

World Congress



of Families Newsletter

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WCF NEWS & EVENTS

MOSCOW DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMIT – HISTORIC, GROUNDBREAKING, GAME-CHANGING



History was made at the World Congress of Families' "Moscow Demographic Summit – Family and the Future of Humankind" – June 29-30.

The Summit, at the Russian State Social University (the nation's largest institution of higher learning), was the first conference to focus on the worldwide decline of birthrates. Thanks to the hard work and vision of Alexey Komov, WCF Representative in Moscow and the CIS, there were more than 500 participants, including demographers, economists, ethicists, researchers, scholars, leaders and activists from every corner of the world.

Speakers at the opening ceremony included: Dr. Allan Carlson (World Congress of [continued on page 6](#)



Left to right- Alexey Komov, Pat Fagan, Don Feder, Allan Carlson, Vladimir Yakunin, Larry Jacobs and Natalya Yakunina

WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES CONGRATULATES BECKHAMS ON BIRTH OF FOURTH CHILD – ASKS FOR HONEST POPULATION DEBATE

British population-control fanatics are once again showing their irrationality and true totalitarian colors by using the birth of a fourth child to English football star David Beckham and his wife to climb on their Malthusian soapboxes.



David Beckham with wife and children

Simon Ross, CEO of the Optimum Population Trust, calls the Beckham family "very bad role models." Ross insists, "There's no point in people trying to reduce their carbon emissions and then increasing them [continued on page 13](#)

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August 19 -- Endeavour Forum Inc. Conference (also a WCF regional event) in Melbourne, Australia. For more information, [Click here](#).

September 21 – WCF Communications Director Don Feder speaking on Demographic Winter at Ave Maria College in Naples, Florida. [Click here for more information](#).

September 24 – WCF International Secretary Allan Carlson speaking at Front Porch Republic conference, “Human Scale and Human Good: Creating Healthy Communities In a Global Age” at Mount St. Mary’s University, Emmitsburg, MD. [Click here for more information](#).

September 26-30 – Steven Mosher of Population Research Institute speaking at Universidad Francisco de Vitoria, Madrid, Spain, as part of a speaking tour of Spanish universities. [Click here for more information](#).

September 27-30 – Father Frank Pavone, Priests for Life, speaking at 2011 Annual Care-Net Conference, Orlando, Fla. [Click here for more information](#).

October 6-9 – World Public Forum Dialogue of Civilizations on Rhodes, Greece. www.rhodesforum.org

October 7-9 – Value Voters Summit. [Click here for more information](#)

October 14-15 – WCF International Planning Committee Meeting in Madrid for World Congress of Families VI. Contact larry@profam.org

November 2 – Americans United for Life’s 40th Anniversary Gala, in Washington, D.C. [Click here for more information](#).

March 2012 – WCF regional event in India (tentative)

May 28-30, 2012 – World Congress of Families VI in Madrid. [Click here to contact Ignacio Arsuaga](#).

May 15-18, 2013 – World Congress of Families VII in Sydney Australia marylofo@activ8.net.au

WCF LEADERS VISIT VENUE FOR 2012 MADRID CONGRESS MEET WITH ORGANIZERS

On their way to Moscow for the Demographic Summit, WCF Managing Director Larry Jacobs and Communications Director Don Feder stopped in Madrid to meet with pro-family/pro-life leaders and organizers of World Congress of Families VI (Madrid – May 28-30, 2012).

They also toured the Palacio De Congresos De Madrid, the venue for our next Congress.

The Palacio includes an auditorium which seats 2,000, meeting rooms for up to 400 and over 3,000 sq. meters for exhibits. Located in the heart of Madrid’s business district, the conference facility

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Palacio De Congresos at night

NIGERIAN CONFERENCE, CO-SPONSORED BY WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES

Population control, character education, “sexual rights,” abortion, and United Nations treaties – these were just some of the topics passionately addressed at the World Congress of Families

conference in Lagos, Nigeria, August 14-15. The

event, titled “Challenges in Upholding the Rights of Women and Children in Nigeria,” organized by the Foundation for African Culture and Heritage, was also sponsored by the Nigerian government and Nigerian Bar Association.

Government leaders, social workers, lawyers, educators, and international experts gathered in Lagos to discuss how best to protect women and children. Other issues relevant to Africa that were discussed in depth included child marriage, child abuse, trafficking in women and children, maternal mortality, and inheritance rights of women. Sad cases of children who had been abused or trafficked were shared by several speakers.



Nigerian students attending conference



Theresa Okafor and Barrister Onu

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THE FUTURE OF THE FAMILY IN COALITION BRITAIN – WCF REGIONAL EVENT

The World Congress of Families hosted a key conference in London on June 29. “The Future of the Family in Coalition Britain” was held to help identify the causes of family breakdown in the United Kingdom and to present possible solutions. The event was sponsored by Christian Concern (a World Congress of Families Partner) and was addressed by such prominent leaders and thinkers as Stewart Jackson MP, Bishop Michael Nazir Ali (Church of England), Nadine Dorries MP, Professor Julian Rivers, Peter Hitchens, who writes for The Sunday Mail, Benjamin Bull of Alliance Defense Fund (a WCF Partner) and Ignacio Arsuaga of HazteOir.org, who invited participants to WCF VI, Madrid 2012.



Some of the speakers and organizers, Christian Concern's Andrea Williams (center) and Andrew Marsh (second from the right)

The conference opened with Bishop Michael Nazir Ali (shown above, second from left) emphasizing the need to restore the “public doctrine of marriage”, stating that the nuclear family was both a “natural” and “normative” form of family – not only beneficial to children but to society as a whole.

Stewart Jackson MP quoted statistics from the Centre of Social Justice in May of this year which found that 48 per cent of children born in Britain experience the breakdown of their parents’ relationship by the age of sixteen.

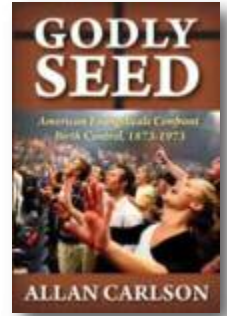
MP Jackson also highlighted research from UNICEF which demonstrated that, from a list of 21 Western nations, Britain was “the worst place in which to be a child”. He proposed that the government should do more to support marriage and mentioned a number of

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GODLY SEED – A NEW BOOK BY DR. 3

ALLAN CARLSON

In an ironic twist, American evangelical leaders are joining mainstream acceptance of contraception. “Godly Seed: American Evangelicals Confront Birth Control, 1873-1973,” by Dr. Allan Carlson, Ph.D., examines how mid-twentieth-century evangelical leaders eventually followed the mainstream into a quiet embrace of contraception, complemented by a brief acceptance of abortion. It places this change within the context of historic Christian teaching regarding birth control, including its origins in the early church and the shift in arguments made by the Reformers of the sixteenth century. The book explores the demographic effects of this transition and asks: did the delay by American evangelicals leaders in accepting birth control have consequences?



At the same time, many American evangelicals are rethinking their acceptance of birth control even as a majority of the nation’s Roman Catholics are rejecting their Church’s teaching on the practice. Raised within a religious movement that has almost uniformly condemned abortion, many young evangelicals have begun to ask whether abortion can be neatly isolated from the issue of contraception. A significant number of evangelical families have, over the last several decades, rejected the use of birth control and returned decisions regarding family size to God. Given the growth of the evangelical movement, this pioneering work will have a large-scale impact. From the description of “Godly Seed” by publisher Transaction.

Allan Carlson is the founder and president of both The Howard Center for Family, Religion & Society and the founder and International Secretary of the World Congress of Families . He is the author of 14 books, including “Conjugal America,” “The Natural Family: Bulwark of Liberty,” “The Family in America,” and “Fractured Generations: Crafting a Family Policy for 21st. century America.”

[Click here to order “Godly Seed: American Evangelicals Confront Birth Control \(1873-1973\).”](#)

THE FUTURE OF THE FAMILY IN COALITION BRITAIN – WCF REGIONAL EVENT



Conference speakers answer questions

factors which have contributed to family breakdown in the United Kingdom. These include:

“No-fault” divorces – The introduction of, effectively, no-fault divorce has helped lead Britain to having the highest divorce rate in Europe. Divorce accounts for 20% of family breakups.

Cohabitation – The growth in cohabitation has also contributed to soaring rates of family breakdown, since cohabiting couples account for 80% of family break-ups. Mr. Jackson highlighted statistics published by the British Household Panel Survey showing that the average length of cohabitation is just over three years, leading to the conclusion that “compared to marriage, cohabitation is a significantly more fragile and temporary form of family.... cohabitations are generally brief (and) a less stable form of relationship.” Just one in 11 married couples split before their child’s fifth birthday compared to 1 in 3 unmarried couples.

Failure to recognize marriage as distinct in the tax system – Since married couples are not recognized in the tax system, if one spouse decides to stay at home to look after a child, that spouse loses out on the personal tax allowance. This means that lone-parents are financially better off than married couples.

Sexualization of teenagers – Sex education programs in schools normalize early sex and promiscuity, and have no moral basis. Data published by the Office for National Statistics in 2007 shows that Britain has the highest teenage pregnancy rate in Western Europe.



Jackson emphasized that public policy should strengthen as oppose to weaken marriage, and should be driven by evidence rather than “the fashionable trends of political orthodoxy.” In order to strengthen marriage, Mr. Jackson suggested that:

- Marriage should be supported by the tax system in recognition of the fact that not all relationships are equal in their outcomes.
- Marriage should be preserved as being solely between a man and a woman.
- Sex education should be re-designed so as not to encourage promiscuity.
- Conscious opt-outs should be provided in the workplace for those who believe that marriage is between a man and a woman.

On the early sexualization of children, Nadine Dorries MP stated that children should be taught that sex is illegal under the age of 16, and that it should be emphasized that early pregnancy leads to the loss of a place at school, poverty and fewer life opportunities. Mrs. Dorries has been campaigning to see abstinence taught as an option in sexual education classes.

Peter Hitchens finished the day and proposed that we should all push to promote and establish marriage.



Nadine Dorries



Peter Hitchens

[Click here for the website of Christian Concern](#)

This continues our regular feature celebrating the women and men who have contributed to the growing success of the international pro-family movement.



NATALYA VICTOROVNA YAKUNINA

Natalya V. Yakunina is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Pan-Russian Program "Sanctity of Motherhood." The Program was launched in 2006, is inter-regional in scope and is

aimed at strengthening the family, helping mothers and children, promoting natural family values in Russian society, and development of interaction between society, the Church and the state in strengthening the institution of the natural family.

The principal components of the Sanctity of Motherhood Program are: counseling pregnant women intending to have an abortion (aimed at encouraging the continuation of the pregnancy), youth work in the field of social service (designed to teach young people to live in civil society and fostering a responsible attitude toward their own lives), interaction with the media (to develop media/community policies), promoting in the media a family friendly code of conduct, and social advertising campaigns that promotes large families and family values in general.

At the VIII session of the World Public Forum "Dialogue of Civilizations" (October 7-11, 2010), Natalya led the section on "The Family: Origins and Future of Civilizations," where a number of WCF leaders spoke.

The "Sanctity of Motherhood Forum," held in Moscow, November 2010, drew several hundred participants from all over Russia. The Forum was addressed by Larry Jacobs, one of only two non-Russian speakers. Some of the provisions of the Final Resolution adopted by the

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MARGARET HARTSHORN

Margaret H. (Peggy) Hartshorn, Ph.D., President of Heartbeat International, became involved in the pro-life movement soon after the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade on January 22, 1973.

Peggy and her husband joined the

Columbus, Ohio Right to Life, and they began housing pregnant women in their home in 1974. They founded Pregnancy Decision Health Centers in Columbus, Ohio, on January 22, 1981. Peggy served as Chairman of the Board for over 20 years. Under her leadership, PDHC became one of the first pregnancy centers to offer ultrasound services and grew to five locations, serving over 15,000 hotline and office clients annually.

Peggy joined the Board of Alternatives to Abortion International, in 1986. In 1993, Peggy became its first full-time President and the organization changed its name to Heartbeat International. Under her leadership, Heartbeat has grown from a network of 250 affiliated pregnancy-help centers to the most expansive network of pregnancy-help ministries in the world, with over 1,100 pregnancy-help centers, medical clinics, maternity homes, non-profit adoption agencies, and abortion recovery programs in 48 countries (nearly 900 in the United States alone).

The ministry of Heartbeat International calls Peggy to travel extensively, sharing her "hands on" experience. Peggy delivers programs on abortion, abortion recovery, sexual integrity, adoption and alternatives-to-abortion, plus organizational and leadership development. She travels and teaches throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, Eastern and Western Europe, Africa, and Asia. She also appears on television and radio.

Peggy was a college English professor for 20 years at Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio.

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MOSCOW DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMIT – HISTORIC, GROUNDBREAKING, GAME-CHANGING

Families International Secretary), Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin (delivering a message from Patriarch Kirill, head of the Russian Orthodox Church), Dr. Zhukov V.I. (Rector Russian State Social University), Dr. Alan Keyes (former Asst. Secretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO), Anna Zaborska (member EU Parliament, former Chairwoman of the EU Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality), and Miklós Soltész, (Hungarian Minister of Social, Family and Youth Affairs).

Speakers at the opening session also included: Natalya Yakunina (President of the Sanctity of Motherhood Program), Rabbi Andrew Glotser (assistant to Chief Rabbi of Russia Berl Lazar), Father Dimitry Smirnov, and Mufti Huzin (representative of Muslim Umma).

There were also video messages from Dr. Paige Patterson (former President of the Southern Baptist Convention, President of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary) and Dr. Farooq Hassan (distinguished jurist and President of the Pakistan Family Forum).

The session on demography featured Philip Longman (author of "The Empty Cradle: how falling birthrates threaten world prosperity and what to do about it"), Steve Mosher (President, Population Research Institute), Igor Beloborodov (Demographic Research Institute, Moscow) and Don Feder (WCF Communications Director).

Others on the program included Larry Jacobs (WCF Managing Director), Margaret Hartshorn, (Heartbeat International), Patrick Fagan (Family Research Council), Janice Shaw Crouse (Concerned



Jacobs and Rector Zhukov



Alan Keyes



Father Dimitry Smirnov

Women for America), Dr. Francisco Tatad (Former Majority Leader, Philippine Senate), Ewa Kowalewska (Human Life International, Europe), James Kushiner (Society of St. James), Dr. Marguerite Peeters (Institute for Intercultural Dialogue Dynamics, Belgium), Archpriest Maxim Obukhov (Pro-Life Leader of Russian Orthodox

Church); Dr. Thomas Ward (National Association of Catholic Families in the UK), Maria Sofia Aguirre (Professor of Economics, Catholic University of America), John Mueller (Ethics and Public Policy Center), Dr. Anatoly Antonov (Moscow State Lomonosov University demographer), Vladimir Grozov (Family, Unity and .Motherhood) Dr. Tamara Komarova (expert on childhood programs of the Russian Federation), Barry McLerran (producer of the "Demographic Winter" documentaries) and Shelly Locke (who's producing a new documentary on motherhood).

The Summit included consideration of every topic impacting on declining birthrates, among them: the significance of the natural family; the demographic potential of Russia; family policy in the European Union; the global decline of fertility; the cultural roots of demographic winter; battling global population control; the radical feminist agenda; religion and

family – fertility as a way of life and faith; parents as the primary educators of their children; hindered growth – the interplay of family, population and technology; babies and dollars – *continued on page 7*

MOSCOW DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMIT – HISTORIC, GROUNDBREAKING, GAME-CHANGING

implications for U.S., Russia and the world; family issues at the United Nations; and the importance of pro-family policies.

The Russian State Duma passed a resolution welcoming delegates, which reads in part:

“We wish success to the work of the Moscow Demographic Summit: Family and the Future of Humankind....The issues discussed at the Summit – consolidation of the family, raising moral standards, and studying all the factors contributing to a higher birth rate and lower mortality rate – are very important for our times and require close attention of society as a whole.”

Patriarch Kirill also sent greetings in which he observed:

“Since the creation of the Universe, the family (‘established by God’) has a special purpose. By renouncing it, the human race endangers the very foundation of its own existence.”

“I am convinced that all the healthy forces of society must unite to preserve the institution of the family and moral values. I hope that presentations by the numerous guests of the Demographic Summit will become a testimony demonstrating that the majority of the population of Europe, America, Africa and Asia is united in their determination to defend the family and morality.”

The Summit was held against the backdrop of Russia’s population crisis. (It’s estimated there are four times as many abortions as live births in Russia today, and the nation is losing an estimated 700,000 people annually.) Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin says, “Without exaggeration, the central problem of contemporary Russia is demography,

strengthening the family, increasing the birth rate.” Without referring to the Summit by name, *The New York Times* called the event “an international anti-abortion meeting.” In a press release, WCF Managing Director Larry Jacobs observed that the journal of liberal elitism was “making the news fit its political agenda.”

Less than three weeks after the Summit adjourned, Russian President Medvedev signed into law the first pro-life measure since the fall of communism. (The day after the Summit, the bill passed the lower house of the Duma.) The law requires abortion facilities to spend 10% of their income warning pregnant women of the health risks of abortion (much like the cancer-warning on cigarette packs in the U.S.). Mothers are now permitted to anonymously leave newborns at adoption centers.

Alexey Komov, Fr. Maxim Obukhov and others who helped to organize the Summit are opening a Life-Family Medical Centers Network – the first national network of modern, state-of-the-art medical facilities that will provide a complete range of services in obstetrics and post-natal care. They will also operate as crisis pregnancy centers.

Allan Carlson commented: “It’s a rare thing when human endeavors like this mark a shift in history. In this case, though, I think the Summit has nudged ‘the course of human events’ in a better direction!”

The Russian organizers of the Moscow Demographic Summit are considering a bid for World Congress of Families VIII, in the Kremlin in 2014.

WCF Managing Director Larry Jacobs commented: “The global decline of birthrates was first discussed at World Congress of Families II in Geneva. The discussion will be continued in Madrid (WCF VI, 2012) and Sydney (WCF VII, 2103). In the future, we also hope to have regional summits on demographic winter, with perhaps one in the Philippines next.”



[Click here for the Summit Declaration](#)

[Click here for the Summit's website \(in Russian and English\)](#)

[Click here for video messages to the summit from Dr. Farrow Patterson and Dr. Farooq Hassan](#)



“The right choice is for Russia to go the ‘narrow path’ that leads to genuine self-love: the recovery of its soul, of God’s design over man and woman, their complementarity, marriage and the family, love of children, a sense of motherhood and fatherhood and of our spousal identity.”

Marguerite A. Peeters, Dialogue Dynamics (Belgium)



“Tax policy should favor the mother-at-home and families with many children. The mother in the home is a necessary component of a full ‘natural-family economy’ Full-time mothers should also receive generous credits toward public pension plans, with their benefits raised according to number of children. Couples with dependent children should receive substantial income-tax deductions and/or credits according to family size. At middle income levels, those with three or more children should pay no income tax at all. The American record suggests that such policies predictably have a strong pro-natalist effect.”

Allan Carlson, International Secretary and Founder, World Congress of Families



“Once, in Strasbourg, a distinguished member of the European Parliament chided me about all those Filipinos. Why so many? I said it was still a blessing that Filipinos continued to produce Filipinos, while many European countries could only receive migrants. But to them, the prospect of 150 million or so mostly poor Filipinos surviving modern plagues, natural calamities and

bad government by 2050 is simply absurd. So they have targeted us for an intensive population-reduction program.”

Kit Tatad, former majority leader, Philippine Senate



“Cicero called marriage the first bond of society.

Earlier generations viewed marriage as an essential part of becoming an adult. Marriage was understood as essential for strong communities and for the survival and strength of nations; it was not merely a ‘choice’. Earlier generations viewed babies as a welcomed gift from God. Today with 4-D sonograms available, we can see that there is very little difference between the pre-born baby and the baby after its birth. Clearly, babies are not merely a ‘choice.’”

Dr. Janice Shaw Crouse, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Beverly LaHaye Institute, Concerned Women for America



“In 1922, Lenin organized a meeting to consider why Bolshevik Revolution had not swept into Europe and America. At this meeting, Willi Munzenberg recommended that intellectuals be organized and used to make Western civilization stink because only then could the dictatorship of the proletariat be imposed. Georg Lukacs, also present, developed the idea of ‘Revolution and Eros’ – sexual instinct used as an instrument of destruction.”

Dr. Thomas Ward, M.D., President, National Association of Catholic Families in the United Kingdom



“Haltingly, with many obstacles, detours and false starts, the Russian people continue to emerge from the darkness that was

totalitarian communist domination. Tragically, with too little inkling of the fate that awaits them, the American people are maneuvered toward the



darkness the Russians hope they have left behind.” **Dr. Alan Keyes, former Asst. Secretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO**

“We were forced to read Paul Ehrlich's ‘The Population Bomb’ in college, which begins with the author mournfully intoning, ‘The battle to feed all of humanity is over,’ and ends by advocating the abandonment of entire continents to famine and death in order to ‘cut ... out the cancer [of population growth].’

We were treated to the speeches of former Vice President Al Gore, who warned of an ‘environmental holocaust without precedent’—a ‘black hole’ in his words—that will engulf us if we do not stop having babies. In this and a myriad of ways we have been force-fed—and most of us



swallowed whole—the nasty theory that there were too many people, along with its even more terrible corollary that it is necessary to practice inhumanity in order to save humanity—or some worthy fraction thereof.”

Steven Mosher, President, Population Research Institute

“Divorces are a mirror reflection of the family-values destruction. The devaluation of the family way of life (*in Russia*) results in a nearly three-fold increase in the



number of divorces during rather a short period of time: from 1.5 per 1,000 population in 1960 up to 4.4 in 1992. As compared to the 1960s, a similar gap is also observed



nowadays.” **Igor Beloborodov, Director of the Demographic Research Institute (Moscow)**

“And love of family cannot be imposed, neither is it easy to motivate a childless generation to begin to bear children. They must be inspired to do so.”



Christine de Marcellus Vollmer, President, Latin American Alliance for the Family

“There is a direct correlation between birthrates and religious observance. In America, the states with the highest weekly church attendance also have the highest fertility.

Conversely, Europe is both the most secularized continent and the one with the lowest birthrates. In the United States, we’re told that 47% attend religious services weekly, and the birth rate is 2.06 per woman – slightly below replacement.

In Western Europe, weekly church attendance is only 5%. In the European Union, the birthrate is 1.5 – well below a replacement-level



birthrate of 2.1. Empty churches equal empty hearts and empty cradles.”

Don Feder, Communications Director, WCF

“All hard scientific data is showing us that by far the most important reason for our current demographic problem is the culturally induced desire to have just 1 or a maximum of 2 children.



And people are using all the techniques at their disposal to achieve their ideal family size.” **Anatoly Antonov, demographer, Lomonosov Moscow State University**

WCF LEADERS VISIT VENUE FOR 2012 MADRID CONGRESS

MEET WITH ORGANIZERS

is an easy walk to many of the City's best restaurants, shops and hotels, and just 12 minutes from Barajas Airport by high-speed train.

On the evening of June 25, HazteOir.org ("Speak Up," in Spanish), which is spearheading WCF VI, held a reception and roundtable discussion for Jacobs and Feder. with a group of two dozen Spanish pro-life and pro-family leaders, among them representatives of The Constitutional Platform, the Godmother Foundation, the Spanish Large Families Federation, Professionals for Ethics, Republicans Abroad, the Thomas Moore Legal Studies Center, Doctors for Life, the Foundation for Life, the Association for Free Education and Intereconomy TV.

The following day, they met with leaders of HazteOir.org at the organization's Madrid headquarters – Ignacio Arsuaga (president), Blanca Escobar (secretary), Alvaro Zulueta (treasurer) and Luis Tejedor.

As of December 31, 2010, HazteOir.org (a World Congress of Families Partner) had 4,859 contributors making monthly donations, 227,489 members receiving e-mail action alerts and an annual income of 827,814 Euros.

The organization has participated in massive street demonstrations in favor of life and the natural family. The weekend of March 26, 2011, HazteOir.org helped to organize "Yes to Life" rallies in 70 cities across Spain. A rally in Madrid, sponsored by over 50 pro-life groups including HazteOir.org, drew more than 150,000 people (story in March-April 2011 WCF News – page 3). Ignacio Arsuaga was profiled in the December 2009 World Congress of Families News.

Larry Jacobs commented: "We expect Madrid 2012 to be our best Congress to date, drawing pro-family/pro-life leaders, legislators, activists and scholars from all over Latin America, as well as Europe, Africa and Asia. Ignacio Arsuaga and his team have made an impressive start at putting together the finances and organizing committee to assure that WCF VI will be a milestone in the development of the international pro-family movement."

There will be a meeting of the International Planning Committee of World Congress of Families VI in Madrid, October 14-15.

[Click here for the website of HazteOir.org, in Spanish](#)

[Click here for the March/April 2011 World Congress of Families News, with a story on the latest Spanish pro-life demonstrations on page 3.](#)

[Click here for the November 2009 issue of World Congress of Families News, with a leadership profile of Ignacio Arsuaga on page 5.](#)



NIGERIAN CONFERENCE, CO-SPONSORED BY WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES

Theresa Okafor, who represents both World Congress of Families and FACH, warned participants to watch for the “cockroach in the ice cream” when it comes to UN policies such as the promotion of abortion in the guise of reducing maternal mortality. She presented statistics showing that African countries with some of the highest maternal mortality rates, such as South Africa, also have some of the least restrictive abortion laws and some of the countries with the most restrictive abortion laws, such as Mauritius, have some of the lowest maternal death rates.



Sharon Slater

Sharon Slater, President of Family Watch International, a World Congress of Families Partner, gave the keynote address which garnered a strong reaction from those in attendance.

Many were appalled by the evidence Sharon presented regarding the attempts by developed nations to force so-called sexual rights on African nations. They cheered as Slater quoted from the inspiring speech by the Nigerian representative to the United Nations on behalf of the UN African voting bloc. The Nigerian delegate spoke out boldly against the cultural imperialism of the West on sexual issues.

Feyinwa Awagu of the Association of Concerned Mothers of Nigeria also received a standing ovation when she spoke of the need to put character education back into Nigerian schools.

Awagu declared, “We teach children about the physical consequences of promiscuous sex, like STDs and pregnancies, but what about the psychological consequences? What about broken hearts? Many are living with broken hearts.” She continued, “Sex sex, sex – as if life were all about sex. Every subject has sexuality education. Our culture is sex-saturated. What about morality education? What about true respect for human dignity? We need to teach self-control and chastity.”

Susan Dutton Freund of Think Marriage presented alarming statistics on how marriage is failing in the U.S. She noted that almost half of all marriages in the U.S. end in divorce and about one third of births are to unwed mothers. She warned the Nigerians not to devalue marriage and family, as the U.S. has done, and to hold fast to their strong family values.

The Nigerian World Congress of Families was a great success as evidenced by the number of attendees who stated their intention to take action as a result of the conference. It was clear that this was not just a one-time event but that, moving forward, many of the movers and shakers in Nigeria will be organizing themselves in a more cohesive effort to protect the rights of women and children by upholding Nigeria’s religious and cultural values that strengthen the family.

The Lagos Conference produced a communiqué which reads in part:

“The Conference calls on Governments at all

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Students from Kings College, Lagos



Theresa Okafor and Professor Pat Utomi



Nigerian nuns with Sharon Slater

WCF - PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

NATALYA VICTOROVNA YAKUNINA

Forum, were included in the recommendations to the State Council chaired by the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Medvedev.

Mrs. Yakunina has contributed greatly to the successful development of the Russian pro-life and pro-family movements, and supports other Russian NGOs in organizing similar activities.

Natalya Yakunina is a Board member and Vice-President of the Inter-Regional Public Funds, Center of National Glory and Fund of St. Andrew the First Called Apostle and a member of the International Public Organization "Union of Orthodox Women". She has been intimately involved in the reconstruction of the St. Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy in Moscow. She was awarded the Order of St. Princess Olga and the Order of St. Euphrosyne of Moscow.

She also spoke at the opening session of The Moscow Demographic Summit.

[Click here for her remarks.](#)

Natalya is married to Vladimir Yakunin (President of the Russian Railroads), and they have two children.



Vladimir Yakunin

MARGARET HARTSHORN



Peggy has been married to Mike Hartshorn for 41 years. They have two adopted children, now married, and 4 grandchildren.

Mrs. Hartshorn spoke at the Moscow Demographic Summit on "The Dignity of Women."

[Click here for the website of Heartbeat International](#)

LEFT TRIES TO TIE THOSE WARNING OF DEMOGRAPHIC WINTER TO NORWAY SHOOTING

In a July 25th posting on the blog Religion Dispatches, feminist writer Sarah Posner (author of "God's Profits: Faith, Fraud, and the Republican Crusade for Values Voters"), unbelievably tries to tie World Congress of Families and those concerned about the worldwide decline of birthrates to the mentality of the man arrested for the murders in Norway.

Posner and Nation writer Kathryn Joyce have been harping on this theme since the first "Demographic Winter" documentary was released in 2008 – that proponents of demographic winter are racists, and that the issue is a smokescreen for opposition to Muslim immigration into Europe and the perceived Islamization of the continent.



Sarah Posner

World Congress of Families Managing Director Larry Jacobs noted that one of the speakers at the recent Moscow Demographic Summit (June 29-30) was Mufti Huzin, representing Russia's Muslim Umma. "Is the Mufti using demographic winter as a ruse to fight Muslim immigration to Europe?" Jacobs asked. Another speaker was Rabbi Aaron Gurevich, assistant to Chief Rabbi of Russia Berl Lazar. "Is the Rabbi concerned about maintaining the 'Christian character of Europe?'" Jacobs inquired.

In the past three years, in conjunction with the Foundation for African Cultural Heritage, World Congress of Families held two regional events in Nigeria. Demographic Winter was discussed at both. Was this a clever ploy to maintain the current racial/religious composition of Europe?

Jacobs continued: "There is indeed a

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WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES CONGRATULATES BECKHAMS ON BIRTH OF FOURTH CHILD – ASKS FOR HONEST POPULATION DEBATE

100% by having another child.”

If this guilt and fear-mongering weren't enough, Ross then calls for changing government “incentives” to encourage smaller families, despite mountains of data that shows family-size is already decreasing in every region of the world.

World Congress of Families Managing Director Larry Jacobs congratulated the Beckhams for “giving the gift of life to another precious child. Despite the myths propagated by radical environmentalists, feminists, secularists and socialists, the number of children in the world continues to decrease. In fact, worldwide, there are 6 million fewer children (6 years of age and younger) today than there were in 1990.”

Jacobs continued: “Groups like Optimum Population Trust play on fear and ignorance. Over-population is based on a long-discredited 1960s paradigm and Paul Erlich book, ‘The Population Bomb.’ The world’s population may be temporarily on the rise, but, worldwide, birthrates have fallen by 50% since the 1960s. Today, almost half the world’s population lives in countries with below-replacement birthrates – in many cases, well below replacement. According to the United Nations Population Division, if current trends continue, by 2050 there will be 248 million fewer children in the world under 6 than there are today.”



Sir David Attenborough, patron of the Optimum Population Trust, is scared of a world with too many kids

Jacobs warned, “Optimum Population Trust won’t have to worry about so-called carbon footprints when there aren’t enough people, what economists refer to as human capital, to keep modern, industrialized societies functioning.”

Jacobs called for a frank discussion of the realities of the birth-death and the importance of families. He also called on the media to present more than one side in the population debate and to consider the societal benefits to encouraging the natural family.

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LEFT TRIES TO TIE THOSE WARNING OF DEMOGRAPHIC WINTER TO NORWAY SHOOTING

conspiracy at work here – a conspiracy to silence by intimidation those trying to warn about the coming crisis from the precipitous worldwide fall of fertility – over 50% since the 1960s.”

Jacobs elaborated: “Because they can’t debate the issue on its merits – how do you refute an airtight case? – feminists such as Posner and those fighting to maintain abortion on demand are driven to spurious charges of racism. Posner writes that efforts to alert the public to the dangers of coming de-population (which is a reality in Russia) somehow ‘triggered’ Anders Breivik’s ‘paranoia’ that ‘anti-Christian forces seek domination over the (European) continent.’ This would be laughable if it

weren’t so slanderous.”

Jacobs promised: “We will not be silenced by such tactics, which only discredit Posner and her allies. The feminist left doesn’t understand that it’s only talking to itself. The public long ago became immune to its baseless charges of racism or patriarchy whenever it seeks to counter pro-family advocacy.”

[Click here for Posner’s commentary “Breivik’s Demographic Warfare and the American Right’s Demographic Winter.”](#)

NIGERIAN CONFERENCE, CO-SPONSORED BY WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES

levels:

ii. To uphold the Constitutions of African countries which guarantee the right to life and the dignity of the human person

ii. To provide the legal framework and policy which will give women unimpeded access to educational, social, employment and economic opportunities to develop their God's given talent

iii. To tackle maternal mortality by improving the primary health-care system in Nigeria and by ensuring that every part of the country, especially rural areas and urban slums, have access to health facilities with adequate infrastructure and skilled staff

iv. To protect the rights of the child as stipulated in the Child Rights Act, 2003. And specifically to tackle child trafficking, child labor, child prostitution, child pornography, modern child slavery and other forms of child exploitation in Nigeria

v. To promote character-based sexuality education, in line with Nigerian cultural heritage, in Nigerian school curricula and to reject the Western biological sex education which corrupts and debases the Nigerian child

vi. To re-introduce religious studies and moral instruction in schools which in the past helped in inculcating good character and values in the students

vii. To protect and assist the family institution in Nigeria in accordance with Article 18 of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights in the following ways:

-To defend the natural family which is defined by marriage between man and woman, including extended family members, procreation, and adoption

-To promote rights in the context of family – widowhood rights – and to focus on procreative rights and not reproductive rights”

Theresa Okafor and FACH also organized the 2009 WCF Regional Congress in Abuja, Nigeria – “World Congress of Families Dialogue of Civilizations.” Special thanks to Sonnie Ekwowusi who also helped to organize the Lagos conference.

[Click here for Sharon Slater's speech.](#)

[Click here for the website of Family Watch International.](#)

[Click here for the Communiqué of the Lagos Conference.](#)

[Click here for the Foundation for African Cultural Heritage.](#)



speakers Susan Dutton Freund and Sharon Slater

“The Moscow Demographic Summit is the result of the last 20 years of development of the pro-life movement in Russia. It started slowly in the 1990s, and has accelerated its pace significantly in recent years, which was probably reinforced by the more widespread public



recognition of the Demographic Winter that is particularly cold in Russia in the 21st Century.” **Archpriest Maxim Obukhov, pro-life leader of Russian Orthodox Church**

“The Moscow Demographic Summit clearly demonstrates that Russia’s pro-family movement has reached a new stage in its development and is now recognized all over the world as a powerful and influential force in protecting and supporting the natural family values.”



Archpriest Dimitry Smirnov, Head of Bioethics Commission of Russian Orthodox Church

“We should address various aspects of the Demographic Winter in Russia – abortions, drugs, alcoholism, diseases, etc., but also reinforce the family values system in our society and support families with many children.” **Rector Zhukov of Russian State Social University**



“The family has always been the foundation of the successful development of human societies, a link between generations maintaining spiritual and cultural traditions. The crisis of family reveals serious problems in the spiritual and moral constitution of men.”



Natalya Victorovna Yakunina, Chairman of the All-Russian Sanctity of Motherhood Program and the Board of Trustees of the Moscow

Demographic Summit

“One of the main tasks of the Moscow Demographic Summit was to break some old and wrong stereotypes that existed between the West and Russia, and to get to know each other better, and eventually to establish the level of trust that will enable us to further build our international alliance and real friendship in defending life and family. We hope to hold World Congress of Families VIII 2014 in Moscow, at the Kremlin, for 5,000 people from 65 countries.”



Alexey Komov, WCF Representative in Russia and CIS, organizer of Moscow Demographic Summit

NEW RUSSIAN PARTNERS – ANOTHER RESULT OF MOSCOW DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMIT

As a result of the Moscow Demographic Summit: The Family And The Future of Humankind, World Congress of Families acquired four new Russian Partners. They are the Family & Demography Foundation, the Institute of Demographic Research, the Russian State Social University (where the Summit was held) and the organization Family, Unity Motherhood Program.

World Congress of Families Managing Director Larry Jacobs commented: “All of our Russian Partners made substantial contributions toward our Moscow Summit. All share our vision and values and we are delighted to welcome them to the WCF family.

- Family & Demography Foundation (“Life-Family”)*
- Institute of Demographic Research*
- Russian State Social University*
- Family, Unity, Motherhood Program*



Thank you to all World Congress of Families Partners for your support.

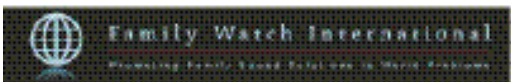
Click on name below to link to the Partner's website.

American Family Association
 Americans for Truth About Homosexuality
 Alliance Defense Fund
 Alliance for the Family
 Americans United for Life
 Associazione per la Difesa Dei Valori
 Cristiani - Luci sull'Est, Italy
 Australian Family Association
 Christian Film and Television Commission

Christian Concern
 Concerned Women for America
 Endeavour Forum
 Euthanasia Prevention Coalition
 Ethics and Public Policy Center
 Family & Society
 Family First Foundation
 Family Research Council
 Father Peter Skarga Institute (Poland)

Family Watch International
 Fellowship of St. James
 Focus on The Family
 Grasstops USA
 HazteOir.org
 His Servants
 Human Life International
 Laugh Your Way To A Better Marriage
 Parents Forum, Switzerland

Population Research Institute
 Priests For Life
 REAL Women of Canada
 Red Familia (Mexico)
 The Ethics & Religious
 Liberty Commission
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 United Families International



[Click here for information on becoming a World Congress of Families Partner.](#)

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