

## ***ANALYSIS***

# **UN's 'World Population Day' report urges women in aging countries not to have more children**

Rather than increasing births, the UN recommends countries with collapsing fertility rates to promote 'gender equality' — meaning abortion and contraception.

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(LifeSiteNews) — The United Nations (U.N.) has published a new “State of the World Population” report that pushes for abortion and contraception to solve the world’s “population concerns” and argues that countries should not try to raise birth rates despite them being below-replacement level.

“Advancing gender equality is a crosscutting solution to many population concerns,” the U.N. Population Fund claimed in a statement regarding “World Population Day 2023.”

“Realizing sexual and reproductive health and rights for all is the foundation for gender equality, dignity and opportunity,” the statement continues.

As the U.N. has stated multiple times in their documents, the main solution to achieve “gender equality” is by strengthening “sexual and reproductive rights and health,” i.e., abortion and contraception.

In the U.N. Population Fund’s “State of the World Population 2023” report, the authors argue that “gender equality,” meaning access to abortion and contraception, is beneficial to all countries, and that even nations with below-replacement level fertility rates should not try to raise birth rates.

“In ageing, low-fertility countries with labour productivity concerns, achieving gender parity in the workforce is considered the most effective way to improve productivity and income growth,” the report states.

“In countries with declining fertility and ageing populations, ‘the needed rate of improvement [to labour productivity] depends on achieving gender parity in labour force

participation’ alongside increases in retirement age and increased or maintained levels of international migration, says the 2023 World Social Report, released by the United Nations Population Division (UN DESA, 2023).”

“The same study found that a push for higher fertility ‘would have a limited impact in increasing per capita income between 2020 and 2050’, and would also result in more dependent children, which would effectively undercut prospects for greater economic growth,” the U.N. report continues.

While it may be true that getting more women into the workforce increases economic growth in the short term, the long-term problem of low fertility rates and a shrinking domestic workforce are not addressed by the U.N. report.

The U.N. report fails to realize that increasing birth rates is a long-term solution and will obviously not have a large impact on per capita income until 2050, because children born today would likely need 25-30 years before entering the workforce. The report is clearly driven by a de-population agenda, as it advises against increasing birth rates despite collapsing populations in most industrialized countries.

### **UN wrongly claims banning abortion does not lead to fewer abortions**

The U.N. report continues to show that is driven by a pro-abortion agenda, as it argues that making abortion illegal does not decrease the number of abortions but only leads to more “unsafe abortion.”

“Demand for abortion — safe or unsafe — is unlikely to disappear given the persistently high incidence of unintended pregnancy (121 million per year, representing nearly half of all pregnancies [Bearak and others, 2020]), the horrifying ubiquity of sexual violence globally, and the fact that no method of contraception is foolproof,” the reports states.

“Still, policymakers continue to enact legal barriers to safe abortion, even as extensive research shows that restricting abortion does not result in fewer abortions. It only makes abortion unsafe, thereby ensuring that women are maimed or killed as a result,” the authors claim.

There are several issues with this line of reasoning. First and foremost, abortion always kills an unborn child and can therefore never be “safe.” Secondly, legal abortions can also lead to severe health complications for pregnant women, including death.

Moreover, the U.N. report cites a study from Jonathan Bearak et al., funded by the U.K. and Dutch governments, the U.N. itself, the pro-abortion WHO, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, as “proof” for their claim.

Bearak et al. compared the abortion rates of countries where abortion is broadly legal to countries where it is illegal or restricted and “found no evidence that abortion rates were lower in settings where abortion was restricted.”

Regarding the number of deaths from illegal abortions in countries where the practice is illegal, one has to consider that pro-abortion activists have admitted that they greatly exaggerated the number of women who died from illegal abortions in America prior to Roe v. Wade in 1973, showing that they were willing to lie to advance their agenda of legalizing abortion.

Even if the numbers that Bearak et al. cite are accurate, it does follow that banning or restricting abortion in a country does not lead to fewer abortions. In order to show that this proposition is true, one would have to compare abortion numbers in a country or state before and after restricting abortion.

In Romania for instance, abortion was outlawed in 1966 by Communist dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu, and in the following year, the number of abortions decreased by about 79%, according to official statistics. When abortion was legalized again in 1990 abortion rates skyrocketed again and increased by circa 80% compared to the numbers from 1989.

Since the reversal of Roe v. Wade in the U.S., evidence has shown that the number of abortions in the U.S. has gone down, as there were not only fewer abortions and higher birth rates in states that outlawed abortion, but the national rate also has declined overall.

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