
Book Review

How the Gnostic 'birth control' army invaded U.S. public life

by Nora Hamerman and Warren A.J. Hamerman

Blessed Are the Barren, The Social Policy of Planned Parenthood

by Robert Marshall and Charles Donovan
Ignatius Press, San Francisco, 1991
326 pages, paperback, \$19.95

This book deals with one of the major satanic armies which the Versailles system unleashed on the world in the wake of World War I, turning the 20th century into a moral and economic wasteland.

Blessed Are the Barren recounts the story of how what is now called the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, founded by Margaret Sanger, became the main arbiter of social policy in the United States, imposing its philosophy of sexual amorality and eugenic population control through a policy of Goebbels-like Big Lies, systematic undermining of religious institutions, and infiltration of the Executive branch of the U.S. government with the aim of destroying all influence of the Judeo-Christian ethic in public life.

To the point that today there can be little doubt that many Americans would be more inclined to believe that Planned Parenthood cares about their health than their pastor or rabbi—provided, of course, that their religious leaders are not themselves leaders of Planned Parenthood!

Although written for an audience of pro-life activists, this book is so well researched and carefully written, that it deserves to be read by everyone, including those who sincerely believe that it is possible to be "pro-life" in general and still accept birth control and abortion in certain cases. *Blessed Are the Barren* will tell you where you got those opinions; it may make you reconsider them.

The exposé, published in 1991, is now silhouetted against a 1992 U.S. presidential campaign in which each of the three media-supported presidential candidates is, on social policy issues, a puppet of Planned Parenthood. Bill Clinton is a rabid "choice" fanatic who believes that abortion is a constitutionally guaranteed right. George Bush has for decades

followed the rabid anti-population policies of Bush family friend Gen. William F. Draper, Jr., and has implemented them as President as U.S. foreign policy. As for the "independent" Ross Perot, he openly supports the "right" to abortion, and has been one of Planned Parenthood's biggest bank-rollers.

Part of the Versailles disease

Margaret Sanger (b. 1879), the "founding mother of birth control," was, as this book indicates without going into the full lurid details, a habitual liar and above all a sexual adventurer driven by a need to justify her own legendary promiscuity.

Sanger's magazine *Woman Rebel* went into print in July 1914 with a series of wildly provocative articles, including one which endorsed political assassination, weeks before the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand in Sarajevo which started World War I. The future founder of Planned Parenthood thus began her political operations simultaneously with the creation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Reserve, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. All these institutions were designed to subvert the Judeo-Christian world outlook of the American republic, and replace it with an atheistic, materialist world outlook which would serve the strategic aims of the British oligarchy. As we shall see, this timing was not a mere coincidence.

Early issues of *Woman Rebel* supported birth control and abortion, denounced capitalism, railed against St. Paul, and demanded that women should get "control of their reproductive functions." Sanger was indicted, as she obviously desired, in August 1914 for publishing articles in violation of the federal Comstock law that forbade contraception, abortion, and obscenity. She fled to England, via Canada.

Today, in an era when the Surgeon General can send out a congressionally mandated mailing urging condom use in heterosexual and homosexual liaisons to prevent AIDS, it is hard to understand the problems Sanger faced in trying to translate her views into public policy in the 1920s. But until 1930, when the Church of England bishops broke the logjam, every major Protestant denomination, as well as the Catholic

Church, prohibited birth control and abortion. It was in 1930 that the Anglican bishops opened the door for the later changes in values, by issuing a nonbinding directive that allowed members for the first time to use artificial contraception in certain cases.

The Anglican bishops speak for the regime of Great Britain. The "pope" of their church is the King of England (today, the Queen of England). What else was the English monarchy doing in 1930?

It needs to be underlined that this seemingly innocuous step was taken by the Anglican Church at precisely the time when British bankers were foisting upon Germany, then crushed by the burden of the Versailles debt reparations, the austerity straitjacket of Economics Minister Hjalmar Schacht, whose policies paved the way for Hitler, and who continued to run Nazi economics after Hitler took power in 1933. These policies culminated in the death camps, where people were worked to death through slave labor, before they were gassed.

Eugenics and racism

The Anglophile Margaret Sanger, with co-thinkers in the U.S.-centered eugenics movement, was a key figure in shaping the National Socialist policy of singling out individuals as unfit to survive. The introduction to this book describes an international birth control gathering in New York City in 1925, addressed by Dr. S. Adolphus Knopf, a member of Sanger's American Birth Control League. He warned against the menace of the "black" and "yellow" peril. Another doctor suggested that euthanasia be used to counteract the effects of preventive medicine in saving the lives of "worthless unfit." Another of Sanger's close associates, Dr. Harry Laughlin, was the inspiration of the Nazi sterilization law, which he helped to pioneer in Virginia in 1927, with the infamous case of Carrie Buck.

It is one of the most appalling ironies of the century that the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the successor of the overtly racist American Birth Control League, should have given an award to Dr. Martin Luther King in 1966. As *Blessed Are the Barren* documents, one of Sanger's successful projects was to win over the support of black ministers, so that Negroes would not suspect that birth control was a plot to exterminate them.

Did Planned Parenthood change its mind from the days of the old birth control league? Was Margaret Sanger's 1923 promise that birth control would help eliminate "mental defect, feeble-mindedness, low mental calibre morons, defectives, and paupers," merely a blast from the past? The authors document the ongoing close relations between the Human Betterment Association of America, a eugenics outfit, and Planned Parenthood, right into the 1950s. Today this is called "genetics counseling" and is still voluntary, but, they report, there are some signs that it may become compulsory.

Blessed Are the Barren likewise debunks the myth that

birth control and abortion are Protestant versus Catholic issues. All Christian churches were assaulted by Sanger's propaganda machine, and Planned Parenthood made dramatic inroads in breaking down the resistance, over decades, of most of the Protestant denominations. In the United States especially, Sanger's troops had enlisted certain Catholic priests and bishops to their cause, but to their great dismay, in 1968 Pope Paul VI slammed the door by putting out *Humanae Vitae*, the encyclical which reiterated the Catholic Church's traditional ban on artificial contraception and abortion.

It should be underlined that this encyclical followed closely after *Populorum Progressio*, the encyclical on the Church's social policy, which stated that "Development is the name for peace." In fact, Pope Paul VI quoted *Populorum Progressio* in *Humanae Vitae*. The two encyclicals complemented each other.

Motherhood as a disease

Other chapters of the book have such titles as "Planned Parenthood and Medicine: Motherhood as a Disease," and "Evolution of the 'Right to Abortion.'" Planned Parenthood has sold itself to the public as a lobby concerned for the rights, safety, and health of women. Nothing could be further from the truth, as these chapters show. Although PPFA in its soap-operatic advertisements dramatizes the stories of women who have died in childbirth or from illicit abortions, the group's actual outlook is that all forms of birth control are safer for women than pregnancy and childbirth, and that "killing children is safer than having them," as the authors put it. If that does not make you cringe, you may have already been an unwitting victim of PPFA brainwashing.

This crazed view that bearing children is dangerous is conveyed by means of the crudest statistical manipulations, exposed in the book. Not only is this message, widely accepted almost as a truism after decades of media promotion, a quick prescription for the extinction of the human race, but it has fostered the spread of homosexuality with all of its accompanying tragedies. Meanwhile, the dangers of "the Pill" were deliberately concealed from the public until well after millions of women were taking it. Likewise the intra-uterine device. The fact that many artificial contraceptives are actually abortifacients, which destroy newly conceived embryos, is also well concealed from the public.

By a wondrous sleight of hand, Planned Parenthood convinced the public *both* that abortion must be made legal (allegedly to protect the rights of poor women who could not afford "safe" illegal abortions) *and* that the best way to prevent abortion is to spread the means of artificial contraception. Thus, as authors Marshall and Donovan point out, abortion is presented both as "bad" and "good" depending on the audience and how far one has broken down their moral resistance. This defies even mere logic!

What have been the results of all this? All the things which the legalization and spread of artificial contraception

and abortion were supposed to prevent, have dramatically increased: including venereal disease, teenage pregnancies, abortions. The family is being shattered as an institution, and the disorders of homosexuality and lesbianism are spreading like wildfire.

The myth of the unwanted child

The strongest point of this book lies in its brief but precise identification of the enemy behind Planned Parenthood: the age-old cult known as Gnosticism, which was deployed against Judaism and Christianity. It is worth quoting at some length the author's discussion of the widely accepted term, "wanted baby":

Notice that when Planned Parenthood uses the "wanted baby phrase," that such babies have rights. Unwanted babies have no rights and are morally equivalent to disposable property. But under the wanted baby scheme, where do rights come from? From being wanted, of course. But who is that does the "wanting" that results in the conferring of rights? Not the father, nor a couple seeking to adopt. No, it is the pregnant woman alone who gets to confer rights. Planned Parenthood, could never use the phrase, "Every child a valuable child," because that would implicitly recognize the intrinsic worth of the child irrespective of whether father, mother, etc. "wanted" the baby. And the next logical question would be: "Who put the value there and why is the child valuable?" That question was answered in Genesis 1:26: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Needless to say this does not sit well with persons who view themselves after the manner of the Deity, claiming that they are their own ultimate arbiters of right and wrong. Man, in other words, is made in man's image. Man does not merely measure, man is the measure. By claiming an inherent inequality among the human species, the "problem" of too many inferior men, i.e., overpopulation, can be "cured" by contraception, sterilization, abortion, and euthanasia. But since the Author of Genesis is correct, how can there be too many creatures made after the likeness of absolute goodness, or God?

Quite obviously, Planned Parenthood ideologues are not satisfied with the current arrangement of things in the universe. . . .

Further on, the authors explicitly identify this outlook, against that of Genesis, as being that of Gnosticism. Gnosticism is the ancient anti-fertility cult which regarded all material conditions as necessarily evil, and called upon spiritual natures to assert their independence of the material world, by indulging in its pleasures without restraint. Hence, the planning or spacing of births by means of sexual abstinence

is regarded with total horror by the Gnostics.

Interestingly, Marshall and Donovan present the spectrum of debate in Christian circles, showing Protestant theologians Bonhoeffer and C.S. Lewis *against* the Gnostic trend, and a Catholic theologian (now forbidden by the Vatican to teach theology) Charles Curran, attacking the Church's teachings from the Gnostic standpoint. "Catholic" politicians like the Kennedys are likewise exposed for presenting no obstacle to PPFA's goals.

The preface by John Cardinal O'Connor makes it very clear that there are no asterisks on the principle of life, by comparing the democratic right to abortion, to the democratic right to receive the death penalty efficiently. O'Connor reports on that "marvelously democratic fellow," the French physician Joseph-Ignace Guillotin, who invented the guillotine so that even the humblest of capital criminals during the French Revolution could be executed quickly by decapitation, the system reserved heretofore for the aristocracy. (Poor and middle class people had been executed by much more painful and degrading means, like disembowelment, if you must know.) O'Connor compares Guillotin's "democratic" zeal to that of the abortion rights activists today, who insist that poor women have to have the same right to kill their children as rich women, and that the only way to guarantee this is by passing liberal laws that will allow "safe," cheap, legal abortions equally to all.

What is to be done?

Blessed Are the Barren falls short in the Epilogue, where it proposes to answer the question, "What then can be done by those whose faith or good will takes offense at this sensually fueled death machine that has taken on worldwide proportions?" The prescriptions offered begin with a reform of one's personal and family life, and extend to activism on behalf of the pro-life cause in politics. Good—but not good enough.

Missing is the positive program: the other half of the injunction of Genesis, in which God ordered man not only to be fruitful and multiply, but to fill the Earth *and subdue it*. Economic justice without economic progress is an empty construct. And Sanger's death machine, for all of its appalling horror, is only one of the Gnostic monsters which oozed out of Versailles. The hydra is sprouting other heads.

The PPFA and the rest of the population control lobby cannot be fought separately from a commitment to bring down the whole monstrous system, including the debt collection policies for which population control is now both the goal and mechanism of enforcement. Marshall and Donovan do name the Rockefellers, American Express, The New York Times Foundation, and others of the international banking fraternity and its media tentacles, as piggybanks for Planned Parenthood. What is undeveloped is the powerful economic motives which lie behind this evil institution.

Some of the political figures most implicated in the rise of Planned Parenthood to its present status as a de facto part

of the federal government—like the late Averell Harriman and George Bush—are not mentioned at all. Nor do the authors draw the obvious connection between the late Paul VI's *Populorum Progressio* and *Humanae Vitae* in fighting these "structures of sin," as they were called by the current pontiff in *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*.

It is also an important omission, that although the clear ties to the imperial policies of the British oligarchy which we have mentioned, are all based on information in the book, the authors don't make that connection, nor do they seem to notice that Margaret Sanger's birth control movement fed on the despair born out of the meatgrinder that was World War I, which was the result of deliberate British imperial policies, and the ensuing, hideous injustice of the Versailles Treaty, imposed by the British and French after that war, which led to Fascism, Nazism, Communism—and to World War II.

The authors do expose Gen. William Draper, Jr. of the Population Fund for helping Sanger in her campaign to subvert the Catholic hierarchy and even to pressure the pope.

The following needs to be added: General Draper and his son William H. Draper III, longstanding intimates of the Bush family, did succeed in their decades-long project to make the dispensing of birth control a key instrument of American foreign policy. General Draper, the vice-chairman of the Planned Parenthood Federation, has guided George Bush's thinking on population matters for decades, from 1969 when Congressman Bush was an overt advocate of birth control to stop the spread of "undesirables," down to the present. The younger Draper was co-chairman for finance (chief of fundraising) of the Bush-for-President national campaign organization in 1980; he now runs population control programs at the United Nations, where the Chinese model of forced abortions and infanticide is shamelessly inflicted on poor nations, with the complicity of the U.S. State Department.

These facts make it clear unless the battle is broadened to encompass a struggle for economic justice against the British system of slave labor and usury, the pro-life militants who read this book will go down to certain defeat. It seems to us that many patriots in Ibero-America who are engaged in the fight for their sovereignty, for national economic development, and against the forced sterilization and other population control programs being pushed abroad—by the same political figures exemplified by Bush, Clinton and Perot—have a somewhat better understanding of the scale of the battlefield.

To all who wish to defend life without "exceptional circumstance" asterisks on their commitments, it will be most informative for them to reflect on the reference which provides the title to the book. As Christ was being led to his Crucifixion, he warned: "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For behold! The days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' . . . For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?"

EIR issues population book

Executive Intelligence Review released in June its new Special Report, "The Genocidal Roots of Bush's 'New World Order.'" The 188-page report, which sells for \$250 and is available from EIR at P.O. Box 17390, Washington, D.C. 20041-0390, documents the origins and scope of the policy of the U.S. government to depopulate especially developing sector nations—a policy put forward under the Carter administration, in the infamous *Global 2000 Report*, and being realized under the Bush new world order.

Edited by U.S. Club of Life chairman Nancy Spanaus, the report makes the case that the ideology of "zero population growth"—or even, nowadays, *negative* population growth—is genocidal. It elaborates one of the key components of Lyndon LaRouche's economic theory: that the world needs more people, not fewer.

Included in the documentation are:

- the relationships, both ideological and practical, between the Nazi genocidalists and the "population control" movement in the U.S. in the 1930s;
- the evolution of that lobby into the maker of policy for the U.S. government;
- how U.S. depopulation policy has been tested and applied, including in the Vietnam War and, more recently, in the program which sterilized roughly half of Brazil's women of child-bearing age.
- the recently declassified National Security Study Memorandum 200, written under the direction of Henry Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft in the 1970s, which defines population growth as *the* enemy of the United States, and targets over a dozen poorer countries on its "population enemies list."
- George Bush's involvement, since his days in Congress, in promoting "eugenics" and depopulation.
- the goals and activities of the premier anti-population organizations, from the Club of Rome to the Worldwide Fund for Nature;
- quotes from the leading depopulation ideologues, from Parson Thomas Malthus of 18th-century England, to Prince Philip and John D. Rockefeller III today.
- a case study of the demographic collapse of the Roman Empire, showing the human, environmental, and ecological *devolution* which was caused by the depopulation.