

# Lawyers Guild Attacks Planned Parenthood

Pending federal legislation that would appropriate \$1.7 million for a five-year program of family planning was attacked this week by the St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild as "particularly harmful for the moral, mental and physical well-being of the teenager, the family and society."

The legislation would continue "massive abortion-contraceptive programs for teenagers through Planned Parenthood," a Guild statement charged. And, "Moral violence directed against young people should not be promoted at the taxpayer's expense."

Reference is made to Title X, Public Health Services, which recently was approved by the Senate and is before the House of Representatives as HR 12370.

"If passed by the House... a significant amount of these funds will be earmarked for

teen and pre-teen sex programs as developed by and through the National Planned Parenthood Network," the statement declared. It was written and submitted to newspapers by the board of directors of the 100-member local organization.

The money that would go into programs for teenagers is described as "a 425 percent annual increase from the original funding of \$80 million in 1970."

"The largest recipient of these funds is the centralized Planned Parenthood of America," the statement said, "with its 189 affiliated groups including Planned Parenthood of Rochester and Monroe County, Inc.

"Nevertheless, teenage promiscuity has reached epidemic proportions with resultant increases in venereal disease, out of wedlock pregnancies, abortions, out of wedlock births, teenage

suicides, and increased sex related crimes among teenagers."

The statement noted that "During the past seven years public laws and policies have been liberalized to allow direct access to teenagers without parental consent or knowledge," and added that a recent poll of New York taxpayers showed that they objected to this.

Statistics cited from various studies indicate massive failures of such as the Planned Parenthood programs. Denmark's experience, as reported here in a recent lecture by Dr. Eugene F. Diamond, drew this comment from the Lawyers Guild:

"Although there was a population decrease, the attendant tragedies to its teenagers, and the destruction of the moral fiber of an entire

generation raises the question of whether such means are more destructive to society than the ultimate result intended to be avoided."

"Sex education for teenagers should be an important and necessary instrument by which sexually and psychologically healthy teachers can develop self-esteem and growth of character in their students with a strong sense of social responsibility," the lawyers observed. "Children can be taught to control their sexual desires and to accept the consequences of their action. Sex can be presented in its proper perspective of love and family... Such an education will produce adults and teenagers capable of self-regulating population control, and will foster a society which respects the family unit and accords to sex its proper perspective in the moral and physical order."

## Christian Hope Subject of Audience

Vatican City (RNS) — The Christian hope for salvation in Jesus Christ does not preclude Christian commitment to social and economic liberation, Pope John Paul told a large group of the faithful at his third midweekly general audience (Sept. 20).

Speaking of the significance of what is called the theological virtue of hope, the Pope said "it was a virtue that rested on the foundation of three truths" "God is omnipotent. God loves me greatly. God is faithful to his promises."

"Christian hope, therefore," said the Pope, "enkindles deep trust in God and for this reason the believer never feels alone, useless, or abandoned."

Touching on objections that Christian hope is "the virtue of the weak," that it makes the Christian a "useless individual, an alienated, resigned person," the pontiff alluded to the teaching of Vatican II that religion does not of necessity divert the believer from "the constructing of the earthly city."

"Believers," said the Pope "are not deterred by the Christian message from building up the world or impelled to neglect the welfare of their fellow man. Rather, they are more stringently bound to do these very



## 'Casa' Dedication

Alessandro Cortese-DeBosis, consul general of Italy in New York, will give the principal address during dedication ceremonies for Nazareth College's new Casa Italiana, Friday, Sept. 29 at 1:30 p.m. The \$150,000 building will serve as headquarters for Nazareth's Italian Studies Program. An open house will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30 from 2 to 5 p.m. The facility is only the second of its kind in the U.S.

## Congress Workshops

The Parish Council Congress, the annual gathering sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Pastoral Ministry, will feature eight workshops this year on such topics as Planning Assistance and Christian Stewardship.

The congress, which is expected to draw more than 1000 diocesans, is slated for Oct. 7 and 8 at St. Agnes High School.

In addition to the above mentioned, workshops will be held on the topics of "Is the Center of Parish Councils the Agenda of Jesus the Christ?", "Orientation," "Also: Administration/Leadership/Skills/Organization," "What's it: A Game to Help You Uncover Different Understandings of Parish," "Family Ministry is more than a Committee," "Utilization of Pastoral Information in Designing Parish Programs."

Persons wishing to attend the congress may obtain further information by contacting their pastors or heads of their parish councils.

**THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER**  
**"The Funeral - a Reflection of Life"**  
 By Ed Sulewski

We often find it easy to criticize those things that deviate from the traditional - and the funeral service is no exception. However, we feel that the funeral service should reflect the best parts of the life that is now over. If deceased lived a full life, had many friends and was full of fun and laughter, he or she might prefer - or might even have pre-arranged - a joyous rather than solemn ceremony. And, although everyone might not be comfortable with this break in tradition, a life that has been lived to the fullest is a cause for celebration!

In all cases, the personal preferences and desires of the family are our primary consideration and we make every effort to help carry them out. If you have any questions concerning costs, our services, or pre-arrangement, we invite you to call at any time.

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PRE-REGISTRATION is recommended to insure immediate access to Workshop and adequate preparation of materials and food.

Registration is limited, so please send the attached form, completely filled in, as soon as possible, at least by Oct. 14.

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