

A Brief on Why CFCFFL Opposes House Bill 5043

“Christians must prove themselves to be watchful, prudent and courageous. They should be ready to bear witness, even if necessary by martyrdom, to the worth of each person in God's eyes.”

(From the Pontifical Council for the Family's Ethical and Pastoral Dimensions of Population Trends)

Objections to House Bill 5043	CFCFFL Position
<i>Responsible Parenthood is Skewed Towards, and Maliciously Equated With, Family Planning and Promotion of Contraceptive Devices and Surgical Means</i>	<p>Responsible Parenthood is about a couple responding to the call of God to fulfill their mission on their vocation of marriage and family life. It includes a conjugal love that is seriously committed to care for and nurture their children, educating and forming them in moral and ethical values, founded in the likeness and image of God, the Author of life. It can never be focused on Family Planning alone and especially on the promotion of contraceptive devices, which are intrinsically evil.</p> <p>Responsible Parenthood is not just an economic concept understood only in terms of numbers, e.g., the size of a family. It is both a moral and legal concept far broader in scope and meaning, encompassing all the values, beliefs and aspirations of every married couple as these relate to their children.</p> <p>As a moral concept, Responsible Parenthood calls for the couple to decide on the right time for them to have their first or subsequent child, taking into careful consideration their capacity to love, care, teach and provide for their child or children, and always adhering to the teachings of the Church and natural law.</p> <p>As a legal concept, Responsible Parenthood means that the practices to be adopted in building the family must always conform to the constitutional principle that the family is the basic unit of society and an inviolable institution that deserves the State's protection.</p>
<i>Proposed Reproductive Programs and Services Represent Clear and Present Danger to Women and the Unborn Child, and Serve Only the Interest of Contraceptive-producing Companies</i>	<p>1) As practiced internationally, Reproductive Health is merely a pretext to promote contraceptive devices that endanger the lives of women, contrary to its claim of being safe.</p> <p>2) Countries with Reproductive Health Care accept abortion.</p> <p>3) It claims to promote informed choices, but does not disclose the dangers of each contraceptive device.</p> <p>4) Reproductive Health is seen as a doorway to a billion-dollar industry for drug companies manufacturing the contraceptives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The use of contraceptives is against the law of God because it deliberately prevents</i>

	<i>the possibility of life, as some contraceptives function as abortifacients. Therefore, the use of contraceptives is intrinsically wrong / immoral.</i>
<i>State-Sponsored Sex Education Tends to be Clinical and Devoid of Moral and Ethical Values</i>	<p>1) As experienced in many countries, classroom Sex Education is harmful because it does not consider the readiness of each child to understand and absorb such sensitive information;</p> <p>2) It has aroused even more the curiosity of children regarding sexual activities which may lead to a desire for pornographic materials and for promiscuity;</p> <p>3) The track record of the United States shows that, "Today, a majority of pregnant teens are unmarried, and near-epidemic proportions of sexually-transmitted infections occur among teen and young adult populations. Research shows that the emotional effects of pre-marital sex can cause long-term consequences, one of which is the difficulty of emotionally bonding with one person in marriage after having had multiple sexual partners." (From Focus on the Family, US Evangelical Family Ministry founded by the well-known psychologist, Dr. James Dobson)</p> <p>4) When Allan Guttmacher, founder of the Guttmacher Institute (the leading think tank on sexual and reproductive health issues in the United States and worldwide http://www.guttmacher.org/), was asked about how abortion can be preserved as a law in the USA. His reply was, "Sex Education will do this."</p> <p>5) Sex Education devoid of moral norms and ethical principles is seen as the foundation of building an anti-life and anti-family mentality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The innocence of children is best preserved through the loving care of Christ-centered and responsible parents, whose natural inclination is to protect their children from harm, instill in them the best of virtues and teach them moral and ethical values. These virtues and values form the bedrock for a strong marriage and family life, where sex finds its proper place.</i>
<i>Redefinition of When Life begins (from Conception to Implantation) Creates the Window for Abortion</i>	<p>Natural Law and even the Philippine Constitution state that life begins at conception, not after implantation, which occurs when the fertilized egg attaches itself to the uterine wall and typically takes place between six and eight days after conception. The redefinition of the onset of life (from conception to implantation) creates a window for abortion. This is the time when an Emergency Contraception called "Morning After Pill", branded commercially as <i>Levonorgestrel</i>, can be administered in order to terminate pregnancy at its earliest stage. Contrary to the claims of its proponents that this bill does not include abortion, this redefinition of when life actually begins proves that the bill indeed permits abortion.</p>
<i>Contraceptives are Erroneously Classified as Essential Medicines</i>	<p>Contraceptives can never be considered essential medicines because they neither save nor guarantee life. Moreover, pregnancy is NOT a disease and does not warrant a cure.</p>

<p><i>Human, Constitutional and Religious Rights are Violated</i></p>	<p>The Bill would penalize individuals with fines and/or imprisonment for speaking against any of its provisions in violation of their freedom of expression. The threat of penalty unlawfully deters them from expressing their opinion and defending their faith.</p>
<p><i>Population Control Goes Against God's Plan</i></p>	<p>Population Control is a coercive and malevolent act that manipulates and tampers with the growth of the human race. It controls the type, location and number of people that inhabit the earth. Population Control and Environmental Devastation are correlated in its methodologies. Population Controllers argue that the earth is running out of land, water and food resources and therefore the solution is to reduce population. Ingrained by these Population Controllers in the minds of global leaders is the theory that pervasive population explosion is outstripping natural resources and this requires a solution: various methods of taxation and other forms of financial disincentives. Its programs include contraception, abortion and euthanasia. An atrocious reality of this program is the "One-Child Policy of China".</p> <p>HB 5043 includes population policies that will enshrine the ideal family size of the Filipino family to two (2) children. At present, the Philippine taxation system already limits family incentives by the fourth child, so there is a danger that if HB 5043 is enacted into a law, then the already prohibitive current 4-children policy will even be further reduced, as a tax disincentive program.</p> <p>Countries like Singapore, Italy, and many European countries now face an aging population and face extinction as a race. Due to a massive population control program, couples in these countries refuse to have children, even if governments of these countries like Singapore and Italy have reversed their taxation disincentives program, into birth incentives, for couples who will make babies. But it is no longer working. There are no takers.</p>

***"I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse.
Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live" (Deut 30:19)***