

Speaking of the Truth

By Celia Villanueva

For over three decades, patronage of contraception and population control is still going strong and this will be sustained for as long as the Truth behind these interventions remains ignored, rejected, and opposed. Now, even the Catholic community has been infiltrated by such liberal thinking that cast doubt on our very own faith.

I am not a theologian or a scholarly expert on the Holy Scriptures. I may not have the vast knowledge to debate but what I have is my unchanging faith in God and the Roman Catholic Church, from which I learned the Truth.

In its fullness, the source of the Truth is the Word of God revealed through the Natural Law. Knowing the Truth is very much necessary most especially during these days in our society where most of us are deprived of good values such as justice and love.

But confusingly, our leaders are not focused on solving this dilemma. Rather, they blame the growing population for the deteriorating situation of our society. As a response to this, doomsday alarmists from the developed countries have been crafting population control programs since the 1960s. This is how they came up with contraception and abortion as so-called remedies for the so-called problems brought about by the actually healthy population.

Zeroing in the Philippine situation, we can see and realize the real issue behind the picture of doom. It is very alarming to see our government promoting systematic campaigns against natural birth, which is contrary not only to our culture and religion but even to the very core of true human development. It's sad to say that in reality, these campaigns were courtesy of enormous financing coming from foreign pro-choice groups.

None of these would have happened if only we and most especially our leaders took a second look and examined the real score behind all of these issues. There is a need for us to face these TRUTHS:

TRUTH ONE: The overpopulation dilemma is a hoax. What we have are micro scenarios of congestion and overcrowding in the urban areas. While the rapid growth of population has given rise to problems such as poverty, it is not the problem itself. Failure in the proper care of people is not caused by increase in its numbers. At the heart of these problems is the inner attitude of brother towards brother, an attitude of selfishness and of injustice.

TRUTH TWO: Population is not the cause of poverty. On the contrary, its growth continues to boost our economic status since the manpower level increases. This can be seen in the huge amount of revenues overseas Filipino workers bring home.

Population control advocates have fallen into the old trap of fallacies using people as a scapegoat for the poverty of nations. They find it easier to sterilize people and promote contraception than work for more appropriate laws and policies formulated for the progress of the economy. An example of this is the pending House Bill 5043 or the Reproductive Health Bill of 2008. Disappointingly, the myth of the world population explosion has remained as the basis for the so-called “contraceptive mentality” well imbibed in this current promulgation. Can you imagine that more than 2 billion pesos is allocated for the implementation of the programs supported by this bill? When in reality, there are more programs existing in our government that could benefit more with this huge amount of funding.

Woe to these lawmakers who ignore the Truth and spread lies for their own vested interests!

Woe to these Christians who profess to be Catholics but reject and oppose the very Truth of the Church’s teachings.

TRUTH THREE: Contraception is devoid of any values and is immoral because it violates the natural, moral law with regard to the use of sex and attitudes towards the formation of life. Contraceptives such as IUD and injectables actually prevent births by expelling the developing human being. They violate the fifth commandment of God: “Thou shall not kill.”

TRUTH FOUR: Sex is not bad. The correct use of it in marriage is so pleasing to God’s eyes that it becomes a source of merit and blessings for the couple. The abuse or misuse of it is considered an assault to life and an affront to God’s creative power.

Sex is a sacred gift from God and thus, it should be treasured by keeping it exclusive and all natural between a married man and woman. The use of contraceptives during intercourse violates the premise. If we look at the Ten Commandments, contraception violates, the first, fifth, sixth, and eighth commandments.

Fertility is a sign of health. If birth limitation is a health program, then the single most serious disease in the Philippines today is pregnancy, according to those supporting the overpopulation ruse.

TRUTH FIVE: From its very inception, life reveals the creating hand of God so life then is sacred. To give it more credit, the human person is composed of a material body and the spiritual soul in substantial unity.

Life begins at conception and that is why a fertilized egg is considered a human being. Through the conjugal act of a married man and woman, the spouses make a reciprocal gift of self while they cooperate with God in creation of a new human being. This is what makes contraception all the more wrong. Contraception destroys this very concept of procreation.

TRUTH SIX: In careful examination, the current provisions of the pending Reproductive Health Bill actually violates Article II Section 12 of our constitution that says “the government should look after the welfare of the mother and the unborn from conception to natural death.”

No human being, no matter how handicapped and old, can become a property of another nor the object of another’s right. The unborn baby is not an organ of the mother. The baby is a unique distinct being, with its own genetic individuality.

TRUTH SEVEN: The Church’s stand against contraception is based on natural law and as such, it is applicable to all man and woman of all times. Induced abortion is a form of murder and thus, it breaks the principles of the natural law.

TRUTH EIGHT: Promotion of contraception does not prevent the spread of abortion. Since it facilitates promiscuity as proven in studies, contraception aggravates the upscale of unwanted pregnancies which most often lead to abortion if misguided. While it is true that abortion is a more serious offense, two wrongs do not make a right.

By respecting and observing the natural processes of the human body, periodic continence leads to a discipline of man’s intellect, a discovery of the beauty of the human body that God created and the dignity and respect it deserves. That is why the value of discipline inherent in natural family planning is taught and encouraged.

TRUTH NINE: Domination of the instinct through discipline separates man from the beast. This special character of human beings all the more makes abstinence and periodic continence possible and viable with regards to having sex.

TRUTH TEN: God does not command the impossible. Every commandment carries with it a gift of grace which assists human freedom and human frailties.

Rejoice in Truth. The Truth will set you free.