

1.3 WELCOMING NEW LIFE

CHALLENGES

Within the conjugal life, but also outside of marriage, contraception, abortion and sterilization are widespread practices. There are also couples who resort to prenatal diagnosis for eugenic purposes.

SUGGESTIONS

It is necessary to educate young people not to dissociate the sphere of sexuality from that of emotions and generativity.

It is necessary to adopt social policies and economic measures that can harmonize young people's desire for a family with their legitimate aspirations and work needs.

Finally, it is also the responsibility of public services to accompany, on the medical, psychological and spiritual level, couples who have received an inauspicious prenatal diagnosis in order to protect the life of children from the throwaway culture.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- increasing services to support and accompany mothers
- promoting courses on affective and sexual education in schools
- harmonizing family and work dimensions, as well as maternity and paternity measures to support young couples and large families.
- promoting models of accompaniment for families who have children with disabilities, as well as for families who have received unfavorable results of some disease from prenatal diagnosis.
- promoting models that embrace a style that is inclusive and foresees participation of people with disabilities.
- promoting a culture of respect people with disabilities.
- encouraging scientific research regarding prenatal and perinatal care as an alternative to abortion
- promoting methods of natural fertility
- promoting the establishment of centers for the study and monitoring of cases of couple infertility
- promoting child adoption
- raising awareness about generativity not only biologically, but also spiritually and socially

Guidelines for family-focused university research

Further research should be conducted on:

- conceptual and practical differences between “procreation” and “reproduction”
- consequences of widespread, eugenic use of selective prenatal diagnosis and assisted reproduction technologies
- care of children with prenatal and perinatal conditions
- cases of couple infertility and solutions alternative to assisted reproduction technologies
- policies to support the birth rate
- programs on affective and sexual education presented in schools
- models for supporting couples who cannot have biological children
- link between medicalized perceptions, negative stories of the disabling condition and calls for euthanasia or “therapeutic” abortion.
- methods and areas to support families so that, where possible, they feel assisted in accompanying their loved ones with disabilities to independence.
- families embracing children abandoned by their families



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