

Broken Branches

"Take courage! God has healing in store for you; so take courage" (Tb. 5:10)

ISSUE 133 - Oct/Nov 2019

Conjugal Honour (Casti Connubii Pius XI).

Love of husband and wife joined together in pure intimacy.

Contemporary society seems to have lost the understanding and the meaning of conjugal honour (Casti Connubii, citing the Angelic Doctor) or even the will or knowledge of how to protect conjugal honour.

Why?

Perhaps many reasons can be cited for this loss of knowledge but first what might we call conjugal honour? My understanding of conjugal honour is that union between husband and wife in which no other can share or enter in. Only a trothed couple may share that conjugal honour. That intimate community which resembles that of the divine community. A community where life abides. No other community can say that they contain that mystery which is in married state with all its secrecy, laws, language and love. No other community demands such honour as does the conjugal community.

It's in this community which both (husband and wife) enter and vow to remain united until the time comes for one or the other or both to go. Sometimes leaving the community individually at other times together, hand in hand, they move to that greater community of which their own conjugal community was a forerunner and foretaste of. We have in our contemporary time, in our day lost the sense of conjugal honour and its meaning because of the slow changes in sexual understanding and morality which has entered this time.

"It was because you were unteachable" he said "that Moses allowed you o divorce your wives, but it was not so from the beginning" (Mt 19:8).

It's because in the past two generations we have been found to be unteachable and a pseudo type of relationship became confused with conjugal intimacy and conjugal honour. A forced and artificial application of the conjugal state has been forced upon society. A societal invention. A pseudo conjugal state which cannot even contemplate but only simulate the intimate community where conjugal honour resides and its where "life" can abide.

Beginning with "living together" which can be said to be a trial run or even a probation marriage where if difficulties appear the intimate community of the couple can be disbanded or even when desires wane and something new is sought then that community which can envelope and protect life is abandoned.

The couple entering pseudo marriage cannot establish the intimate community which lasts the term of life, the same life that they hide from view because of the agreed temporariness of their pledge based only on physical responses. Otherwise the union would be sought to be made whole and total. The Conjugal union would be so honoured that it would seem to be right that that union be protected from intrusion into that intimate community so that life residing there would know that honour.

Probation intimacy, divorce, make to fade that intimate community (where love abides) because both are a rejection or refusal of that knowledge about conjugal honour. Conjugal honour has slowly been withdrawn from the intimacy of the couple.

Rejection of conjugal honour cannot see that in every woman is written the code word "mother." In that conjugal community "mother" has a special meaning. And male has the code word "father" with its own special meaning. These two words are the result of honour given to both who've entered that special intimate community which constitutes married state or marriage. Conjugal honour is deeply written into the sexual act and may not to be violated because "it was not so in the beginning" (Mt 19:8.)

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Loss of conjugal reverence has led to abortion to exponential growth. Loss of knowledge about conjugal reverence has meant that there are several generations who have not known or been taught about holiness of the body and how the body has been designed to be honoured because it has been created to be a part of an intimate community in the image of divine, because like the divine it was designed to perpetuate life. Not a group or community of people gathering with the same beliefs and ideals but an intimate community so holy and where only two may enter and be held together there to continue the work of furthering creation. The template community designed by God “in our own image” (Gn1:27). This new intimate community is to imitate that love and life.

We have abortion to horrendous degrees. We have purposely sterile relationships. We have death demanding calls, because first there was a loss of honour. Loss of conjugal honour. Loss of conjugal awe. Loss of conjugal reverence and unholy intrusion into that space of intimacy where only honour, respect, reverence, and awe should have abided because this sacred place is the office of the nature of love. The understanding what intimate love is and be manifested.

Modern sexual couplings (experimental/life choices/refusal of conjugal intimacy) cannot declare conjugal honour because of the pseudo nature of that intimacy fails part of its mandate, donation from him to her and her to him and their individual donation gives a gift of wholly and completely of themselves to the other. No other can ever replicate the original donation.

Within every marriage there abide three persons, the husband, wife and Holy Spirit (lord and giver of life) who enters the union and remains. The spirit does not know how to be party to fourth or fifth, sixth, intrusion. The holiness of that union is so because the Spirit has accepted the vow of fidelity and the spirit does not know how to be unfaithful.

Understanding of the language of the body not in prudishness but with respect, reverence and awe because it's the way God deemed the mystery of life. A return to the understanding of how God desired life must needs be the new overtures spoken to humankind which must speak again to man and woman and speak to them of their precious spousal nature which is not to be used and abused, discarded, because reverence for their bodies has been rejected and the community of intimacy invaded and the gift designed in that community, the infant discarded, but they are to hear their true story which is that they have been created for life and great honour.

The new language must the speak truth within these times, the truth which has been lost or even forgotten or a distant memory, as the echo of something which happened long ago. It must speak of the conjugal mystery an honour due to it which tabernacles life. It must do this because due to the loss of such knowledge the language spoken in this day serves death. The new language for recovery of treasures of the Garden (conjugal intimacy) must speak of Holiness and speak the word life.

Dear friends I hope you like the above I began thinking about this and its meaning when I came across the words “conjugal honour”. I have pondered much about this as I scan our society and its trajectory.

In a recent article run by *LifeNews* appeared the story of a New Zealand woman who aborted six babies and was OK with that. She made a comment which pricked my ears and sent alarm bells ringing. “I knew I didn't want them inside me” This should have really screamed out to the abortion facility and those around her that she must have kept attending to have her abortions. It should have screamed to them that there was a problem, a different problem than what she was

presenting with. The words “I didn’t want them inside me” speaks of an intrusion of something which she did not want inside her. Some alien or foreign object which coursed fear through her.

The article went on to suggest that she is suppressing deep suffering with the thought that her abortions “were the right thing to do”

This is not right. This is another story.

Indeed she is suppressing deep suffering but the bigger suffering is not the abortions (for present time) but something else which she cannot speak about.

“I knew I didn’t want them inside me” evoked for her a memory of something else inside of her. A “foreign object” which she didn’t want inside her. These new foreign objects (babies) also reminded her of past “objects” and this more so because they were sexually related.

Whilst we can say that the abortion industry does promote the idea that abortion is not harmful and for the most part those who want to go through the abortion lean towards the abortion industry’s teachings because that’s what they want to hear for that time, abortion grief needs to be completely understood if there is a possibility of healing.

Making erratic statements just to confirm our cause is no different than what the abortion industry does.

We know factually that abortion/s do huge harm. The plethora of studies can no longer be denied and this particular woman would be suffering from grief and regret but there is more to her multiple abortions and the “more” is what led to her single or then multiple abortions.

The pathos in her story speaks of horror, total lack of self-esteem, lack of understanding about her abortions. Vacillating in her language. Intentionally not using birth control is consistent with her behaviour and language even though she knew she didn’t want “it inside of her” Not using birth control if she didn’t want babies means that she has no self-care or is even self-punishing, like self-mutilation. It’s her type of self-mutilation. She feels lost. She has no direction. She’s disassociated from her body. The thing that gnaws at her and keeps her captive so she does not take care of herself, to want good for self is an unspeakable trauma. She can speak about her abortions which are open, and her perceived reasons for them, and of course she would be thinking

that her abortions were the right thing for her to do because she reasoned reasons.

Why? ***Because she “didn’t want them inside her”***

It is written in this article that her story is heartbreaking and indeed it is, but the greatest heartbreak is the fact that no one asked her why she didn’t want them inside her and long

term care, not to do with abortions, because this comes after, but to speak about the other pain she carries within her but she cannot speak about.

Whilst she says that she is “plagued” by her abortions she also says that the Bill going through the New Zealand government is good and will help others like her.

There is a mass of contradictions and she is repeating words others want to hear.

This is her “15 minutes”

This is a time when someone has made her feel important, because she is thinking that she will be listened to by important people. Some people have paid her attention.

The woman’s history of abortion after abortion is a litany of self-abuse, lack of self-care and abandonment.

“I didn’t want them inside me”

About a year later, she said she became pregnant again, and again, she admitted that she was not using birth control consistently. Again no self-care and no responsibility about what would happen to her body. A body she had detached from. The “*I didn’t want it inside me*” was loud and strong.

More confusion with her hating herself after her second abortion and “I hated myself for a long time. I had killed another baby” “so I took more drugs and alcohol to drown out the pain,”

Writes this journalist and indeed it is well known in all studies that abortion leads to substance abuse, suicide ideation, suicide attempts, depression, etc etc etc.

But again, beneath her depression and substance abuse and suicide ideation there was another trauma now being compounded by abortions. And it was the other trauma which needed to be surfaced before the abortions would stop.

Studies into abortion grief all speak of mental health issues but the severity of these mental health issues also requires that the cause of the abortion / abortions is visited especially when there are so many abortions in the history of the woman.

It's true that the abortion industry and facilities diminish the possible severity of abortion grief and this done by using an imageless language, a separation of her being from that of her baby, and a promise that there is always the possibility of having another, this time, wanted child.

This woman continued on her abortion trail having four more abortions, and still no questions asked "At one point," she said, she did consider making an adoption plan instead of having an abortion, but she convinced herself that it would be easier to end her baby's life than give her child a loving home with another family"

This should have rung more alarm bells even to the most pro-abortion or pro-life individual. She convinced herself that it would be better to "end" her baby's life (very distanced from her conception-baby) than to give the child up for adoption. More "cutting out bits of men" (another multiple aborter) though temporarily she had considered an adoption plan but in the end refused to go through with it.

Similar to her past trauma where she was the victim and she couldn't stop what was happening, her child like herself, was also a victim and couldn't stop what was happening.

The journalist suggests that the woman "still struggles" with her abortions but she does not admit that her pain is "legitimate" and that the root of her pain is her decision to end her babies lives.

This journalist is parroting words she has read in other pro-life writings. The woman struggles to try and understand her abortions but I don't believe, unlike the author of this piece, that she recognizes or understands or truly does not believe that the root of her pain is her abortions. *Because it is not.* The woman understands this herself but cannot connect dots. Her pain is related to her own loss, her own loss of innocence. Her own inner little child who "didn't want them inside her" This speaks volumes. Who were the "them?" And when and who were they "inside her?"

This story has been used as an abortion related selection but it's the story of a woman who grew up without the needs and protections of any child. She grew up enduring unutterable pain and fear and she grew up never having been shown "clean" love or guidance, self-esteem, encouragement and how to look towards her development, growth and the future. She

grew up with a huge unresolved trauma the outcome of her abortions could not have been any different.

Her dull sounding words and thoughts, her distancing from the babies (that's where I buried my fifth and sixth terminations" (terminations....imageless.) "I wish I had buried my other terminations" (terminations....imageless). Naming of her baby? Hmmm...

"I wish I had buried my other terminations. It made me feel a lot more at ease," said the woman. Burying her "terminations" made her easy? Perhaps small intimation of the "baby".

A mother wanting to bury her "terminations?" and it would have made her more at ease? Disassociation. The rest of the journalist's comments are standard abortion grief thoughts found on any website. Yes abortion industry lies to women encourages them to abort, tells them that all will be ok that their grief will be short lived and then back to normal.

The reality is that abortion grief is very real but in stories like the above it's brought to the reader as a "dramatic exposé" and the real reason behind her story is not touched upon. This really upsets me because it's not care for the woman. She doesn't matter because if she did matter her care would have come first.

I felt a deep deep pain for her because still she has not dealt with the real issue behind her multiple abortions and this is what is causing her the deepest pain and her abortions mask the reason for such pain, such life lived in shadows and even colorless voice.

It's a real pity that the journalist just "reported" and did not see the real pain because the pain over her abortions has not even begun to scratch the surface.

When I read the words "I didn't want them inside me" I felt a deep anger not only for what had happened to her in her history but because she had been left to plod through life carrying such a load of pain.

Dear friends in my last issue of newsletter (issue 132) I spoke about a service that some abortion facilities offer the aborting women, that is, the services of a Doula. A doula is meant to be a pregnancy and delivery support, one could say, companion for this last part of the journey.

Abortion facilities have taken this noble task and now use it to stand by the woman as she has her abortion,

then her job is to calm her down and allay her fears. Etc. It seems that abortion facilities (never use the word clinics because clinic implies medical care, healing not killing) are able to take some beautiful life element and turn it into something grotesque.

A new "service" came to my attention in early September. Service whereby a late term abortionist in USA (Dr? Leroy Carhart) offers to the aborting woman/parents the opportunity of viewing, holding, cuddling, taking photos, having a footprint of the baby, funeral services. This after the baby has been killed by abortion and delivered dead.

I must admit to sitting down and shedding many tears of anger and frustration. After twenty three years I keep thinking that I cannot hear anything more that will distress me but yes this story broke my heart.

I've held a dead baby (not abortion) in my arms over thirty years ago and then followed with the mum behind the tiny white coffin and to this day I cannot forget the look of the dead infant or the unnatural stillness of her mother. Her mother was in shock and distant. Away. During the burial she did not look at the tiny coffin, or little doll like infant. Holding her hand it was like holding the hand of a person dying. Cold. No tears, just not there.

I've seen my week old baby sister in her little white coffin and remember the look on her face. Her gently closed eyes and beautiful lashes. I can still see them. This over 45 years ago. I remember the coffin sitting on our laps in Dad's car and his stoic face as we drove to the cemetery (mum still ill in hospital) to bury her. I still have her certificate and her plot number. I remember the awful grey, different, unusual weird colour on her face and her gently closed eyes.

Like they would open any minute and she would smile. Like a little baby doll in a beautiful white lacy dress and such tiny hands. I remember Carmelina and the image of her and the image of my friend's baby and I remember the image of our family friends whose 7 month old little boy died of SIDS and the parents so still. Not crying. Just still.

These images of death of infants never go away because the death of a baby is so unnatural. It's not meant to happen that way. Babies are born and they grow and become older and so forth. And when they die through miscarriage or stillbirth (unintentional death) are never forgotten. The day, time, moment remembered.

So how can this abortionist invite parents who have ASKED that their baby be killed by him in some gruesome method then offer them what he considers consolation?

How can he offer spiritual recommendations? How can he offer or place in their minds an image of the infant that they asked to have killed and then this image, in the dark of night returns to memory to haunt them. ?

How can he suggest that they hold the baby that he killed at their request?

How can he suggest a viewing, just like any "normal" death?

How can he suggest that once the process of healing begins they might want a memory of their child? If the abortion and death requires a "process of healing" then surely the murder of their child must mean something to them because there is a "process of healing" which will happen.

How can he convince himself and others that he and his practice offer the parents "kindness, courtesy, justice, love and respect for over 45 years?"

Who's the courtesy, kindness etc. for? The Parents? what about the baby? Big enough to be viable, what does he offer the child? A Potassium injection to the heart, Partial birth abortion or some other more gruesome death?

Has he killed so many babies that he has lost all sense of right and wrong? All sense of humanity? All sense of being himself human being. Of simply feeling. This surely must be it.

What kind of wickedness has overcome this society that these things can happen? Are these deaths sacrifices to atone for the sins of parents, women eating of the fruit again, and men being absent, society, and humanity?

He has much information on his website which one can read with horror and shudders. He does not shy away from the term "baby" he knows what he is doing. Indeed his response in an interview when asked if he has a problem with killing a baby, he said "I have no problem if it's in the mother's uterus"

Is this where the theory about a child not being human being until it is outside of the mother's body? So what is it immediately after the birth if not the same baby before birth or is this law cop out?

We gave to Caesar something that he should never have had and I suppose Caesar plays god with it.

Letters

To offset the previous article about the abortionist I read something beautiful recently and will share with you so that we are not left with there is no hope though I must admit that sometimes I find myself thinking that.

The short article which appeared in Vatican News is beautiful “Card. Parolin: Healthcare not just heals but also accompanies and safeguards”

The Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Parolin in a recent address to staff at the Vatican Bambino Gesù Paediatric Hospital in Rome, spoke words of both encouragement and praise for the work done by this largest children’s hospital in Europe and praised the achievements of those involved in the work of healing children and very young teenagers.

He was able to remind the listeners that the Pope HH Pope Francis said “those who take care of the little ones are on God’s side and defeat the culture of waste.”

He spoke other beautiful words but these affect me much especially with the work that I do “We have the task of stating that there are incurable diseases, but no untreatable diseases because caring does not only mean healing but also accompanying and safeguarding.” And reminded the listeners that the Holy Father and those who love life know that life is totally the domain of God. Life is not about politics it’s about a mandate and gift of the Divine.

The words of the Pope to “defeat the culture of waste” are very much at the heart of pro-life workers. To defeat the culture of waste” Alternatively the abortion industry knows and encourages nothing but toss away as waste unwanted life. So what is tossed away as waste is Life.

The abortion industry as we see with abortionist, Leroy Carhart, Kermit Gosnell,, Marie Stopes Australia, et al. have absolutely no respect for “life” and in our midst playing out a new death and throw away life is the euthanasia and assisted suicide lobby groups. A new group lauding death. A new group who refuses to care and simply throw away inconvenient life.e.g Vincent Lambert (France)

Just like the abortion industry which began softly softly till as you know we now have infanticide, so too this new lobby will start softly softly till the time when all who are not “perfect” or healthy or convenient will have no place within the human race. It will make the desires of past despots who desired the perfect society will seem

Dear Anne,

Thank you for your latest newsletter and telling us about the uplifting story of the young nurse and her love for her baby. May she be blessed forever.

God bless Frances.

Thank you darling Frances for your ongoing support and yes I really loved writing about her story. Usually I have to write about sad this but this story made my heart jump with joy when I was first told.....Anne

Dear friends not many letters to share with you.
Anne

placid. Hitler's racial policy and the master race will seem passé

As with the abortion advocates who slowly slowly introduced their death of babies agenda, so too will the euthanasia, assisted suicide lobby will slowly slowly introduce first euthanasia for very elderly, very ill, very ill and disabled as candidates for the syringe but in due course this will increase to include undesirables, those ill and cost the state or country too much to maintain and others still to be considered.

The throw away culture which Pope Francis spoke about has found roots and sprouting tree is growing bigger and bigger.

We need such an infusion of holiness unlike any other time in history.

Dear friends as I come to the end of this newsletter please forgive any of my words which might offend you.

Please continue to pray for my "girls" and two new ones two add to my Melbourne clients one of whom is a male. In both areas that I work in.

Please continue to pray for me and my back to stop its pain and pray for the two plus 1 occasional client here in Perth. Please also pray for my son Mark and his precious soul that it's in His divine care.

I haven't actively sought new clients or visit pregnancy centres or others who may have a need of my services because I didn't have an office and work in coffee shop is not quite the same.

However yes, yes, yes I have an office!!!! And it's close to home so that I can walk to it. It's 3 streets away and takes (in my slow walk) 15-20 minutes to walk to it. It's very close to my post office, in fact I have to pass by my post office to get to office.

It will become available to me in 2 weeks and I will have to spruce it up because it's gloomy and my work demands light, sunshine, green, serenity. But I will do

as much as I can as soon as I get hold of keys. I have kept in care the funds the small handful of supporters continued to send me and will be able to make it look beautiful. Buy sitting facilities, etc.

It's a small studio apartment and it's great because it's got bathroom facilities inside and it's got a small kitchenette so I can make coffees.

There are public transport facilities right outside the door because it's a main city street (for my friends in Perth- Hay Street East Perth) and free street parking!!!! Too bad not allowed to drive ☺

So thank you dear friends for keeping faith with me during these past 8-9 months of horror in my life. (Move to Perth, suicide of son Mark, spinal fusion surgery and complication from a large seizure where I fell and hurt my head. It's OK now) As soon as I can I will slowly slip into work again.

I want to make such a huge difference because of all the sufferings of the past 9 months.

Please I now ask for \$\$\$\$\$\$ support I have not asked this past time because all I was doing was little counselling and fair bit of writing.

Till we meet again, bless you, and thank you.



Anne Lastman

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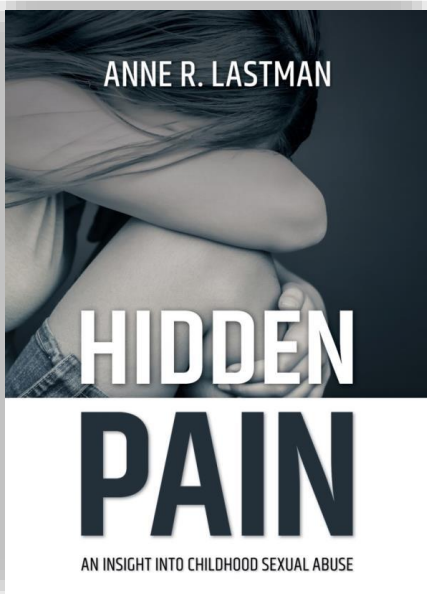
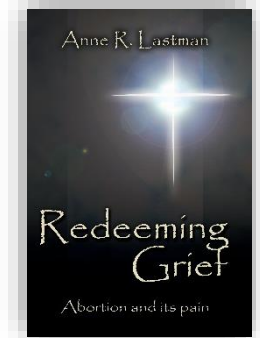
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HIDDEN PAIN is written about memories which are hidden and cannot be spoken out loud. It is a book about shame, pain, sorrow and lives which have gone wrong both for victims, families, and perpetrators. Sexual abuse of children is common in all communities, in all societies, and yet it's still one of the last remaining taboos. It is something which cannot be spoken about because it's so awful, so inappropriate that it cannot be discussed. Yet discussed it must be, because the children are crying and pleading to be helped.

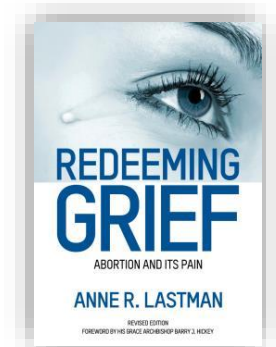
This is not a step by step guide to dealing with abuse. It is the result of my engagement with those who have come to me originally for post abortion counselling and on further investigation it was found that abuse (especially in cases of multiple abortions) existed in their history. It is my hope that **HIDDEN PAIN** can be of help to those who read it and more so be vigilant and not to turn away when a child is suffering.

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