

# The dangerous fraud of the 'pro-life' lobby

by Mark Burdman

"I thought the Vatican-U.S. resolution against abortion was excellent. Didn't you?"

If this statement had come from one of the several "pro-life" organizations in attendance at the Mexico City Conference on Population, the statement would not have provoked a ripple. The speaker, however, was Philander Claxton, top official of the rabidly Malthusian Population Crisis Committee.

"After all," Claxton said, "the resolution attacks abortion as a *means* of reducing population growth rates. But we never said abortion should be a *means*. We only say abortion should be available as a *fallback option*, when the means don't work. We recommend contraception, and, as you might be aware, in the United States, most birth control is achieved by sterilization."

Claxton's candid comments in a private discussion with *EIR* underscore the fraud embedded in the approach of the "pro-life" lobby centered around organizations like Human Life International, headed by Benedictine Father Paul Marx; the Laissez-les-vivre organization of the KGB-linked Jerome Lejeune; and Protect Life in All Nations (PLAN). By fetishizing abortion as a single issue, at times going to the lengths of a near-pornographic obsession with photos of destroyed fetuses, the "pro-life" organizations appeal to only the lowest emotions of rage and frustration in populations and leave *policy-making* open to the Malthusian organizations, many of which, in fact, share the same fundamental views of science and epistemology as do the pro-life organizations!

As the Laissez-les-vivre's Jean Grenouilleau said in a private discussion, "We leave the grand things, like economic policy and development, to others. We deal with the small."

## 'Pro-life' Malthusians

When economic policy *is* addressed, the result is frequently no better, and sometimes worse. For example, the American government policy enunciated by delegation head James Buckley argued that "free-market economics," as opposed to "centralized planning," would be the best means to achieve "reduction of the fertility rate." A statement circulated in response to this by the Club of Life charged that "free-market Malthusianism is Malthusianism just the same," locating its roots in the British East India Company which produced both Parson Malthus and "free enterpriser" Adam Smith.

Buckley embarrassed even some of his cohorts when he stated in his conference speech Aug. 8 that Hong Kong was a model of successful population stabilization through free enterprise. "Of all the examples, why did he have to choose Hong Kong? That will only hurt our cause," Claxton complained in private.

From Aug. 14-15, following the Mexico City U.N. conference, Protect Life in All Nations held a two-day "pro-life" conference of its own. One participant, Manuel Zapeda Payeras, formerly an economist at the University of Chicago, devoted his speech, entitled "The Myth of the Demographic Explosion," to an attack on Malthusianism and the Club of Rome. So far, it would seem, so good. But when he analyzed the root causes of problems in societies like Mexico, he blamed the government's policy of favoring "industry over the countryside," and attacked the "imperialism of the cities" as the enemy of the pro-life organizations!

This ideology provides the ready basis for mobilizing populist-agrarian rage into a mass fascist movement. On Aug. 12, upwards of 6,000 demonstrators marched outside the conference, chanting "Life, *Si!* Abortion, *No!*" and carrying icons of St. Marie of Guadalupe, the patron-saint of the unborn. The rally was organized by Mexico's National Action Party (PAN), which circulated propaganda blaming the Mexican government for ignoring the agrarian regions of the country. The PAN is the party of the Nazi-Communist alliance which is out to overthrow Mexico's republican government.

## Algebra, *si!* Geometry, *no!*

The overriding terror among the theoreticians of the "pro-life lobby" is fear of the potency associated with intervening in the universe and changing man's relationship to nature. This fear otherwise takes the form of an obsession with algebra and an abhorrence of geometry.

During the early moments of the conference, *EIR* had a curious interchange with one of the more popular propagandists for the "pro-lifers," Julian Simon of the University of Maryland. While generally interested in exchanging views with representatives of Lyndon LaRouche attending the Mexico City event, Simon became visibly nervous only at those points when LaRouche's insistence on synthetic-geometric methods as the only efficient way to deal with the questions of economics and population was stressed. "I'm just not comfortable with these views on geometry," he insisted.

As the sage wrote, "There's the rub." The foundation of "life," or preferably, "living processes," is that it is ordered according to the same golden-mean, or harmonic, proportions that govern the ordering of the universe in general. Without geometry, not only can there not be the requisite economic and technological policies for sustaining greater relative population-densities on this planet, but there cannot be life itself.