

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Next month will mark the 60th anniversary of the publication of Pope Paul's encyclical "Humanae Vitae" which restated traditional Christian teaching against the use of contraception. At the time, Pope Paul argued that the use of contraception would not be the solution to marital and family challenges that its supporters claimed. Unfortunately, the pope's prophetic warnings were drowned out by the secular media and dissenting priests and theologians within the Church itself. As the following article from the Catholic News Service details, the sexual revolution brought about by widespread use of contraception has had disastrous consequences. The resulting debacle reminded me of the lyrics of the Beatles song, "Revolution," which was released about the same time as Pope Paul's message.

"You say you want a revolution. Well, you know, we all want to change the world. You tell me that it's evolution, Well, you know, we all want to change the world. You say you got a real solution. Well, you know, We'd all love to see the plan...."

With my prayers,

Fr. Conley

In an age of #MeToo, women take a 'second look' at the sexual revolution

By Courtney Grogan

Fifty years after the sexual revolution promised female empowerment through casual sex "without consequences," scholars are looking into the far-reaching social effects of that revolution.

"Unlike our forerunners in 1968, those of us living today now have access to something they didn't -- 50 years of sociological, psychological, medical, and other evidence about the revolution's fallout," said author and scholar Mary Eberstadt in the opening speech at a conference entitled, "The #MeToo Moment: Second Thoughts on the Sexual Revolution."

"The time has come to examine some of that evidence," said Eberstadt. Eight female scholars presented research on birth control, infertility, the hook-up culture, sexually transmitted diseases, pornography, surrogacy, and sex trafficking at the May 31 conference, co-sponsored by the Catholic Women's Forum and Notre Dame's Center for Ethics and Culture.

"The #MeToo movement has forced us to confront the reality that when it comes to sexual politics, women remain very much at risk," said Dr. Suzanne Hollman, a professor of clinical psychology at George Washington University. Seventy-eight percent of women said they regretted their most recent hookup encounter, according to a 2012 study cited by Hollman.

When Dr. Monique Chireau was in medical school at Brown University training to be an obstetrician-gynecologist 20 years ago, cases of venereal warts were extremely uncommon. "Now it is a common disease," said Chireau, who discussed the rise in sexually transmitted diseases and their lasting effects.

Sexually transmitted diseases have reached an all-time high in California, according to data released by the California Department of Public Health earlier this month, which showed more than 300,000 cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis in 2017. These sexually transmitted diseases can lead to infertility, explained Chireau. "Women spend [their] 20s trying to avoid pregnancy and their 30s trying to become pregnant," said Dr. Marguerite Duane, an adjunct associate professor at Georgetown University in her discussion of research on birth control versus fertility awareness based methods.

"The explosion of sexual activity thanks to the pill has also been accompanied by levels of divorce, cohabitation, and abortion never seen before in history," observed Eberstadt. "It has also, as the #MeToo movement shows, contributed to a world in which 24/7 sex is assumed to be a sexual norm to the detriment of those who resist any advance for any reason."

"The belief that sex is a casual, non-intimate, recreational, adversarial behavior" and pornography use among men are two of the main predictors of sexual violence against women, said another psychologist, Mary Anne Layden, who has treated both rapists and rape victims in her cognitive therapy practice.

Pornography provides the "perfect learning environment" to train men to force sex on women, deafening their ability to perceive consent, according to Layden, who directs the Sexual Trauma and Psychopathology Program at the University of Pennsylvania. She cited multiple studies that have found that pornography's overwhelmingly violent content leads to violence against women....

The sexual revolution empowered "the already strong and makes the weaker parties more vulnerable than before. This is true, for example, of the young women who were recruited for and demeaned by egg harvesting," continued Eberstadt. "It is true of the women and children exploited in the frightening rush to normalize prostitution."

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children found an 846 percent increase in reports of suspected child sex trafficking online in a period of only five years, said Professor Mary Leary, who specializes in criminal law and human trafficking and teaches at The Catholic University of America.

Women are also being exploited in the surrogacy industry, another arena in which "bodies are commodified," explained Jennifer Lahl, the founder and president of The Center for Bioethics and Culture

Network. Lahl has testified at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women on surrogacy and egg trafficking.

“The global fertility industry has grown into a multi-billion dollar a year industry,” said Lahl. “Earlier this week, Market Watch announced this industry will reach \$30 billion dollars by 2023.”...

Children become objects of design and manufacture when highly desirable eggs are sought from women of certain intelligence, features, capabilities are brought together with carefully picked sperm and often gestated by another woman, even a stranger in another country, a third world country,” she continued.

“This is the largest social human experiment of our time -- we are learning as we go of the harms to women and children. Where else in medicine do we allow such things to happen?” asked Lahl. Gendercide is another global consequence of the sexual revolution’s promotion of abortion, said Mary Eberstadt. “Around the planet millions more unborn girls are killed every year than boys. They are killed because they are girls.”

“This grotesque outcome could not have been foreseen half a century ago, but we see it now. It is as anti-female as it is possible to be,” she continued.

INDIVIDUAL UNBOUND MINISTRY PRAYER

Do you long for freedom but feel unable to receive it? Do past sins, hurts, or memories weigh you down? On **Saturday June 30th, 2018** there will be trained teams available to provide individual prayer using the Unbound Model of prayer at **The Church of the Resurrection’s school** in Ellicott City. Unbound Prayer is based on 5 scriptural keys that help you unlock those areas of your life where you want to receive greater freedom & spiritual growth. If you would like to schedule an appointment or want more information, please contact Dan Gahagan by **Tuesday June 26th, 2018** at unboundministrymaryland@gmail.com. We ask that you read at least the first 7 chapters of the book *Unbound*, by Neal Lozano prior to receiving prayer. (available at www.Amazon.com or www.heartofthefather.com.)

ST. MARY’S BRYANTOWN LADIES SODALITY TO HOST TEA PARTY ON SUNDAY, JUNE 24, from 2-5 pm in the Parish Hall. There will be door prizes, vendors and a silent auction. Tickets are \$25 for adults, and \$15 for children under 12. Call Grace Newman at 301-848-8927 or Elaine Jones at 301-274-0716 for more information.

KNOW OF PARISHIONERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND? Please contact Fr. Conley or Sister Theresa at the rectory so we can minister to their spiritual needs.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY! OCTOBER 2019

Come join Fr. Conley and many of your fellow parishioners on a pilgrimage to Rome, Sorrento, Naples, Assisi and more. See firsthand the major shrines and basilicas of Rome, visit the Sistine Chapel, the Vatican museums, Padre Pio’s church where he received the stigmata, the Eucharistic miracle of Lanciano, and much, much more. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included and accommodations are first class. Dates are 10/13/19-10-23/19 with a possible extension to Florence. For more detailed information visit our website at www.pilgrimages.cpm/frconley or contact Sam Oliver at Samuel_oliver @comcast.net or at 301-848-3206.

RELIGIOUS GOODS STORE NEEDS HELP

We need some help to work after the 4 PM Mass. Please call Ellen Walls at 301- 579-2557 or Fay Adriani at 301-645-3531.

Please support our advertising sponsors. This week we recognize O’Brien Realty

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK:

SUN: 8am Rizalina Ricafort, 10am Clarence Davis, 12N: Parishioners, **MON:** 8am Christopher R. Bugtong, **TUES:** 8am Mary Theresa Bowen, **WED:** 8am Joseph L. Jones, **THURS:** 8am Mary Helen Tippett, **FRI:** 9:30am Norberto B. Ricafort, **SAT:** 9am Maurice Long, Sr., 4pm Msgr. James Beattie.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY

PRAYERS: Stephen Balenger, Mary Bowes, Bill Branick, Brenda Callahan, Frances Card, Joe Cross, Agnes Curtis, Chuck Davis, James S. Dorsey, Kendall Farrell, George Fassel, Arlene Gandolfi, Martha Gehring, James Gibson, Judy Istvan-Windsor, Irma Johnson, Regina Kijesky, Marie Knobel, Lillian Komar, Susie Logan, Jim Middleton, Mary Emma Middleton, Larry Miller, Joseph Mona, Wayne Mullings, Ryan Myers, Joseph Quade, Mary Reeves, Sylvene Savoy, William Leon Savoy, Edna Sweeney, Beth Weise, Tim Welch, Brice Zimmer.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND:

\$8,851.60. The unidentified donations totaled \$507.10. We received \$910.50 for our School Support.