A Look at the Kennedy Institute

The Kennedy Institute is dedicated to an interdisciplinary approach to the study of bioethics, population and human reproduction. The Institute was founded in 1971 with a $1.35 million grant from the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Foundation as a center for research, teaching and public service. The activities listed for each of its centers are an outgrowth of the cooperation of the scholars and staff of the total Institute.

- Center for Bioethics: Bioethics Library, Encyclopedia of Bioethics, Information Retrieval System, visiting scholars program, permanent chairs in bioethics, undergraduate and graduate teaching, summer intern program, seminars for the press and public, lectures, hospital rounds for ethicists, publication of occasional papers.

- Center for Population Research: M.A. program in demography, undergraduate teaching, visiting scholars program, permanent chairs in demography, lecture series for press and public, seminars for government officials, research projects on migration, fertility, and mortality, reference library, publication of occasional papers.

- Laboratories for Reproductive Biology: Research in fetal physiology, genetics and care of newborns, coordination with Georgetown Medical School and Medical Centers, training of medical students, colloquia.

Left: The Kennedy Institute's main offices are located in the historic D.C. Transit Building (the "Car Barn") on the Georgetown University campus. Bottom: The Library for the Center for Bioethics is the largest special reference collection of its kind in the country. Below: Through an electron microscope, Dr. Dessouky A. Dessouky studies the effects of toxemia (a form of hypertension in pregnancy) on blood vessels.
Population Meetings Planned for Fall

Leading population policy experts, demographers, and futurists will speak at a series of lectures and seminars called, "The Challenge of the World Population Conference," scheduled for the Fall by the Kennedy Institute.

Among the series’ distinguished guests will be Antonio Carrillo-Flores, Secretary-General of the United Nations’ World Population Conference; Dr. Benjamin Viel, M.D., Executive Director of International Planned Parenthood; Joseph Fisher, former President of Resources for the Future and leading expert on the world’s natural resources; and Dr. André E. Hellegers, Director of the Kennedy Institute. Dr. Hellegers, who will participate in the Population Tribune meetings at Bucharest, will discuss the ethical implications of population issues.

The four-part, weekly series, beginning October 8 and scheduled for the following three Tuesdays (October 15, 22, and 29), will provide an excellent followup to the United Nations’ World Population Conference to be held in Bucharest in August. At each of the evening lectures at Georgetown University’s Gaston Hall, two speakers will be featured. After the two lectures, a three-member panel will pose questions to the lecturers.

The guests will also participate in seminars with invited people from government, academia, and associations on the afternoon before the evening lectures. These informal discussions will serve to bring the lecturers together for meaningful dialogue with government policy-makers, leaders of special interest groups, and scholars.


Lecture Series On Medical Ethics

New advances in medical technology are rapidly giving rise to particular philosophical and theological concerns. To continue their exploration of these bioethical issues, Georgetown University’s Philosophy Department and the Kennedy Institute’s Center for Bioethics will present a four-part lecture series in November called, “The Expanding Universe of Modern Medicine: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives.”

Professor James Gustafson of the University of Chicago Divinity School will begin the series, scheduled for four consecutive Tuesday afternoons (November 5, 12, 19, and 26), by addressing the question, “What can theology contribute to ethics and medicine?”

At the second meeting, Professor Germain G. Grisez of the University of Saskatchewan will evaluate the possibilities for finding an objective basis of medical ethics.

At the third lecture in the series, Dr. H. Tristram Englehardt, Jr., of the medical branch of the University of Texas at Galveston will discuss the significance of the concept of the human person in the philosophy and practice of medicine.

Finally, Dr. Leon Kass, Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr., Research Professor in Bioethics, will explore the various meanings of the notion of health, and the purposes and limits of medicine.

The series will be funded by a Matchette Foundation grant.
Institute Announces Major Appointments

Dr. Conrad Taeuber, Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr., Professor of Demography, has also been appointed Director of the Kennedy Institute's Center for Population Research. Dr. Taeuber has had a long and distinguished career as a demographer with interest in United States and worldwide population trends. As Associate Director, Bureau of the Census, from 1951 to 1973, he was responsible for the collection and analysis of census and survey data relating to agriculture, population and housing. The administration of the 1960 and 1970 Decennial Censuses was under his direction. From 1946 to 1951, as Chief of the Statistics Branch of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Dr. Taeuber was responsible for the planning and execution of a program of statistical research related to world agricultural production. This work made it possible for the first time to produce worldwide coordinated data on agricultural production and consumption. During his career, Dr. Taeuber has served as President of the Population Association of America, President of the Inter-American Statistical Institute, Chairman of the Board of the Social Science Research Council, and Vice-President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He currently serves as a member of the Committee on National Statistics of the National Academy of Sciences.

Father Richard A. McCormick, S.J., S.T.D., Rose F. Kennedy Professor of Christian Ethics, is a leading expert on Christian morality. He was Professor of Moral Theology at West Baden College from 1957 to 1962, then at the Jesuit School of Theology in Chicago from 1962 to 1973. Father McCormick is the author of *Ambiguity in Moral Choice*, and is a regular contributor to numerous theological, medical and philosophical journals. He has contributed chapters to many books, including *Norm and Context in Christian Ethics, The Future of Ethics and Moral Theology, The Problem of Population*, and *Proceedings of the Conference on the Teaching of Medical Ethics*. Father McCormick is a past president of the Catholic Theological Society of America, and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Society of Christian Ethics, the Board of Trustees of the University of Detroit, the Catholic Commission on Intellectual and Cultural Affairs, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Society, Ethics, and Life Sciences, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York.

Dr. Leon R. Kass, Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr., Research Professor in Bioethics, is interested in both the practical and philosophical implications of advances in biology and medicine. From 1967 to 1970, Dr. Kass, both a doctor of medicine and a Ph.D. in biochemistry, was Staff Fellow with the Laboratory of Molecular Biology, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, National Institutes of Health. He has been Executive Secretary of the Committee on the Life Sciences and Social Policy, National Academy of Sciences, and a professor at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland.

Dr. Kass has written frequently on both scientific and ethical issues. His recent articles include "Making Babies—The New Biology and the 'Old' Morality" (*The Public Interest*, 1972); "The New Biology: What Price Relieving Man's Estate?" (*Science*, 1971); "A Statutory Definition of the Standards for Determining Human Death: An Appraisal and A Proposal" (with Alexander Capron, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, 1972); "Implications of Pre-Natal Diagnosis for the Human Right to Life" (*Ethical Issues in Human Genetics*, B. Hilton et al., Eds., 1973). He is Founding Fellow and a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Society, Ethics, and Life Sciences, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York; he was from 1970 to 1972 Executive Secretary, Committee on the Life Sciences and Social Policy, National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences; and since 1972, he has been a consultant on medical ethics to the Judicial Council, American Medical Association.
1st Encyclopedia of Bioethics Begun

Leading scholars from all parts of the world are now being invited to write articles for the first Encyclopedia of Bioethics, a three-year project begun in July 1972 by the Center for Bioethics. Dr. Warren T. Reich, Editor-in-Chief of the encyclopedia and Senior Research Scholar at the Center, comments, "The encyclopedia will treat the biomedical sciences, health care, and various health professions. It will synthesize all significant viewpoints and attempt to stimulate further study in the ethics of the life sciences."

The $400,000 project is supported by a $200,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and matching funds donated jointly by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Foundation and the Raskob Foundation. Approximately 1.5 million words in length, the two-volume work will be published by The Free Press, a division of The Macmillan Publishing Company. A 1976 publication date is anticipated.

As Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Reich's first major task was to define the scope of the encyclopedia and to draw up a working Table of Contents. Main divisions were identified as follows:

- Philosophical and Historical Foundations of Bioethics
- The Ethics of the Health Professions
- The Therapeutic Relationship
- Medical Experimentation
- The Ethics of Health Care
- Sexuality and Fertility Control
- Applied Human Genetics
- Mental Health, Behavioral Sciences, and Neurosciences
- Organ and Tissue: Use and Transplantation
- Longevity, Death, and Dying
- Population
- Environment

Eight Associate Editors were chosen from the fields of philosophy, medicine, and theology to plan each of the above sections. They determined specific topic headings, correlated topics, divided the material, decided article lengths and selected authors. There are approximately 340 assigned topics, ranging from a short entry of 250 words on "Zygote Banking" to a 10,000 word article on "Bioethics." Other article topics include, "Hindu Medical Ethics," "The Philosophy of Medicine," "The Drug Industry and Medicine," "Animal Experimentation," "Health Insurance," "Sterilization," "Mental Health Therapy," "Prenouncing Death," and "Ethical Implications of Population Policies."

Authors have been selected from the fields of ethics, the biomedical sciences, the health professions, psychology, sociology, anthropology, law, political science, economics, demography, history, philosophy, and religion. Each article will be an original work signed by the author; he will be asked to address himself to the ethical and social implications of his topic.

A 60-member, international Editorial Advisory Board has been selected from outstanding scholars in disciplines related to bioethics. They have been asked to make recommendations concerning the encyclopedia's content, to recommend authors, and to evaluate the quality of manuscripts prior to publication. Among Editorial Advisory Board members are Jacob Bronowski, The Salk Institute; Henry K. Beecher, Professor Emeritus, Harvard Medical School; Gunnar Bührck, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm; R. M. Hare, Professor of Moral Philosophy, Oxford University; Immanuel Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi, London; Hans Jonas, Professor of Philosophy, New School for Social Research; and Margaret Mead, anthropologist.

The encyclopedia will not only be written for professionals in the field, but also for the larger, interested public, for educators and students, and for those engaged in decision-making and policy-making in the areas affected by the life sciences.

Information System Is Established

The Kennedy Institute has received a grant from the National Library of Medicine to establish the first comprehensive information retrieval system for the field of bioethics. The purpose of the project is to develop a system for bibliographic control of the rapidly expanding literature in bioethics.

The three major products of the system will be: (1) an index language appropriate to the field of bioethics; (2) three comprehensive annual bibliographies of English-language print and non-print materials; and (3) beginning in the third year, an automated information retrieval system capable of providing a variety of services, including demand searches. "An increasing number of books, articles, court cases, and films are focusing public attention on questions like euthanasia, genetic engineering, and human experimentation," said Dr. LeRoy Walters, Project Director. "The information system will make readily available—for the first time—a comprehensive listing of these widely scattered materials on bioethical topics."

Staff members of the Information Retrieval (IR) Project are at present

Dr. LeRoy Walters, Information Retrieval System Project Director, Maureen Canick (center), and Renée Johnson are meeting an early 1975 publication deadline for the first of three annual bibliographies of bioethics.
gathering bibliographical citations from calendar year 1973 for inclusion in the first annual *Bibliography of Bioethics*. This first of three bibliographies is scheduled for publication in early 1975 and will be available for purchase by libraries and individuals. Presently, the staff members are indexing a sample set of 250 documents in order to develop a basic vocabulary in bioethics.

Long-term plans call for the expansion of the *Bibliography* (with annual accumulations), monthly dissemination of information on selected topics, and facsimile transmission of documents. In addition, the staff anticipates that in the future the automated system will become part of a worldwide information network for the field of bioethics.

**Visiting Scholars Study at Institute**

Each year a visiting group of scholars comes to study at the Institute’s Center for Bioethics. This year they included Roy Branson, Ph.D., Francisco Abel, M.D., S.J., David Smith, Ph.D., Bernard Häring, S.T.D., C.S.S.R., and Fred Carney, Ph.D.

Dr. Branson, an ethicist from Andrews University in Andrews, Michigan, is working on a book about the changing role of the physician in American society. Specifically, he is exploring the patient’s right to know about the status of his health, “consumerism” in medicine, and the physician-patient relationship. He is also concerned with the ethics of health care delivery and medical experimentation using prisoners as subjects.

Father Abel, an obstetrician and gynecologist from Spain, is here completing an M.A. in demography and a Ph.D. in fetal physiology.

Dr. Smith, Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Religion at Indiana University, is interested in ethical possibilities of justifying killing, euthanasia, suicide, abortion. He is currently at work on a book which will focus on an analysis of arguments for and against euthanasia.

Father Häring, one of the Catholic Church’s leading moral theologians, has come from Rome to spend six months at the Institute working on a new book about the ethics of manipulation, especially as it pertains to behavior control, genetics, and population issues.

Dr. Carney has two major works in progress. He is writing a book on the concept of Christian morality; and he is compiling a book of cases of moral dilemmas to be used as a conceptual tool in analyzing problems in sex and marriage, truth-telling, promise-keeping and suicide. He is currently on leave from the Perkins School of Theology of the Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

**Labs Exploring Reproduction**

The staff of the Laboratories for Reproductive Biology focuses its research and services on minimizing high risk pregnancies and delivering the healthiest babies possible. This interest extends from conception to the nursery.

The genetics laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Robert Baumiller, not only provides full genetic counselling services, but does fundamental research on the effects of radiation and viruses on cell division, Errors in cell division account for many defects, including Down’s syndrome (or mongolism).

The electron microscopy laboratory, founded by the Rockefeller Foundation, and directed by Dr. Dessouky A. Dessouky, studies the effects on blood vessels of toxemia, a form of hyper-tension in pregnancy, which is one of the major killers of unborn children.

In the fetal physiology laboratories, Drs. Paul Bruns, John Schruefer, André Helligers, Joan Simkovich, and Francisco Abel study the processes by which the fetus in utero receives its nutrients, particularly oxygen. In this work, they collaborate closely with Dr. Ronald Chez at the National Institutes of Health, and with Capt. Robert Cefalo, U.S.N.M.C., and his assistants at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland. Drs. Cefalo and Chez hold Georgetown University faculty appointments.

The clinically applicable results of the experiments are translated into patient care in the labor and delivery rooms under the general direction of Dr. Schruefer, so that the time interval between research and application is minimized.

Within hours of birth, a newborn undergoes special tests to determine the condition of his or her central nervous system. The tests are part of a research grant program directed by Dr. Yvonne Brackbill, an NIH senior scientist.

The Laboratories for Reproductive Biology, therefore, act on the knowledge that the months spent in utero are probably the most important ones in the baby’s life. It is in this period that, due to genetic and environmental problems, the greatest damage can be done to the potential for a human being’s development.
The United Nations has declared 1974 World Population Year. The purpose of designating the year as such is to focus the resources of the United Nations and its member nations on the problems and consequences of population growth. To this end there will be a World Population Conference in Bucharest during August.

Dr. Conrad Taeuber, Director of the Kennedy Institute Center for Population Research, has been asked by the United Nations to serve on the Advisory Committee which will develop a Plan of Action to be presented to the Conference. In his article, Dr. Taeuber discusses the major points of the Plan of Action currently under development, and highlights the issues in population that face us as we move into the mid-1970's.

One of the functions of the Kennedy Institute is to foster an interdisciplinary approach to the issues it considers. In his article, Father Bernard Haring comments on the moral issues he sees raised by population growth.

The World Population Conference, which is to meet in Bucharest in August, will be asked to consider a World Population Plan of Action. To assist in the preparation of this document, the Secretary General of the United Nations appointed an advisory committee of experts. These experts came from all parts of the world, and I was fortunate enough to be among this group.

In its report, the Advisory Committee noted that in most of man’s history the rate of growth of world population averaged only slightly above zero. An increase in the growth rate began with the decline in mortality during the last few centuries, and this decline has accelerated rapidly during recent decades. Since 1950, the rate of population growth has risen to the level of 2% per year. If sustained, this rate would double the world’s population every 35 years. Within this worldwide average there is a wide range of national growth rates. A few countries actually have a negative rate of change, while some are growing at well over 3% per year. Many countries do not have a national policy regarding a desired total population, a rate of growth, or the distribution of the population within the country. Nevertheless, the majority of the world’s people and a large majority of the people of the less developed regions live in countries whose governments are attempting, as a matter of urgency, to reduce their rates of population growth.

Acceleration of population growth rates, especially since the end of World War II, has been primarily the result of very large declines in mortality of the less developed countries, though these gains have been very unevenly distributed. Average expectation of life of a newborn infant is about 71 years in the more developed regions, but only about 62 years in Latin America, and about 57 years in Asia, and about 47 years in Africa. Improvements have been especially significant in the rates of infant deaths, but these, too, have been very uneven. In the more developed countries, fewer than one in 40 infants die before reaching their first birthdays; but in Latin America the average is one in 15; in Asia one in 10; and in Africa, one in seven.

The Committee recognized the universal desire to reduce death rates, especially the death rates of infants, and recommended that efforts to reduce these rates be given the highest priority. It recognized that major reductions in mortality would lead, at least temporarily, to an increased rate of population growth. It recommended that countries seeking moderate or low rates of population growth, and even those seeking an increase in their rate of growth, should endeavor to accomplish these ends with low death rates and correspondingly low birth rates.

The purpose of the Plan of Action is to focus the awareness of national governments on their population problems, and to urge them to strengthen their capacities to deal effectively with these problems. The Plan of Action also calls attention to the international implications of population developments, and aims at increasing international activities in the areas of assistance to countries who request it. These activities also include information exchange and cooperative research efforts.

The Committee emphasized that national programs relating to population should be considered to be an integral...

Continued on page 8.
A demographer and an ethicist discuss the problems and consequences of population growth.

Population: An Ethical Point of View

by Bernard Häring, S.T.D.

Dr. Taeuber's article is for me a magnificent example of how expertise and concern for the common good of all nations and all men yield results far better than abstract ethical considerations could ever hope for. The fact that the advisory committee of experts to the United Nations presents such a balanced approach in clear awareness of all the values at stake demands wholehearted support on the part of ethicists, and hopefully also from churches and other religious bodies. The “Plan of Action” manifests the fullest respect for the conscience and basic rights of each human being and each couple, concern for the health and life of all people, and a realistic appraisal of religious and cultural traditions and their influence on this matter.

This allows the ethicist to face some particular moral problems related to an unbalanced population growth in large parts of today’s world without running the risk of obscuring the major problems of world justice and many other relevant issues when he speaks on population control and consequently on control of conception.

Half a century ago, all the major religions and a great number of humanist ethicists were against any kind of artificial means of birth control. Under the pressure of accelerated population growth and the modern scientific reflective mentality in dealing with the problems of life, much has changed. Today, all Christian churches accept and promote the concept of “responsible parenthood,” which in certain circumstances can and does mean responsible limitation of the size of one’s family. There is, however, no agreement regarding the means of birth control. Extreme opinions and attitudes on the left as well as on the right wing confuse contraception and abortion. Some churchmen have been fighting so violently against all means of birth control that, in emphasis and wording, there is barely even a semicolon between their condemnation of all forms of artificial means of contraception and their rejection of abortion.

At the other end of the spectrum, there is so much emphasis on the need for population control that abortion is carelessly included wherever means of birth control have failed, or even recommended as the most effective means of birth control. Both kinds of confusion are probably equally responsible for a great number of abortions, or rather for a dangerous trend toward abortion, and for all kinds of reactions against responsible control of population. Abortion as a means of population control and birth control is as unacceptable as the diminution of population by war, by careless handling of dangerous diseases, or by starvation. There is an absolutely qualitative distinction between abortion and contraception.

The basic question of conscience to be resolved by couples is the responsible transmission of human life: the desired number of children and the spacing of pregnancies. Once the upright and informed conscience tells a couple that they should not, or at least not now, transmit life, the secondary question of means arises. When I say "secondary" question, I presuppose that abortion is excluded, and even so I do not want to belittle the question of means but there is a clear scale of values that manifests the priority of the first question, namely, whether life should be transmitted or not.

For 19 centuries, with practically no great population problem existing, the Christian churches and the humanist moralists saw the solution to spacing births or preventing an undesirable pregnancy as total abstinence alone. However, it became more and more evident that total abstinence in most of today’s cultures and in most cases was not so much a heroic as a dangerous measure. The Second Vatican Council has adopted this view: “Where the intimacy of married life is broken off, it is not rare for the faithfulness to be imperiled and its quality of fruitfulness ruined, for then the upbringing of the children and the courage to accept new ones are both endangered” (Pastoral Constitution of the Church in Today’s World, #51).

The Papal teaching has, at least since 1951, found the calculated use of the rhythm method an acceptable means of birth regulation. The much discussed Encyclical “Humanae Vitae” of Paul VI (1968) approves this method while disapproving all the other artificial means of contraception. If I use the words, “the other,” this is not the..."
Dr. Taeuber, from page 6.  
part of the programs of economic and social development. They should not be viewed as substitutes for such development, nor should they be seen as preconditions for development programs. Efforts to improve the quality of life require action in many fields other than those directly related to population. Coordinated action in the field of population would greatly facilitate the achievement of improvement in the quality of life and ease the task of implementing other policies designed to promote social and economic development. There is clearly a circular relationship here, for social and economic development would in turn assist in spreading the acceptance of the small family pattern. Just as the limitation of population growth should not be viewed as distinct from other aspects of social and economic development, it should not be taken as something which automatically follows such development. A program for such development must recognize the close interrelationships.

Emphasis was placed on the principle, recognized in a number of international documents, that parents have the right to have the number of children they desire. Governments have an obligation to assist in providing information and services which will enable couples to achieve this desired number. There is also need to reconcile individual reproductive behavior with the needs and aspirations of society.

The high priority given to reduction of morbidity and mortality is recognized, and it is stated that one objective should be to achieve an expectation of life of at least 62 years by 1985 in the less developed regions, with hope expressed that by the year 2000 the differences between more and less developed countries will be minimal. Particular attention should be given to reduction of fetal, infant, and early childhood mortality.

There is need also for special attention to improved nutrition and sanitation, maternal and child health care, maternal education, the fuller integration of women into the development process, the promotion of social justice, social mobility and social development, the elimination of child labor, the establishment of social security and old age benefits, and the establishment of an appropriate age of marriage, with a suggested minimum of at least 17 years.

Governments should assist in making available to all persons who so desire the necessary information about family planning and education in methods of effective family planning in accord with their cultural values. Family planning services should aim at both prevention of unwanted births and at elimination of involuntary sterility and subfecundity.

While recognizing the right to freedom of movement within a country, steps should be taken to approach a rational distribution of the population, and to achieve viable alternatives to the metropolitan way of life.

Countries which are affected by significant migration are urged, if they have not already done so, to conclude bilateral agreements which would regulate movements and protect and assist migrant workers. More developed countries are urged to consider the export of capital instead of the importation of labor, and to make efforts to provide employment in those areas which would otherwise be areas of substantial outmigration.

The present age structure of a population is a principal determinant of its natural growth rates for several decades to come. Attention needs to be drawn to this fact, for it affects all planning activities.

The importance of adequate timely data on population trends and structure was stressed. Countries are to be urged to take population censuses, if they have not already done so, to make the data from their censuses available promptly, and, in some analytical detail, to improve and update their systems of vital registration, and to cooperate in the World Fertility Survey.

High priority is given to those research activities which are indispensable for the development of informed and effective population policies. Education and training in population matters is given high priority. Emphasis was also placed on the importance of evaluation of programs to carry out population policies.

It is recognized that it is the responsibility of each government to decide on its own policies and to devise its own programs of action to deal with the population situation in its own country. Actions taken within a country have international aspects, and the international agencies are urged to assist governments as requested. The international agencies should increase and improve the assistance they provide to governments and establish more effective coordination of efforts in these fields.

It is urged that a complete and systematic review and appraisal of progress made toward the achievement of national goals be undertaken on a regular basis by the Population Commission and the Economic and Social Council.
Father Haring, from page 7.
understanding of Paul VI; it seems that he does not consider “artificial” the most calculated use of the rhythm method, even if many techniques are used to guarantee the “safety” of the result. But most moralists would agree with the expression that insinuates that the rhythm method is, in the final analysis, one of the numerous methods of contraception. This assertion leaves open the question of whether the ethical judgment of this method is qualitatively different from that of other non-abortifacient methods.

In view of the influence religious teaching can exercise on appropriate solutions to population problems, and not least in view of the great divergence of convictions, one should not share the convictions of Paul VI expressed in his Encyclicae, many are appealing to the whole hierarchy of the Catholic Church to reconsider the entire issue (see Denis E. Hurley, Archbishop of Durban, South Africa, “Responsibility of the Magisterium” Theological Studies, March 1974, pp. 154-63; Richard A. McCormick, S.J., S.T.D., of the Kennedy Institute, “The Silence Since Humanae Vitae,” The Linacre Quarterly, vol. 41, 1974, pp. 26-32).

But the appeal made by the Pope and by some of the bishops to the consciences of people to exclude all other means of regulation of conception except the rhythm method does not, at least in my eyes, contradict the right of people to be properly informed about the various contraceptive methods, so that they can freely choose what, according to their own consciences and circumstances, seems to be the best solution. This seems to me an important point to be made.

Ethicists who discriminate sharply between abortion and contraception have to face the question of how limiting birth control to one, and only one, method influences the trend toward abortion. Nobody can ignore warnings like the following given by a well-known German (Catholic) gynecologist, Dr. J. Hepp: “Justification of

‘Cooperation of all people is necessary to solve the grave population problems, especially in countries where excessive population growth takes on more and more threatening dimensions.’

one method alone proves itself unreasonable. That means that counselling on responsible parenthood that limits itself to one, and only one, method is doomed to failure. The counselling doctor should be fully conscious that the failure of this one method will lead, very often and very soon, to abortion. The recommendation of methods which are here and now unreliable is to be considered a mistake and a way to increase the evil of abortion” (quoted from Herderkorrespondenz, Freiburg 1973, p. 238).

While we can only rejoice about the approach of the United Nations of respecting the right of each couple to decide freely about the transmission of life, we cannot avoid the question of moral rights to the individual conscience. There are situations in which eugenic or other reasons—one might be the unreasonable growth of population—can oblige a couple, in conscience, to abstain from procreation or to limit it sharply. If we want—and we should want—people to be able to decide freely on this intimate matter, then we have to do all that is in our power to educate people so that they are able to make well-informed decisions of conscience in this question that has so much to do with the welfare of all people. Cooperation of all people is necessary to solve the grave population problems, especially in countries like India and Indonesia, where excessive population growth takes on more and more threatening dimensions.

I want to relate this problem to that of nonviolence. Among the ethicists of our century, I am one of those who has most consistently warned about war and violent revolutions. But this warning is unrealistic if we do not at the same time appeal to all men to explore and use all means of nonviolent action for peace in justice. We can predict that, again and again, violent explosions in war and revolutions will cause irreparable damage unless we unite our energies for nonviolent methods and just solutions. I feel the same way about the grave matter of population explosions in the already heavily populated areas of the world. Those who do nothing or little to educate people to responsible cooperation, or even obstruct reasonable solutions, should consider themselves accountable if governments in extreme or even less extreme situations revert to methods of reinforcement, pressure, and finally coercion, methods that limit or suppress basic personal rights and/or impose methods which we consider great moral evil.
Population Center: Research, Training

The Center for Population Research is engaged in two important functions: research and the training of demographers. Nearly all of the staff members are involved with teaching demography students from Georgetown and other area universities. In addition, each scholar works on individual or group research projects. These projects deal with all facets of demography: the numbers of people populating the earth, where these people live, how they move, how the numbers of people change, and the effects of these changing numbers on society.

Fertility Study

Dr. Jeanne Clare Ridley, a fertility expert, is developing a nation-wide study of marriage, contraceptive and childbearing practices of women, born between 1901 and 1910. These women, who were in their reproductive years in the 1920s and 1930s, had the lowest average number of children (2.2 children per woman) in U.S. demographic history. In the process of collecting information for this "childless grandmother" study, Dr. Ridley plans to interview a representative sample of 3,000 women, some of their husbands and survivors. Hopefully, Dr. Ridley will discover the motivations and methods by which these women raised small families. Thus, it will be possible to observe the similarities and differences between this group of women and women presently in their reproductive years whose fertility rate, when completed, will probably be the lowest ever.

Migration

Dr. Henry Shryock's migration students analyze the internal and international redistributions of populations, the economic and social causes of migration, and compare migrants to non-migrants in terms of motives and characteristics. Will the energy crisis lead to a mass movement from the suburbs to the cities? Is it possible to measure the extent of illegal immigration from Mexico to the U.S.? Does the rise of migration in old age reflect mainly widowhood or retirement? These kinds of questions are probed in depth by Dr. Shryock and his students. Before joining the Institute, Dr. Shryock was Assistant Chief of the Population division of the U.S. Bureau of the Census; in this capacity, he supervised a broad area of population statistics and co-authored Methods and Materials of Demography (Shryock, Siegel and Associates, Bureau of the Census, 1971), a basic text used worldwide in the training of demographers.

Forced Relocation

Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas teaches a graduate seminar at the Institute: Demographic, Social and Economic Interrelations. An expert on the forced migration of people, she coauthored Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement: The Spoilage (University of California Press, 1946), a study of the forced migration of the Japanese during World War II. Later she collaborated on the followup, Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement: The Salvage (University of California Press, 1952), which deals with the relocation of the Japanese after the war, and the social impact of this migration on their population.

Georgetown Offers M.A. in Demography

The graduate program in demography at Georgetown University is taught out of the Kennedy Institute's Center for Population Research. Presently, an M.A. degree is offered, and plans are under way to develop a program of study leading to the Ph.D.

To this point, 26 people have completed the master's degree program. They have gone on to further study or employment with the World Bank, the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the Population Reference Bureau, the Transnational Family Planning Association, A.I.D., the New York State Coalition for Family Planning, Model Cities, the University of Thailand, and statistical offices in Thailand, Kenya, Brazil, and Ethiopia.

In order to encourage and accommodate government personnel and other working people in the Washington area, all courses are given in the evening and on Saturdays. Recently completed theses indicate the wide range of interest of the program. They include such titles as "Effectiveness of Internal Migration and Economic Development in the United States", "Internal Migration Patterns in Ghana", "The Relationship Between Premarital Pregnancy and Dependency Before Marriage", "Mobility Among the Aged in the United States".
Population:

The library for the Center for Population Research houses primary and secondary source materials related to the field of demography. The library's collection includes approximately 1,500 monographs, 1,700 reprints, 1,800 governmental documents, and 60 periodicals and newsletters. Services are provided on a regular basis to approximately 50 users.

**Social Indicators 1973.** Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1973; for sale by the Superintendent of Documents. 258 pp. This is a collection of statistics on social conditions and trends in the U.S. Colorful charts present data related to eight major areas: health, public safety, education, employment, income, housing, leisure and recreation, and population.


Jaffe, Frederick S. "Public Policy on Fertility Control." *Scientific American* 229(1): 17-23, July 1973. Mr. Jaffe, Vice-President of Planned Parenthood-World Population, summarizes changes in U.S. policy on contraception from the late 19th century to the present. The period 1960-1972, during which public policy on contraception was almost completely reversed, is discussed in detail.

Bioethics:

The library for the Center for Bioethics, the largest of its kind in the country, is a special reference collection containing over 1,500 books and over 2,000 periodicals. The main purpose of the library is to support the Center’s research projects, e.g., the Information Retrieval System and the Encyclopedia of Bioethics, and the Center’s scholars, both visiting and permanent. The library is also open for reference to those outside the Institute interested in the field.

*Teaching Medical Ethics: A Report on One Approach,* available from The Moral Problems in Medicine Project, Department of Philosophy, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 44106, published in July 1973. An excellent aid to the bioethics professor, this pamphlet offers practical suggestions concerning case studies, topics for papers, examinations and resources.

Veatch, Robert M.; Gaylin, Willard; and Morgan, Councilman. *The Teaching of Medical Ethics.* A Hastings Center Publication available from NTIS, 5265 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22051 (PB 229-481/AS $5.50). A more philosophical approach to the teaching of bioethics, this book is an excellent companion to Case Western’s pamphlet. A professor of bioethics would find both very helpful.


*Law and Ethics of A.I.D. and Embryo Transfer.* New York: Elsevier, 1973. Approximately one-third of this text is devoted to presentations and discussion on the moral, social, and ethical issues of A.I.D. In other sections, biological and legal aspects are discussed. This Ciba Foundation Symposium provides a good introduction to the present status of artificial insemination in England and the United States.

Emery, A. E. H., ed. *Antenatal Diagnosis of Genetic Disease.* Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1973. Although rather technical, this review of recent developments in antenatal diagnosis is of value to the layman as well as the obstetrician. The emphasis is on amniocentesis. The book is concise and well-illustrated. The concluding chapter discusses long-range implications.
from the director

Dr. André E. Hellegers, Director of the Joseph and Rose Kennedy Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction and Bioethics, is also Professor of Physiology and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Georgetown University Hospital.

The Kennedy Institute is really a venture in interdisciplinary work and, therefore, for its members, in interpersonal cooperation.

Traditional institutions have always divided the various disciplines into separate departments and schools. For example, in a university, the department of obstetrics and gynecology is located in a hospital; the basic sciences are divided among schools of medicine and colleges of arts and sciences; statistical analysts in schools of public health; sociology and demography in colleges of arts; philosophy in undergraduate colleges; and theology in schools of divinity and religion, or seminaries. The Kennedy Institute’s approach is different.

The purpose of the Kennedy Institute is precisely to break down these vertical barriers to interdisciplinary work. In this way, human reproduction can be looked at from the point of view of the antecedents—the processes and the consequences of prevention for the individual, the family, the country, and the world. In addition, the subject of ethics can be brought to bear on many of the issues of maternity and mortality, which form the backbone of demography.

However, ethical problems in birth, death, and genetics only form a fraction of the mission of the bioethics center. Likewise, issues of experimentation, privacy, behavior control and myriad others extend way beyond the narrower confines of the mission of the reproductive biology laboratories and the population center, whose major concerns are the qualitative and quantitative aspects of procreation—although these govern much of man’s fate.

It is strange that the lay public tends to think of demographers as planners of population only. In fact, their skills are as much directed towards planning for populations. Regardless of the subject for which plans are required—be it education, hospital construction, jail construction, taxing ability, use of land—no intelligent planning can be done unless there is sophisticated analysis of the scope of the populations to be served in given jurisdictions, their age structure, and the amount of movement in or out of the location for which planning is to be done. And if one is to postulate the presence of a serious bioethical problem—like the use of mood-controlling drugs, or experimentation in populations of the poor or the powerless—all is speculation unless one can survey the magnitude of the problem through adequate demographic survey methodologies.

In the final analysis then, the Kennedy Institute seeks to acquire the capabilities of assessing those major events in man’s life—birth, death, and marriage—in terms of sociology, medicine, and the values at stake. If a university has a mission to look at man, to teach about man, and to render service to man in a universal way, I cannot think of any way in which it can do so more efficiently than to look at him as a biological being, a social being, and—in an act of faith and hope—as a transcendental being.

In Brief:

Workshops at G.W.

At the request of the George Washington University Medical School, the Kennedy Institute planned and presented two workshops on bioethics for GW’s second-year medical students on May 9 and 16. The issues of death and dying were the subjects for both sessions in which Institute scholars Dr. LeRoy Walters, Dr. Roy Branson, Father Bernard Haring, and Dr. David Smith participated.

Ethics Rounds

Since the founding of the Kennedy Institute, the ethicists have participated on rounds at Georgetown University Hospital, and have also served as consultants to the Medical Center staff on general ethical issues and individual cases.

On June 7, in keeping with this tradition, Institute personnel began a regular schedule of rounds with doctors from the Obstetrics/Gynecology Department. Each Friday, the ethicists, on a rotating basis, accompany the medical staff on morning rounds.

Population Analysis


As revealed in the report, there are more young women, more marriages, but fewer babies today. Dr. Taeuber presents his explanation of this demographic paradox in the report.

Other current trends will be reported in the Center’s CPR Analysis as they occur. To obtain a copy of the June CPR Analysis and to receive future editions, write: CPR Analysis, Kennedy Institute, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. 20007.