



HLI MISSION REPORT

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By Emil Hagamu
and Joannes Bucher

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- ✳ **Ethnic Groups in Mauritius Face Extinction!**
- ✳ **New Feminist Government Leader Threatens the Culture of Life**
- ✳ **Mounting Pressure to Legalize Abortion in Mauritius**
- ✳ **Albania's All-Time Low Fertility Rate of 1.68**
- ✳ **HLI Evangelizes Multitudes Through Albanian Radio**
- ✳ **Medical Professionals Discuss Critical Bioethics Issues with HLI**
- ✳ **Anti-Life Agenda Proposes a "Year of the Condom"**



Dear HLI Friends and Supporters,

In our work around the world, HLI encounters and counteracts relentless attacks on life. This missionary spirit brought HLI Regional Coordinator Emil Hagamu to the little country of Mauritius for the first time. Looming under the threat of increasing governmental pressure to legalize abortion in that country, Emil shares how he engaged in critical networking with valiant pro-life pioneers who are so eager to receive HLI's help. After Emil's report, our Regional Coordinator for Europe shares about his missionary trip to Albania – a country facing dangerous population decline due to abortion. Read on to discover critical ways in which HLI is stemming the tide of the culture of death in these countries, which are in real need of our support and assistance.

MISSIONARY TRIP TO MAURITIUS—Reported by Emil Hagamu, May 2010.

On Saturday, May 15, 2010, I made my first missionary trip to the tiny but beautiful French-speaking island of Mauritius. I was warmly received by my hosts, Daniele and Jack Sauvage, who drove me directly to the Diocesan Catholic Center near St. Helen Catholic Church, where I would spend the rest of my stay in Mauritius.



Mauritius, whose population now stands at 1.2 million, is ageing. **There has been a sharp drop in its fertility rate**, especially among people of white decent. I spoke with my host’s friend, Monique, who expressed concern that **people of white descent, like herself, are becoming extinct simply because they are not reproducing themselves**. “I think my husband and I are the only people of white descent remaining on the entire Island,” Monique noted to me.

When traveling through this island, you will find the whole land covered by sugar-cane plantations, which is why it is called “a Sugar Cane Country.” The sugar industry has dominated the economy of this Island for many centuries. Another commercial crop grown in this Island is tea. The island is of volcanic origin, so you find remnants of hills and craters here and there, giving the island a unique topography. The majority of the people enjoy a high standard of living. The average *per capita* income is around \$26,000, making Mauritius a relatively rich nation compared to neighboring African countries. Although English is the official language, the majority of the people speak French. Creole is also widely spoken, sometimes interchangeably with English and French. While Catholicism and Hinduism co-exist peacefully, Islam is gaining a stronghold and is threatening the existence of other religions.



ACTIO FAMILIALE

In a meeting with my hosts, Daniele and Jack, I explained how Fr. Paul Marx began Human Life International and his efforts to plant the seeds of the culture of life around the world. I told them that our strategy is to create a strong opposition to the culture of death throughout the world, and thus **HLI has grown into a global movement that is now present in more than 100 countries.**

THE PRO-LIFE WISDOM
of
Fr. Paul Marx
THE APOSTLE OF LIFE

“One blessing in doing pro-life/pro-family work around the world is that you meet the greatest human beings and Christians. In many ways they are all alike in their convictions, their opposition, their persecution, their problems, and, I might say, their consolations. I find that there are no more committed Christians than those who are truly pro-life/pro-family; they see their work as quintessentially necessary for humanity and Church, since they are always dealing with the origins and development of both.”
— *Faithful for Life*, page 131.



Fr. Paul Marx

In turn, Jack and Daniele explained how they are promoting the culture of life in Mauritius through their organization called *Actio Familiale* (Family Action). Besides the pro-life outreach programs they do throughout the country, they also promote NFP education programs. They print a number of pro-life booklets and brochures. **They also have advocacy programs, through which they have been able to bring members of other religions as well as government leaders on board.** At the organizational level, they have a director, deputy director, heads of departments and 4 regional animators, one in each region. These regional animators are overseen by supervisors from a national office. I was blessed to visit this office on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 and saw with my own eyes the important work they do. And fortunately, Daniele, the director for *Actio Familiale*, is also the current president of Africa Family Life Federation, an organization that coordinates NFP organizations throughout Africa. I am proud to be part of this continental organization; I have been able to participate in the workshops and congresses since 2006.


At the end of our brief meeting, I gave Daniele and Jack pro-life materials, brochures, CDs, DVDs and booklets. HLI's task will now be to work with them in their various projects in defense of human life. **The major threat currently facing their country is a strong push to legalize abortion.** They have been able to resist the pro-abortion campaigns since 2003. But now the new Prime Minister has appointed a feminist to head the Ministry of Gender and Women Affairs. **Daniele and Jack fear that this feminist minister may push the abortion agenda even further.** Considering the support given to the government by population control groups and conditions favorable to abortion contained in the Maputo Protocol, where the abortion agenda is being marketed as women's rights, there is a need for the pro-life movement in Mauritius to be more vigilant proactive in their endeavors.



Emil Hagamu with Monique of the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Sileo, Mauritius.

MAURITIUS UNITES TO OPPOSE ABORTION

Actio Familiare has also worked with the Intercultural Committee, On Respect For Life, which is a loose national organization that coordinates the activities of all pro-life and pro-family organizations in Mauritius. It brings together people of all faiths and professions to work in defense of life. It functions on the advocacy level at moments of a real threat to human life. It was very active in 2003 when the campaign to legalize abortion was brought to the attention of the Mauritian people. It took action again last year when the abortion agenda re-emerged, being in large part pushed by the Maputo Protocol and the IPPF (Family Planning Association) of Mauritius. **This organization brought together *Actio Familiare* and *Movement d'Aide a la Maternite* (Movement for Maternal Assistance), as well as the Catholic Church and people of all faith traditions, to design a nationwide to oppose abortion.**



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AUDIENCE WITH THE BISHOP

On Wednesday, Daniele and Jack drove me to Port Louis, the capital city of Mauritius. Situated on a gulf and surrounded by mountainous landscape, this port is the most beautiful I have ever seen. Tall buildings stand just on the embankment of the seawater. It appears the area was dug out to allow big ships to sail right into the concrete pavements surrounding the gulf. On the pavement, beautiful photographs display scenes from different areas of the world, including sand dunes, marshy seashores and plain mineral deposits. After almost an hour of sightseeing, we drove to the cathedral, which lies just behind the harbor.

The bishop's house, built from old materials of stone and quarry limestone, is just a stone's throw from the cathedral. **We were fortunate to meet the bishop that day**, as he had a very tight schedule. Before our official meeting, Bishop Maurice E. Piat, C.C.Sp, invited us to sit on the verandah outside the office, offering us coffee and tea. He is very friendly, full of the hospitality that is characteristic of Mauritian people. During our brief stay, we exchanged information on the pro-life apostolate, as well as the anti-life encroachment into our countries. He said that since 2003, Mauritius has been under very strong pressure to legalize abortion. Sharing his ideas on the Maputo Protocol, he said it is sad to note that leaders in almost all African governments do not take time to reflect on the content of the document. Instead, they rush for quick gains at the expense of their people. **He noted that in a number of African countries the population is no longer growing, and some countries, like Mauritius, are experiencing population decline.** He echoed other pro-lifers' concerns in noting that the fertility rate is now below replacement level and some ethnic groups face extinction.



Emil with Bishop Maurice E. Piat, C.C.Sp.

I briefed him on HLI and our mission around the world. He seemed to be very impressed with our work. I told him about the many gifts God has bestowed on our president, Fr. Tomas Euteneuer, and that Fr. Tom's vision and zeal is to make HLI present everywhere the agents of the culture of death are, carrying out our mission to "create an effective opposition to the culture of death through prayer and education."

The bishop is the founder of *Actio Familiare*, and thanks also to Daniele and Jack, co-founders and pioneers, this organization is now present throughout Mauritius. Their main activity is to promote and teach NFP. In their outreach programs, they also teach pro-life topics and promote a pro-life mentality among the people. **The bishop was proud of the commitment and progress made by Actio Familiare, and he looks forward to becoming affiliated with HLI as soon as possible.** He prayed for HLI and the work we do in the Lord's vineyard. Needless to say, Bishop Maurice E. Piat, C.C.Sp. is profoundly pro-family and pro-life.

HLI – ACTIO FAMILIALE COLLABORATION

As already said, *Actio Familiare* is well established in Mauritius and is spreading the culture of life. **I can say confidently that HLI has found a useful and dependable ally.** My hope is that *Actio Familiare* will become an affiliate of HLI as soon as possible. After affiliation, their greatest immediate need will be our support through French-language material resources.

I will end my report by thanking God, who is the author of all our achievements. I thank Him for his guidance, especially in those countries where immigration formalities are overly strict. If not for His intervention, our

mission could be greatly jeopardized. I also give thanks for the very close cooperation I receive from the HLI Central staff, and more particularly for the efforts of the International Coordination office. The material and financial support I receive is very important for my coordination work. ***And above all, I extend my thanks to all HLI donors, without whom our mission would come to a standstill.***

MISSIONARY TRIP TO ALBANIA—Reported by Joannes Bucher, June 2010.

Is Albania a country with a future?

Looking back in history, we find that Albania has had a long tradition of strong families. However, after a long period of religious persecution from the communist government, abortion has now become a harsh reality. ***The fertility rate is at an all time low of 1.68; Albanian society is dying out at an exceedingly rapid rate.*** Albanian families with an average of 5.5 children per family (like in the sixties) are definitely a thing of the past. This gives rise to the question of whether there is still hope for the country.

MY VISIT TO ALBANIA

My travel companions in Albania were Dr. Antun Lisec, M.D., from Croatia, a pro-life pioneer in the Eastern hemisphere; and the executive director for *Caritas* (a Catholic International Relief Organization), Dr. Melijnda Goni.

We arrived at Mother Teresa Airport on June 16, 2010. The next day, early in the morning, we met with a local hospital director and doctor who is well-known in Albania for his pro-life statements. ***We discussed a plan to build a chapel for pregnant women who are at risk of choosing abortion and to offer them pro-life leaflets containing a list of contacts they could turn to for help.***



Joannes Bucher (right) with Bishop Georg Frendo of Albania.

In the afternoon, we spoke with the Right Reverend Georg Frendo. This auxiliary bishop praised how determinedly pro-lifers are fighting the “Death Peddlers” (abortion promoters) in Albania. He delivered an impressive homily during the Holy Mass; the thrust of his sermon focused on the maxim: “Life is precious!” I was struck by this realization: ***if only all Albanian bishops would stand up together for LIFE, how fruitful they could be!***

We spent the evening as guests on the radio station Radio Maria, asking our listeners to pray and fast in order to help women and men welcome the fruit of the womb. We also tried to enlighten our listeners on fundamental pro-life matters.

On Friday, June 18, we saw the beautiful northern part of the country. We gave a lecture to the medical doctors in *Materniteti Mbreteresha Geraldin*, discussing bioethics and taking questions for a full hour. ***Our discussions really showed me how critically important it is to discuss pro-life issues with medical professionals.***

One of the things we have learned from the worldwide abortion debate is that ***it has been largely a battle over words.*** There is a rule in political science that says: “Verbal engineering always precedes social engineering.” This means that if you are going to manipulate people, you must first influence their speech habits. The mass media

avoid words like “the killing of unborn children,” “rejecting a gift of the Lord,” and “the fruit of the womb.” Instead, they use phrases like, “interruption of pregnancy” or “termination of pregnancy.” Such phrases cause reality to slowly disappear under a blanket of semantic sophistry, having an impact on the whole society.

VALIANT PRO-LIFE APOSTLES

Mother Teresa’s sisters in Durres welcomed us during a visit to their home for the elderly. **I told the elderly that if they offer up their suffering in union with Christ’s, they can be most effective pro-life apostles.** There is an impressive story about a nun who often protested outside an abortion mill. When she found out that she had developed cancer, she said, “Jesus, I give you my cancer, I don’t want to be healed, but please close this ‘killing center.’” **She died on Childermas Day (Holy Innocents Day, December 28, which commemorates the slaughtering of the infants by Herod), and, amazingly, the following day, the abortion clinic was shut down,** due to deplorable and unsanitary conditions. We must remember: every small or great suffering endured and every small or great sacrifice offered in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will have an unbelievable impact on the culture of life.

After Holy Mass at the Heart of Jesus and Don Bosco Church in Tirana, we had a powerful discussion with some very motivated persons from the parish. **I have great hope that our discussion will bear fruit through prayer vigils and sidewalk counseling.**



A talk given in the Basilica of Tirana, Albania.

THE URGENCY OF THE HOUR

If we realize the weight of the tragedy of 55 million abortions around the world every year, we can also understand what **Msgr. P. Reilly said: “Behind abortion is a spiritual war – it is evil!”** John Paul II coined the words that epitomize the enemy’s fruit in this war on life when he called it a **“culture of death.”** This Holy Father saw the whole picture, not just the visible but also the spiritual reality taking place. He warned us in his Encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*, that “urgent prayer is needed” (no. 100).

Msgr. Reilly of New York has responded to John Paul II’s urgent call to battle with not only prayer, but also sidewalk counseling. His prayer vigils, with the Helpers of God’s Precious Infants, are were held once a month and included the celebration of Mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for adoration and then a procession to abortion centers. At the centers, he and his helpers distribute pro-life information to women who were going in to have abortions. **He has had tremendous success; in the course of seven years, 37 abortion centers have been closed, and thousands of women have changed their minds, deciding to allow their babies to continue to live!**

In Austria, we have adopted Msgr. Reilly’s model. In 13 years, **over 13,000 babies have been saved, and four abortion centers have been shut down!** Msgr. Reilly’s model could be used in every country that suffers from abortion-on-demand. We cannot change the hearts of women, but we can, first of all, pray to God that HE changes their minds and hearts, and then **we have the responsibility to bring these women real help.** This is such a grace!

FAMILY PLANNING, GOD'S WAY

Another point for reflection is that, although the world promotes contraception, Catholics must be cognizant of the fact that it is a sin, fostering promiscuity and ultimately the culture of death.¹ If we separate sex from love, the final consequence is often abortion; a large number of pregnancies and abortions happen because contraceptives fail. A pronounced contraceptive mentality fosters a frivolous abortion mentality. We must furthermore be aware that a lot of contraceptives are actually abortifacients! **We cannot even know how many children are killed by “contraceptives.”**

Albania gave the world an incredible saint, Mother Teresa, who was always ready to speak in defense of life and to promote Natural Family Planning (NFP) to couples. If a couple really does need to avoid pregnancy for a time, the Church allows for NFP, which, unlike artificial contraception, respects life and spouses and allows every marital act to remain open to a new child, in accord with God's design. Notably, Catholic couples using NFP have a less than 1% divorce rate.² NFP also has a success rate far superior to that of artificial contraceptives; science has shown that 1 condom out of 12 fails and that condoms do not effectively prevent sexually transmitted diseases.

ANTI-LIFE AGENDA

On Sunday we had the opportunity of giving a lecture after Holy Mass, and Archbishop Rrok K. Mirdita was kind enough to welcome us. Dr. Antun discussed with him how an organization called the Anti-Life Agenda works for the glory of death in Albania. **They want to establish a “year of the condom” next year!** The power and money of the Anti-Life Agenda has had a disastrous impact on the Albanian nation; they have been spreading an anti-life contraceptive mentality, always invoking “a woman's right to choose.” The Anti-Life Agenda has a direct connection with the government and is able to lull women into a false sense of security.

We have to face the truth about the silent war against unborn babies. Who will take care of them? Who is going to unmask the deceptive technical term “sexual and reproductive health?”

Albanian Christians will have to stand up and fight for their children. HLI is eager to help! To start, in a few months **we will print 5,000 copies of the booklet, *Miriam Why are You Crying?*** In Europe the book has turned out to be tremendously successful, helping so many women choose life and fostering healing for those who have already chosen abortion. By reading the testimonies in the book, women realize they are not alone in their suffering and allowing themselves time to grieve is a critical first step in the healing process.



Joannes speaks to medical doctors in Albania.

It will also be important to build a crisis pregnancy center in Albania in order to offer counsel and help to women in need. I firmly believe that if more people join us in prayer, especially in vigils at abortion mills, God

¹ <http://www.lifesitenews.com/ldn/2010/jun/10061003.html>

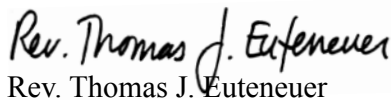
² http://www.kirchen.net/upload/37213_NER_Survey_2008_Cathol_Soc_Sci_Rev_int.pdf

will generously provide for a pro-life crisis pregnancy center.³ We must also encourage the bishops in Albania to promote critical pro-life issues at regular times every year. **Additional potential pro-life endeavors in Albania include the organization of pro-life marches and conventions, such as bioethics conferences.**

So, let's fulfill with all zeal and love what a great pope once called us all to do: "You are called to stand up for life! To respect and defend the mystery of life always and everywhere, including the lives of unborn babies, giving real help and encouragement to mothers in difficult situations. ***You are called to work and pray against abortion***" (Pope John Paul II).

Dear friends, Johannes reminds us of our universal call, in the urgency of the hour, to work and pray for an end to abortion! In your support of HLI, together we are making a valiant stand. Thank you for your generous prayers and financial contributions, which enable us to be on the frontlines, in defense of the most innocent of God's children.

God bless you always!



Rev. Thomas J. Euteneuer

President

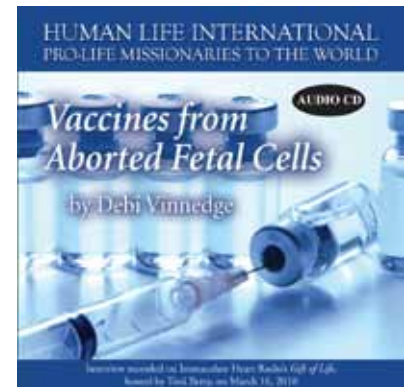
P.S.—This month, to thank you for your contribution of \$49 or more to Human Life International's mission to defend and promote life around the world, **I would like to send you a CD of an interview with Debi Vinnedge of Children of God for Life called *Vaccines from Aborted Fetal Cells*.** This interview was given on Immaculate Heart Radio's *Gift of Life* program, hosted by Toni Berry.

In this stunning interview, Debi Vinnedge reveals the hidden truth about vaccines. Several vaccines that doctors recommend, and that many school systems require, including those for Polio, M-M-R, Chickenpox, Hepatitis-A, Rabies and Shingles, were made using cell lines from aborted children. **Some of these vaccines even have a moral alternative, yet the tainted vaccines are still used!**

Learn more about these vaccines, as well as other disturbing facts about cosmetics derived from aborted fetal cell lines (such as Neocutis anti-aging skin cream) and food products from companies such as Coca-cola, Campbells, Nestle, Pepsi, and Cadbury ***tested on aborted baby body parts through a company called Senomyx.*** Learn about the hidden link between vaccines and autism, which has never been studied as it relates to the use of aborted fetal cell lines, even with the striking evidence supporting the connection.

Visit www.cogforlife.org and get involved! Tell Congress that you want full disclosure to consumers and the medical community whenever aborted fetal materials are used in a vaccine or drug. See the evidence proving these vaccines were derived from aborted fetal material and print it out to show your doctor. **Learn about alternative vaccines.**

Please send \$49 or more to HLI today and I'll give you this enlightening interview that will open your eyes to the truth and prepare you to reveal it to the world!



The audio CD, "Vaccines from Aborted Fetal Cells" is our gift to you this month in appreciation for your financial support of \$49 or more!

³ View prayer-vigils at: <http://www.helpersbrooklynny.org/> and <http://helperslibrary.info/>