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## Letters to the Editor ...

Catholic Physicians' Guild

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# Letters to the Editor . . .

## Letter from New Zealand

What an amazing year it has been! The domino collapse of so many Communist governments has shown that the instinct for justice and for religion is irrepressible. It has been simmering away beneath the surface for 70 years, kept off the boil only by guns and fear. Not enough credit for this collapse has been given to the constant prayers of the Church and the influence of Our Lady at Fatima.

The Poles led the way, and the Polish Pope led the Poles. Who now dares ask: "How many battalions has the Pope?"

In a similar fashion, our Labour Government is moving inexorably to defeat in the coming October elections, after six years in power. The stock market crash of 1987 sounded the death knell for its ambitious financial policies.

The Prime Minister, David Lange, left his wife for his middle-aged speech writer who emerged as the real power behind the throne. She seems to have been the one who decided our anti-American stance which is deplored by all responsible citizens.

The Minister of Health, Helen Clark, an alarming feminist, declared all practitioners to be "consultants", in a move to make abortion more freely available in country areas. In the past year, the ratio of abortions to deliveries increased from 1:7 to 1:5. Race suicide has arrived.

The public hospital free service is in deep trouble, partly financial, partly from inescapable historical changes. At the same time private practice, which for many years has been merely tolerated, is now booming. New Accident and Emergency Clinics are a resounding success, even in competition with the free government services.

Maori nationalism is increasing and causing alarm in official circles. The Maoris, now 10 percent of the population, demand that all school children learn the Maori language; that universities teach all subjects, including science, in Maori (which is manifestly impossible); that huge tracts of land, including the whole of the South Island, be given back to Maori

ownership; that all fishing out to 200 miles from the coast be theirs; and even that they own the air waves up to the stratosphere (hence radio and TV). If it were not so serious it would be funny.

This is the 150-year celebration of the founding of New Zealand. Police and government are making their plans with fingers crossed.

— H. P. Dunn, M.D.  
Auckland, New Zealand

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## To the editor:

Fr. William F. Maestri's beautiful article (November, 1989) tells about the Catholic-Christian community's tradition to reverence the life of every person, born and unborn. We can confidently go one step further: the entire human race has the same tradition.

The Book of Genesis tells how God revealed Himself and His laws to our first parents when our race began. When God constituted them in the state of holiness and justice (Council of Trent) He also revealed to them how to live in accordance with their state, a point which Thomas makes at the very beginning of his massive *Summa Theologica*. In other words, He gave them the ten commandments, including the fifth: "Thou shalt not kill." God thus made the natural law all the more clear to them by infusing faith and grace into their minds and wills, thus lighting up the natural law from within, and providing them with strength to obey. Adam and Eve did not forget the law when they sinned; after their repentance and renewal, they passed the law down to the race. We are all heirs of the original ten commandments, which are also incorporated into all valid human cultures.

The entire public square, then, knows the law, but not all want to keep it. We are not a ghetto Catholic-Christian community with a law about reverence for life peculiar to ourselves. Perhaps we know the law better and are more determined to keep it, and so we should do our very best

when we speak for the law as delegates of the entire human race. We must indeed tell and retell our story to keep alive our identity as children of Adam and Eve.

When writing the two books, *Original Sin: Where Doctrine Meets Science*, and *The Religion of Adam and Eve*, which Vantage Press will publish this year, it was somewhat of a surprise to me, and also a

great joy, to learn more clearly how the original revelation given to Adam and Eve is still the rightful inheritance of all of us; of all the people out there on the public square.

— Fr. Anthony Zimmerman, SVD  
Nagoya, Japan

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