

Diocesan Activity Report-NFP

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June 1988

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NEWS BRIEFS

Diocese of Albuquerque;

The St. Joseph Hospital NFP Teacher Education Center announces 1988 Teacher Training Programs; "NFP Practitioner", or "NFP Instructor", August 19-27, 1988. The Center is accredited by the American Academy of NFP. For further information contact Shirely Hoefler, CNFPE, Director. St. Joseph Hospital NFP Teacher Ed. Center, 400 Walter NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102. Or Call: 505-848-8231.

Diocese of Duluth;

The Office for Marriage & Family Life established a Diocesan NFP Committee in July 1987. The Committee consists of representation from the Diocesan Pastoral Center, the clergy, the medical field [the ovulation method (Creighton model), and the sympto-thermal method (CCL)]. The Committee has accomplished several tasks, including: 1) recommending a standard for NFP Presenters in the diocesan marriage preparation program, 2) conducting, with Bishop Brom, a Diocesan NFP Event, which accented the Sacrament of Penance, a Mass, a three-couple panel discussion on marital abstinence, and a social, and 3) helping determine programs for the diocese that promote chastity at the parish level. For further info. call the Pastoral Center at 218-727-6861.

Diocese of Kalamazoo;

The NFP Center has recently developed a videotape overview of NFP. The 12 min. video entitled, "Natural Family Planning: A Special
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USCC Files Friend of Court Brief

U.S. Catholic bishops have supported Dept. of Health and Human Services rules enforcing a 1970 federal law that forbids facilitation or promotion of abortion as a family planning method.

USCC urged the appellate court that Congress intended to fund only pregnancy prevention measures and not to allow agencies receiving federal funds to encourage or promote abortion in any manner. Abortion by definition is performed after pregnancy, it said.

"During the legislative debate leading to enactment of the statute", the USCC brief said, "the Congress was very careful to distinguish between methods for prevention of pregnancy and methods which would destroy human life. Thus, Congress intended to fund a program aimed at providing contraceptive services but, at the same time, refused to allow the extension" of federal funds "for the promotion and encouragement of abortion."

USCC makes clear that in defending the law it does not endorse artificial contraception, which "is itself objectionable. No Catholic organization may properly participate as a grantee" for the full scope of services under the law.

USCC argued that the HHS regulations "do not unconstitutionally burden first amendment rights" of those receiving federal grants under the law: "HHS is not denying a government benefit to grantees
(Cont. on p. 2)

Family Variables Affecting the Transmission of Religious Values from Parents to Adolescents: A Review*

Studies investigating family variables and their relationship to parent-adolescent agreement on religious values were reviewed. Several findings are consistent across studies. Adolescents are strongly influenced by their perceptions of their parents' values; thus, accurate transmission of values depends on how parents act with their children. Mothers and fathers transmit religious values through different processes, fathers needing to be clearer and more direct than mothers. Beliefs and behaviors are transmitted differently, and high salience of the value within the home facilitates transmission. Family conflict, either between parent and child or between the spouses inhibits transmission of religious values. An atmosphere of intimacy within the home promotes the learning of values. Parental styles that balance control with emotional support for the adolescent also promote accurate transmission of religious values. Most of the studies are correlational investigations of demographic variables. Little attention has been given to causal designs in studying the transmission of religious values from parents to adolescents. Often studies have not been well controlled, and responses of adolescents throughout early, middle, and late adolescence have not been differentiated. Finally, there is a need for more conceptual clarity concerning theoretical terms such as religious salience and for more care in differentiating among stages of adolescence.

*Reprinted with permission from Family Perspective. 21(1987):1-21.

(USCC's Brief, cont. from p. 1)
because of their exercise of first amendment rights with private funds but, rather, denying them direct federal funds to use for the purpose of generation indirect funds to support actions which are expressly prohibited by the preconditions of direct funding."

Mother/Daughter Program

The Diocese of Memphis held their third annual Mother/Daughter Program for 9 to 12 year old girls on April 17th. Every seat at the St. Francis Hospital auditorium was taken. Over 300 people sent in their reservation forms and fees, 30 of which had to be sent away due to lack of space. Diocesan Coordinator, Mary Pat Van Epps, said she also has a list of almost 200 more people who wish to attend a future Mother/Daughter Program.

This program, as well as the Father/Son Program, are presented by NFP Instructors of the Diocese. Evaluation by the participants reveal that parents appreciate the opportunity to take their children to such an event not only because of the informative nature, but mainly because of the spiritual focus. The format helps to open the lines of communication between the parent and child and offers assistance to many parents who are struggling with how to present the whole process of "growing up". An additional benefit of these programs is the parents exposure to NFP and consequently their own fertility.

These educational programs can easily be presented by any diocesan NFP Program. Mary Pat Van Epps would welcome calls from interested persons (901-765-1757).

(News Briefs cont. from p. 1)
Message", introduces NFP in a positive, interesting way avoiding a hard-sell or judgmental approach. The fundamental concepts of NFP are presented in a simple yet credible way giving just enough information to pique interest without an overwhelming amount of technical data.

The video is suitable for any program which teaches both OM and BBT Methods. It is appropriate for a variety of viewers and can be used for high school presentations, marriage preparation, adult education, health fairs, workshops, etc. For more info., please contact the NFP Center, 65 E. Emmett St., Battle Creek, MI 49017.

Diocese of St. Augustine;

Retrouvaille/Rediscovery weekends are regularly offered by the Diocese. Its goal is to provide help for couples who live in troubled marriages. The program seeks to foster communication between the couples in order to achieve deeper awareness. The only requirement is a sincere desire on the part of both parties to build a healthy relationship. Further info. from; Diocesan Center for Family Life, Regional Office, 1842 King St., Rm.103, Jacksonville, FL 32204.

American Academy of NFP;

AANFP will hold its 7th annual meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. June 23-26, 1988. DDP's Fr. Phil Kraus will give the Keynote Address. Please contact Sr. Julianna Jervis, CNFPP, for information. St. Mary's Regional Medical Center, 235 W. 6th St., Reno, N.V. 89520.

Couple to Couple League;

CCL & the Diocese of Peoria will hold a convention, "A Celebration of Faith", on July 23-27, 1988 in Peoria. A feature on the agenda is a Workshop for Seminarian's (July 25th). For details contact CCL at P.O. Box 11184, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211.

Families of the Americas Foundation, Inc.;

A teacher training and certification program for OM teachers will be offered Oct. 22-29, 1988 in Corpus Christi, TX. This program, the "Master Teacher Institute", maintains simplicity in its approach to teaching NFP while providing teachers with the technical knowledge, scientific background and practical experience needed for expertise in teaching. For more info. on this and other teacher training programs contact: Lise Van Borssum, Training Dir., Family of the Americas Foundation, P.O. Box 219, Mandeville, LA. 70470-0219.

Families of Australia Foundation;

An international conference entitled "The Christian Family-Towards 2000" will be held in Sydney, Australia July 19-24, 1988. Info. can be obtained from P.O. Box 174, St. Paul's, Randwick, N.S.W. 2031, Australia.

Marguerite Bourgeoys Family Service;

Available for order:
Spirituality Through Natural Family Planning, by Marilyn Mangan C.N.D.
Write: Marguerite Bourgeoys Family Service, 628 Danforth Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4K 1R3.
Tel: 416-465-2868.

National Coalition of NFP;

NCNFP will hold its 5th National and International symposium on NFP August 14-18, 1988 in Los Angeles, CA. The National Coalition is an association of private and public institutions and individuals whose purpose is to facilitate NFP information. For further information contact Diane Vogelsang, c/o Los Angeles Regional Family Planning Council, Inc., 3600 Wilshire Blvd., suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

NFP Center of Washington, D.C.;

"Your Special Signs" a 9 min. film on FERTILITY AWARENESS for adults and teens, produced by Frank Frost for the Human Life and NFP Foundation is now available through the NFP Center of Washington, D.C. The film reviews basic signs of fertility, illustrates fertilization, demonstrates how women can easily learn more about their own "special signs".

The 16 mm film is available in English, while the video is available in English or Spanish, double track English/Spanish (for professional players), VHS or Beta.

Cost: Film; prepaid \$99.95, postpaid \$109.95.

Northwest NFP Services;

A teacher training and certification program in the "Sympto-Thermal Method" will be held Oct. 16-21, 1988 in Portland, Oregon. For further information please contact; Rose Fuller, NWNFPS, Providence Medical Center, 4805 N.E. Glisan St., Portland, Oregon 97213.

Twin Cities NFP Center;

Twin Cities NFP Center and the College of St. Thomas will be hosting the Third Annual Human Fertility Institute Oct. 6-9, 1988 St. Paul, Minnesota. Entitled "From Theory Into Practice", the Institute hopes to deal effectively with the many complex issues surrounding human fertility. Each day's program will systematically address the following areas: research, NFP, and family dynamics. Further info. may be obtained from: Twin Cities NFP Center, Riverside Medical Center, Riverside at 25th Ave., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55454.

United States Catholic Conference;

Available for purchase:

A Family Perspective in Church and Society, \$6.95. A manual to help all Church leaders bring Christian family considerations into their pastoral work. Write: Office of Publishing and Promotion Services, 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 2005.

Statement to Youth on School-Based Clinics. The U.S. Catholic Bishops commitment to assist young people to resolve the pressures they encounter in their daily lives. \$5/50 copies, also available in Spanish. Call 1-800-235-USCC. (Written requests to above address.)

World Health Organization

The "Family Fertility Educational Kit: is now available in French and Spanish from WHO. A fee of approximately \$70-80 U.S. dollars is charged to requests from developed countries; no fee is charged to those in less developed countries. Further info., contact: Dr. Donald Clark, Director of BLAT Centre for Health and Medical Education, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, England WC1H9JP.

For those who work in South America please contact Dr. Antonio Solis, Pan American House Organization, Rm. 704, 525 23rd. St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20037.

Bishop McHugh and the staff of DDP would like to take this opportunity to thank Kathy Carr for her loyal service. Kathy will be leaving the Program at the end of June. She will be missed by us all. Good Luck Kathy!