

Birth Control Encyclical Produces Varied Reactions

Many persons deplored Pope Paul VI's condemnation of artifi-cial contraception as a method of birth control. Many accepted it. But few persons, clergy or lay-men, applauded it voluntarily. Here is a random symposium on the Pope's encyclical, "Of Human Life," issued last week.

HIGHLIGHTS of the papal enclical itself:
Artificial contraception—"Di-

back in the Dark Ages.
TERRENCE COOKE, arch
bishop of New York:
Those who would publicly
preach against the teaching
would at least be guilty of disobedience and a violation of the
faith.

THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS:

NEWS:
Pope Paul VI issued his long and eagerly awaited encyclical on birth control — a document carrying no encouragement to the liberal faction in the Roman Catholic clergy and laity.
However, the Pope's mind is not frozen on the subject. The Vatican's chief moral theologian, Msgr. Ferdinando Lambruschini, commented (that) the rule is not

OBSERVER Church Page

Sterilization — "Excluded ... is direct sterilization, whether perpetual or temporary, whether of the man or the woman."
Rhythm Method — "It is ... licit to take into account the natural rhythms imminent in the generative functions for the use of marriage in the infecund periods only ..."
Population — "The way in which public authorities can and must contribute to the solution of the demographic problem; namely, the way of a provident policy for the family, of wise education of peoples in respect of the moral law and the liberty of citizens."
Role of priests — "The expound"

poincy for the family, of wise education of peoples in respect of the moral law and the liberty of citizens."

Role of priests — "To expound the church's teaching on marriage without ambiguity."

THE NEW YORK TIMES:
Pope Paul VI has been among the most passionate pleaders for peace and for human dignity in the modern world. It is tragically ironic, therefore, that this Pope may be remembered for an encyclical that can only serve to strengthen the twin evils of war and poverty against which he has so courageously spoken out.

Serven years against which he has so courageously spoken out.

Serven the twin evils of mankind on an issue that could affect the very survival of the human race, others cannot remain indifferent. The papal edict is bound to retard recently promising efforts to check a population explosion that threatens in the next few decades to plunge the world into hopeless poverty and chaos.

Seven years ago, the population (of Latin America) was 218 million. Today, it is more than 260 million. It is expected to soar to 600 million. It is expected to soar to 600 million by the end of the century unless drastic steps are taken to curb the birth race.

The encyclical places the Church in opposition to large segments of an anguished world, including m any conscientious Catholics.

RICHARD CARDINAL CUSH-ING, archbishop of Boston: Rome has spoken.

REV. ROBERT JOHANN, prominent Jesuit philosopher:
One hopeful sign is that educated Catholics are not going to pay any attention to this statement. If they did, we would be

unreformable. It is up to theologians to debate a n d expand all moral aspects involved.

As for those who fear a population explosion may tragically overcrowd the planet in the next 100 years or so, it happens that the respected Population Reference Bureau in Washington reported Sunday that birth rates are not soaring in any predominantly Roman Catholic nations, and added that "United Nations figures show that birth rates are not soaring anywhere in the world."

Maybe then, the population

world."
Maybe then, the population explosion alarms are exaggerated, and maybe the old saying that 'the tree never grows to the sky' applies to the human race also."

ARCHBISHOP HURLEY of Durban, South Africa:
A great number of faithful and their priests will experience an agonizing conflict between their loyalty to Pope Paul and their difficulty in accepting this decision.

DR. HUDSON HOAGLAND, a colleague of Dr. Gregory Pincus who perfected the contraceptive pill:

pill:
... A moral crime against humanity ... a tragedy of sweeping proportions.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

THRISTIAN SCIENCE MOS-TOR:
Pope Paul's dilemma was un-derstandable. He faced the prob-lem not unknown to other denom-inations: How to make organized Christianity manifestly relevant to modern needs. On the celibacy of the priesthood and now on the birth control issue, Pope Paul has unequivocably chosen to try to anchor. the Catholic Church to the deep roots of traditional doc-trine.

the deep roots of traditional detrine.

In Latin America, in particular, the younger clergy already have begun to "defect" to revolutionary political movements. The Pope's latest encyclical may well encourage others in the same direction.

encourage others in the same di-rection.

Pope Paul was caught in the dynamics of change in a world changing almost too fast for men to keep up with it. For men throughout the ages, the problem has always been to understand what should be preserved from the past and what should be cast off. That problem is intensified today.

MRS. ELIJA RUBIO, 29, of Caracas, Venezuela, mother of seven (two pregnancies terminated by abortion) whose husband carns \$30 a month:

I know we are going against the law of God. The Pope is right. But what are we to do?

JANE E. BRODY, staff writer

JANE E. BRODY, staff writer, New York Times:

Various studies have indicated that, in Roman Catholic countries, as in non-Catholic countries, the birth rate and the practice (or absence) of birth control are more closely related to the state of economic development than to religion.

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In an as you may be a supplished a major family-planning organized the state of the state of economic development and the state of the

COMMONWEAL, national liberal weekly magazine edited by Catholics:
For millions of lay people, the birth control question has been confronted, prayed over and settled — and not in the direction of the Pope's encyclical.

TRIUMPH, conservative Catholic magazine: . A courageous reaffirma-tion of Christian truth . . invites the world to return to moral

ARCHBISHOP JOHN F. DEAR-DON:

"We are aware of the difficul-ties that this teaching (the Pope's) lays upon our conscien-tious married people. But we must face the reality that strug-gling to live out the will of God will often expose all of us to suffering."

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA,

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA, INC.:
"Planned Parenthood's public posture on the Pope's negative statement is intentionally sorrowful rather than angry. At the same time, it behooves us all, nationally and locally, to help liberal Catholic priests and laymen recognize that they are an overwheiming majority in their own Church—in their belief in medical contraception as an essential means to responsible parenthood. It may also be useful to remind public officials that the great majority of Catholic communicants does indeed practice birth control, and strongly supports the extension of assistance for family planning programs."

Missouri Lutherans Make 'Fellowship' Move

ship" with the American Luth-eran Church was adopted last week by the 83rd convention of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Syn-od, meeting in Ann Arbor. The question of pulpit and altar fellowship was proposed last summer by the New York Souri Synod. It was debated eight hours on the floor of the four-day

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ST. TIMOTHY Presbyterian Church 18700 Newburg Road Worship and Church School 5:30 s.m. Rev. Carl A. Gunderson 281-4844

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a Christian'
MESSAGE: DN. BARTLETT L. HESS
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'Three Things a Christian Should
Not Do.'

MESSAGE: DAVID D. OWEN

DR. BARTLETT L. HESS, PhD 422-1150

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second vice president of the Syood, and Dr. Robert D. The special commission to deal with doctrial and practical difficulties which and the special commission to deal with doctrial and practical difficulties which all limited mentation of such as completed its assignmentation of such as completed its assignmentation of such as completed its assignmentation with the sproads and between the Synods witnessing to the submitted policy of the submitted and insertity of Scriphure, the authority and inserting the submitted in the

in Other Actions decou-vention:
Realigned regional struc-tures, dividing the south and east region, containing metro-politan Detrott, into two regions to be known as Metropolitan East and Metropolitan West, Went on record favoring ex-

Wescott, pastor of the Redford, Lutheran Church, Detroit, as fourth vice president and named the Rev. John S. Angie, execu-tive director of the board of institutional chapitancies of Michigan as executive sec-retary of a new board of social ministries. Young the University of Michigan Inter-Path of Michigan Inter-Path of Michigan Inter-Path of Michigan Inter-Path of the Chipan Inter-Path of

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