## University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin April 3, 1943

## Birth Control Program - You Must Fight It.

The world is in a terrible mess. Brother is killing brother in war. There are husbands and wives and unmarried couples killing their unborn children by abortion at the hands of medical men who have lost every sense of right and wrong. There are employers creating sweat shop conditions and paying unjust wages. Likewise, there are employees cheating employers. Everywhere there are movies, magazines, entertainments catering to the baser instincts in young and old.

This is the world in which you live. Our Blessed Lord asks YOU to change it, to redeem it, to be APOSTLES in bringing nations, families and individuals to His feet.

One of your apostolic labors will be to fight Birth Control. Don't remain unconcerned about this vice. It is ruining the nation and families now. And it is sending souls to hell. The following editorial taken from OUR SUNDAY VISITOR will help you form an idea of the zeal of the apostles of sin:

TIDE, a news maga ine for the advertising and marketing trade, warns that we "may hear a great deal more about planned parenthood, because 15 more big war manufacturers will soon start campaigns to give their women workers birth control education. Reason: the high rate of absenteeism due to pregnancies and abortions."

Such a campaign was not unexpected. It was anticipated in the first announcements of the 1943 fund campaign of the Birth Control Federation of America. This campaign seeks to raise \$289,693 as Father Edgar Schmiedeler, O.S.B., puts it, "to carry forward the birth controllers' program of national decay and destruction." Initial gift and the largest ever received by the Birth Control Federation, was \$50,000 donated by A.D. Lasker, retired advertising executive and former chairman of the United States Shipping Board.

The campaign which TIDE predicts may be assumed to be prompted in large part by the propaganda of the Birth Control Federation which claims to be aiding the war effort. What their efforts have contributed is well explained by Father Schmiedeler in these words:

"Aiding the war effort indeed: Already has this nefarious preachment gone so far that 43 per cent of all American women have no child or only one child while two-thirds of them have fewer children than even the average number necessary to sustain the nation's population. How much are these childless and near-childless spacers aiding the war effort? Granted that at least half their lean crop of children are girls, how far would the defense of the country get if it depended upon them? And to what extent is it due to this lean crop that so many women now are in defense industries?

What the birth control advocates do not emphasize is that with the increase of birth control there comes also an increase in the number of abortions . . . In the face of the propaganda campaign of the Birth control Federation of America the Supreme Court of the United States has upheld the constitutionality of Connecticut's anti-contraceptive law which forbids physicians to advise or prescribe the use of contraceptives.