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National Commission on Human Life Reproduction and Rhythm

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BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, at its annual meeting at Miami Beach on December 1, 1968, goes on record as being unalterably opposed to the legalizing of abortion for personal, medical, eugenic, social, psychiatric or humanitarian reasons.

The delegates then discussed at length a resolution concerning the Pope's encyclicals. Resolution No. 2 was passed with only one dissenting vote:

WHEREAS, individual members of this federation, as Christian physicians, are aware of the pressing issues which are affecting the thought and action of individuals and of humanity; and

WHEREAS, some of these issues involve human sexuality which should be considered in its totality, and the complete fruition of which is a desired goal for the benefit of all mankind; and

WHEREAS, Christ gave us the example of love and charity we should endeavor to understand those who propose a variety of solutions, seemingly in conflict with traditional concepts; and

WHEREAS, physicians in order to better fulfill their role, to improve the physician-patient relationship, and to form a right conscience of their own, should keep informed on matters which involve human life; and

WHEREAS, physicians are not necessarily authorities in moral matters and so should turn to authentic teachers for guidance; and

WHEREAS, Pope Paul VI, by virtue of his position as a direct successor of Peter, is the preeminent teacher among Christ's shepherds and has presented principles relating to faith and morals; and now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Catholic Physicians' Guilds, at its annual meeting in Miami Beach on December 1, 1968, acknowledges and supports the teaching and ushers its members to establish programs in degree related encyclicals and other sources of knowledge and understanding in order to increase insight into anti-life attitudes prevalent in our culture today, and to continue to better those elements that make possible a more scientific, and human solution to problems of society, family and life.

Dr. John Malone announced that the annual 1969 meeting of the N.F.C.P.G. would be held on November 29-30, at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado. The meeting will immediately precede the annual clinical meeting of the A.M.A. which also will be held in Denver.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Reardon Albers, M.D.
Secretary

National Commission on Human Life
Reproduction and Rhythm

The National Commission on Human Life Reproduction and Rhythm continues to meet periodically at O'Hare Inn, Chicago. Meetings are open to all interested parties. Members of the commission and guests customarily pay their own expenses. Sustaining membership is available for those not able to attend meetings on a regular basis, but who are interested in supporting the educational activities of the commission. Annual dues for sustaining membership is $100.00.

CHILD AND FAMILY

In the fall of 1967, the Commission became the publishers of CHILD AND FAMILY. It is a quarterly for professional people which reprints from the scientific literature those articles which illuminate traditional concepts of family, life and sex. Issues under its new editorialship have contained articles against abortion by clergymen of different denominations; Rollo Mays on "Antidotes for Abortion by Clergymen"; Bruno Bettelheim on "Infancy: Where Life Begins;" a series of articles on pitfalls in sex education; a round table on "Modern Baby and Child Care;" and surveys of the medical literature pertaining to the medical hazards of oral contraceptives. Articles on rhythm will appear on a continuing basis in future issues. Long editorial comments following major articles appear in each issue. Herbert Ratner, M.D., is Editor; Associate editors include Drs. John F. Hillabrand, Robert L. Jackson, William A. Lynch, Robert S. Mendelsohn, Grover C. Norbis and Gregory J. White. The Editorial Advisory Board consists of distinguished representatives from medicine, education, sociology and nursing. Issues, including the above articles, (Vol. 7, 1968) are still available to new subscribers. (See subscription blank below).

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ABORTION, RHYTHM AND LIFE

The 4th International Symposium on Abortion, Rhythm and Life will be held April 10, 11 and 12, 1969, at Ramada Inn, for which courtesy limousine service is available from Chicago O'Hare airport.

Although the meeting format will resemble previous Washington (1964), Kansas City (1965) and New York (1967) symposiums, the present symposium's emphasis will be pro-life.

Thursday, April 10, will consist of a pre-symposium progress report roundup of nation-wide anti-abortion and pro-rhythm activities. The keynote address on "Reverence for Life" will be delivered the same evening. The speaker will be Reverend Charles Carroll, Protestant Episcopal Chaplain at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center. Father Carroll will be remembered from previous meetings as inspiring, forceful and knowledgeable.

Friday and Saturday will be devoted to basic papers on human repro-
duction, rhythm, abortion, sexuality and threats to life values associated with modern social engineering and medical technology. Mrs. Jill Knight, member of the English House of Commons, will be one of the principal speakers. She will report on the aftermath of England's recently enacted abortion legislation and the existing and proposed relaxed abortion laws. Another featured speaker will be Dr. H. P. Dunn of Auckland, New Zealand, an expert on rhythm and an authority on the abortion issue. An internationally known psychiatrist will speak on problems associated with modern sexuality. Other prominent speakers will be talking on the various threats to human life and values confronting us.

State experiences with relaxed abortion laws and lessons to be learned in the fight against abortion in individual states will be reported on. Further steps in the organization of the National Association for the Protection of the Unborn and inter-cooperation of various Right To Life Committees are planned.

A letter of announcement has been sent to the Bishops of the United States and Canada urging them to send delegates to come from the fields of medicine, law, religion, nursing, sociology and other related disciplines.

Ford Foundation's recent million dollar grant to Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, to perfect rhythm and Rockefeller's recent two million dollar grant to the University of North Carolina to develop new methods of conception control because of the failure of present methods, emphasizes the timeliness and the importance of the 4th Symposium.

Registration and Guaranteed Reservation Rate Cards for Ramada Inn may be secured by writing to ISLAR (International Symposium on Life, Abortion and Rhythm), Box 508, Oak Park, IL 60303. The registration fee is $25.00.

Herbert Ratner, M.D.
Secretary.