The 50-year-old prohibition of sexual freedom

July 25 is the 50th anniversary of the encyclical against all modern contraceptives.

The suffering shall continue!

alec gagneux, fairch



In 1968, one of the most important decisions for planet earth, and therefore for all humanity, was made by a few men in Rome who (should) live sexually inactive: The encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (HV) prohibits strictly* the Human Right to family planning. Recently, the Bishop of Chur/Switzerland Vitus Huonder made it clear, who owns the truth: "Contraception is part of the culture of death." In England, almost 500 priests (100% men) have backed a statement in support of the teaching of HV. The "Catholic Herald" reported, that the movement is stronger than it was 1968. As Pope Francis plans to soon canonize the author of HV – Paul VI – it is a strong signal which weakens the hope, that (poor) women can finally end their suffering as abused breeding machines.

Fight against an essential human right

Since May 13, 2018 the UN human right to family planning is 50. Media ignored this golden jubilee. There are several reasons why this human right is either fought aggressively or simply tabooed. One reason is that the current economic and monetary system needs perpetual growth so as not to collapse. A growing world population seems to be good for the business of a very small minority. For life as a whole, however, this creates unnecessary suffering such as hunger, wars and destruction of nature.

In 1971, WWF Switzerland demands: 1) "Be satisfied with two children."

In the WWF Brochure with the title "The 44 points of environmental protection" the first point continues: "If you absolutely want to have more than two children, then adopt the others." Reason: "The destruction of the environment is a by-product of civilization, but additionally the great and ever-increasing number of people is a great danger for planet earth... We can decide whether to achieve compensation by voluntarily lowering the birth-rate, or by waiting for nature to rise by force the death rate."

The current WWF as well as Greenpeace or Pro Natura, unfortunately hesitate to recognize population growth as an important environmental factor: Marketing experts say it is not conducive to the image and thus to the donation account ...

'Culture' of death

In so-called developing countries, about 90 million women get accidentally pregnant each year. These unwanted pregnancies lead to 48 million abortions. That happens because about 200 million couples do not have sexual self-determination (education and good availability of contraceptives). The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) lacks 4 to 8 billion every year to end the discrimination of the poor to this human right to family planning. Is that a coincidence?

On the other hand, trillions are available for bank bailouts and the military. NATO can expect that its 2% (of GDP) demand from member states – for bombs, cannons, drones, etc. – will be fulfilled. For Germans, this means, that they will have to double their war budget from around 30 billion to more than 60 billion per year by 2024. The "never again" after World War II shall be fulfilled with more and more murderous instruments. The Vatican does nearly not oppose this 'culture' of mass destruction.

Protecting life - BEFORE birth

Men of the Vatican are worldwide politically highly active against abortion. There are hundreds of catholic organizations committed to the protection of human life (BEFORE birth). Trying to prevent abortions is definitely worthy of promotion, but dogmatic prohibitions are counterproductive. The German Foundation DSW.org and the UN scientifically prove that there are over 50 million fewer unwanted pregnancies and over 25 million fewer abortions if all people had a decent access to education and voluntary family planning. Those who actually want fewer abortions should finally stop fighting the UN and this 50-year-old human right.

Protection of life - AFTER birth?

It is striking that there are hardly any Vatican organizations that are politically active against death penalty, war operations, arms exports and (illegal) wars. The Holy See protects Life BEFORE birth but life AFTER birth gets only lip services.

Protection of Mother Earth

Pope Francis has made it clear in his environmental encyclical "Laudato Si" of 2015 that not the population growth (1) is the problem, but the (over)consumption (2) of the wealthy. Shortly before, on his trip back from the Philippines, pope Francis said: "Good Catholics do not have to multiply like rabbits."

How shall we deal with these contradictions?

E = mxc

The effects (**E**) on the Earth's ecosystem are influenced by the number of human (**m**) and our average consumption (**c**). BOTH components must be accountable. The Global Footprint Network confirms this, among others. As an increasing human family (**m**) is animated to more and more consumption (**c**) (growth-compulsion, advertising), there is a new earth-footprint record: this year's Earth Overshoot Day falls on the 1st of August - as early as never before. From the Swiss National Day on to the end of the year, humanity consumes (steals) what our children's children deserve. The earth can only recover if **m** AND **c** are finally (re-) considered. **m** and **c** are vital, "right" or "left" are not. Only when "right" and "left" cooperate for a good life quality – including for future generations – sustainability (Brundtland) has a real chance.

Empathy and statistics

Those who consult statistics see that the world population has quadrupled in just one generation. The WWF of 1971 understood the importance and suggested immediate action. Another way to understand is having compassion: Anyone who can empathize with a mother who has become unwillingly pregnant and does not know how to feed her (additional) child, understands, how important the human right to voluntary family planning is. Thanks to the implementation of this human right, immediate suffering of millions could be avoided and the world's population would grow one third less.

Yes to the '68 human right to family planning - for everyone

Those who are capable of empathy, must not accept that aid-organizations, environmental organizations, states, religions but also companies ** violate the human right to family planning. Disadvantaged people should not be discriminated! Sexual self-determination is still not a matter of course for too many people. That is why we need strong solidarity with women (and men), some of whom are forcibly excluded from this human right. The UN's goal is that ALL women should be able to receive Désirées (Desired) and be protected from undesired pregnancies (Accidents). What are we waiting for?

* "Natural" family planning is allowed by the Vatican. In the 90s, I visited Mother Teresa of Calcutta several times and got to know her natural family planning program. It did not work in Calcutta.

** A declaration for decision-makers reveals ways in which the 68th human right can also be integrated by companies into projects. This declaration is supported by Hans Herren, Emil Steinberger, Christine and Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, Eugen Drewermann, Vandana Shiva, Remo Gysin, Richard Gerster, Al Imfeld, Liliane Maury Pasquier, Franz Alt, P.V. Rajagopal and other personalities.

Sources:

--- DSW: Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung www.dsw.org

--- UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund www.unfpa.org

--- fairCH: www.fairCH.com; Declaration: www.fairch.com/agieren-sie-mit/f%C3%BCr-faire-entwicklung/

--- Global Footprint Network: www.footprintnetwork.org

--- Earth Overshoot Day: www.overshootday.org/take-action/population/



Shall this form of dictatorship really continue?
Msgr. Elio Sgreccia (Pontifical Council for the family) between bishop Haas und cardinal Schwery attending a seminar about family planning 1994.

<https://www.human-life.ch/alt/public/reports/HLI-Report-8.pdf>

The Pontifical Academy of Sciences in 1994 committed in vain for the human right to family planning and thus against Humanae Vitae.

<https://www.fairch.com/themen/menschenrecht-familienplanung/>