

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Homily given by Fr. Dennis Koliński, SJC

St. Peter's Church in Volo

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He hated the Church, favored forced sterilization for undesirables, and started a selective breeding program to produce a master race. He hated Jews, blacks and gypsies, and conceived a plan, which led to the systematic extermination of 6 million Jews. His name was Adolph Hitler.

She also hated the Church, favored forced sterilization for undesirables, and supported selective breeding to produce a master race. She hated Jews, blacks and Hispanics, and fully supported Hitler's extermination of the Jews in Europe. Her name was Margaret Sanger.

Hitler's war devastated Europe leaving millions of corpses in its wake but in the end, after many years of reconstruction, Europe arose from the ashes and eventually was able to relegate the years of World War II to a very dark page of modern history. However, even though Margaret Sanger, like Hitler, is long dead, her philosophy lives on, devastating untold lives and continuing, with each year, to leave more millions of corpses in the wake of her legacy.

Hitler should be a name familiar to everyone here, but probably few know of Margaret Sanger? Born into a very poor family in 1879, she was the daughter of a devout Roman Catholic mother and a radical-minded socialist father. After her first marriage failed, a second marriage to a very wealthy man brought her into the world of affluence and the decadence of the early twentieth century. Having lived the life of poverty and seen her mother struggle to raise eleven children and suffer through seven miscarriages, Sanger saw a real need to help women, especially poor women. The problem was that she began to see birth control as the answer and a tool in a socialist style class struggle. And although she professed to be on the side of the poor, she also determined that certain segments of society were not worthy of existence because they consumed resources that should be reserved for the enlightened elite. Her newly acquired life of wealth and leisure also led her into a life of depraved immorality in which birth control became essential so that she could live a debauched life without consequences.

The feminists and self-proclaimed sophisticate elites of our country idolize Margaret Sanger but as one author put it, she was nothing more than “an adulteress, racist and bigot, a supporter of Hitler's Nazi party, and a believer in eugenics—the purification of a particular race of people by selective breeding.”<sup>1</sup> The articles of well-known supporters of eugenics, who were members of Hitler's Third Reich, filled her magazines and journals. In 1921, she founded the American Birth Control League, which we now know as Planned Parenthood. So, you see, that the evil that Planned Parenthood is inflicting upon our country is not a product of the 1960's sexual revolution at all. It has very deep and very old roots in our country, which have subtly shaped the minds of many Americans long before *Roe v. Wade*. Our country has been going down the tubes for a long time.

In her book *The Pivot of Civilization*, Margaret Sanger “called for the elimination of ‘human weeds,’ for the cessation of charity, for the segregation of ‘morons, misfits,

and maladjusted,' and for the sterilization of 'genetically inferior races.' ”<sup>2</sup> “She called for coercive sterilization, mandatory segregation, and rehabilitative concentration camps for all inferior Blacks, Hispanics, poor Whites, and Catholics.”<sup>3</sup> That’s us, folks! In a 1939 letter, she unambiguously laid out her goal: “a drastic curtailment of the birth rate at the source of the unfit, the diseased and the incompetent ... The birth control clinics all over the country are doing their utmost to reach the lower strata (the minorities) of our population.”<sup>4</sup>

This is what Margaret Sanger called compassion for the poor. This is the philosophy that spawned Planned Parenthood. It wasn’t about some noble ideal. Instead, in her book *Women and the New Race* Sanger asserted that the “most merciful thing a large family can do to one of its infant members is to kill it.”<sup>5</sup> This is the same philosophy that prompted our president to say about his daughters: “But if they make a mistake, I don't want them punished with a baby.” A baby has become a punishment, not a gift, and like Sanger, the best way to deal with it is to kill it. Strangely enough, that while espousing Margaret Sanger’s philosophy, our black president apparently wasn’t even aware that one of her goals was the extermination of his race.

Almost 100 years ago, Margaret Sanger was promoting birth control, saying that if there was better contraception, there would be fewer abortions Today, there is any kind of contraception that one could want but there are more abortions than ever. One by one, Protestant denominations began accepting divorce and birth control. Little by little, the moral underpinnings for the sanctity of life were chipped away. Our country did not suddenly decide that it wanted to accept abortion in 1973. It had been coming for a long time. The abortion mentality did not begin with *Roe v. Wade*. In a certain sense, *Roe v. Wade* was just the logical conclusion of a trend in American thought, which began in the early 1900s with Margaret Sanger. That’s why attempting to close down abortion mills one by one is not going to eradicate abortion in our country because the contraceptive/abortion mentality, coupled with unfettered promiscuity, the root causes of abortion, are still with us. And even though the Catholic Church stands firm in its teaching on these matters, Catholics themselves are, unfortunately, part of the problem—because Catholics in our government are making laws, which violate the sanctity of life; because Catholics have consistently helped elect pro-abortion politicians into office; and because Catholics themselves have bought into the contraceptive mentality, contracepting at almost the same rate as the general population. Margaret Sanger would be proud. Abortion will not go away if all of this doesn’t change.

Polls tell us that the majority of Americans are opposed to abortion, yet the government doesn’t seem to want to listen to the voice of the people. The annual March for Life took place in Washington, D.C. this past Friday. For thirty seven years, the March for Life has consistently been among the largest gatherings of any group in Washington, D.C. and yet our government and the media continue to ignore it. Somewhere around 300,000 people took part in this year’s March, while at the same time, Planned Parenthood, which already receives \$350 million in tax dollars annually has put out a call for donations to promote birth control and condoms in earthquake ravished Haiti. Just what they need. Margaret Sanger’s doctrines continue to have a stranglehold on America. But this will continue to happen only as long as we allow it to happen.

Although we have done many good things as a country, America has also been one of the leading exporters of abortion to the world and people from other countries are not happy about that. The annual March for Life has, in fact, become the **world's** March for Life because now, people from other countries are traveling to Washington to tell our government that they don't want us to kill their children. Just a few days ago, Ligaya Acosta, Human Life International regional coordinator for Asia and Oceania, said: "This is not only the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. This is now the anniversary of President Obama's allowing American taxpayer funds to be used to promote abortion and other assaults on life in my own country of the Philippines, in Africa, in China ... all over the world."<sup>6</sup> Another Human Life International regional coordinator from Kenya stated, "We are tired of the arrogant American government trying to tell us how many children we should have."<sup>7</sup>

Hitler is long dead, World War II is over and his killing machine is out of business. Margaret Sanger, too is long dead, but her killing machine is still very much in business making millions of dollars at the expense of millions of children, who will never see the light of day. We have to keep fighting and we have to keep praying—every day. And we have to stop electing politicians, who want to kill our children and who will eventually want to kill us when we become a drain on the economy.

"Openness to life is at the center of true development. When a society moves towards the denial or suppression of life, it ends up no longer finding the necessary motivation and energy to strive for man's true good. If personal and social sensitivity towards the acceptance of a new life is lost, then other forms of acceptance that are valuable for society also wither away."<sup>8</sup> At stake are not only the lives of untold numbers of unborn children but also we ourselves, who one day may find ourselves on death row because we are too old, or too frail, or too sick to warrant precious dollars for health care that will be relegated only for the young. We have to do everything we can to put Planned Parenthood and the Margaret Sanger killing machine out of business—because our lives also ultimately depend upon it.

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<sup>1</sup> "Who Was Margaret Sanger?" American Life League, 1992. (<http://www.ewtn.com/library/PROLIFE/PP04A.TXT>)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> "Planned Parenthood's Racism," information compiled by Lynn K. Murphy, Life Research Institute, June 1994. Taken from: Gordon, Linda, *Woman's Body, Woman's Right* (New York: Grossman, 1974, 1976) 332-333. (<http://www.ewtn.com/library/PROLIFE/PPRACISM.TXT>)

<sup>5</sup> "Who Was Margaret Sanger?" American Life League, 1992. Taken from: Grant, George. *Grand Illusions*, (Brentwood, TN: Wolgemuth & Hyatt, 1988), p. 59. (<http://www.ewtn.com/library/PROLIFE/PP04A.TXT>)

<sup>6</sup> "D.C. Pro-Life March Now a World Event," Zenit, 18 January 2010. (<http://www.zenit.org/article-28087?l=english>)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 28.