

A monthly Keflection on the 50 th Anniversary of **Humanae Vitae**

Edition Nº 9

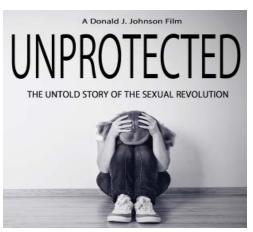
2018

to the Clergy, to the Faithful and to All Men and Women of Good Will

This is who Blessed Pope Paul VI addressed, when he issued his encyclical July 25, 1968 articulating the timeless teaching of the Catholic Church on the "regulation of birth". This Faithful to God's Design monthly news is an invitation to all of us--ALL MEN and WOMEN OF GOOD WILL---to reflect on these truths, during this anniversary year, 50 years later.

UNPROTECTED - THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION BY DON JOHNSON

I didn't set out to make a movie about contraception. After all, in a country where sex without babies is largely considered



a basic human necessity like air and water, telling a story about the disastrous consequences rendering of the conjugal act sterile doesn't seem like a great way to attract a huge audience.

However, a strange thing happened on the way to producing the next great American blockbuster: two of my daughters became teenagers.

Raising girls today is ridiculously challenging. I know that every generation thinks they have a uniquely difficult place in history, but none of my ancestors had to face the barrage of sexually explicit material that young women are bombarded with each day. From music to movies to Instagram feeds to naked pictures sent from their classmates, girls today are constantly told that they exist as sex objects for men. On top of that, the pressure on young women to "have it all" in life is stress inducing and soul crushing. It's not surprising to me that depression rates among teenage girls have skyrocketed over the past few decades.

It's enough to make a dad throw his hands up in despair and move his family off the grid completely. Or make a documentary about how we got into this mess. I chose the latter.

Humanae Vitae Says....

The responsible exercise of parenthood implies, therefore, that husband and wife recognize fully their own duties toward God, toward themselves, toward the family and toward society, in a correct hierarchy of values.

The obvious place to start looking was the sexual revolution of the Sixties. As I researched the work of Betty Friedan, Helen Gurley Brown, and Margaret Sanger, among others, the link between the ideas they promoted and the culture my daughters are facing was clear. What I didn't realize when I started studying, though, was just how important contraception was to these developments. The birth control pill came on the market in 1960 and, as Janet Smith explains in the film, it was "The fuel that made the sexual revolution run." We simply wouldn't be in this mess without it.

Thankfully, God did not leave us without a witness and a way out. My research also led me to the man who predicted all this, Pope Paul VI, and his prophetic encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*. At that point I realized that this was a story that rivaled anything Hollywood had to offer.

Don Johnson, Executive Producer of **Unprotected**, was excited to share his film with the world for the very first time at the *Unprotected national premiere* at the 50th anniversary celebration of *Humanae Vitae* at California's Ontario Convention Center on July 27, 2018. It is now being shown in screenings in local theaters and parishes throughout the country. To view a trailer of the film, and see how it is being used to encourage and deepen the faith of parishioners and reach out to the larger community, go to **www.UnprotectedMovie.com**



My HV HERO Ann AND Bob Nerbun

nominated by Nancy McGrath



Ann and Bob Nerbun trained as Creighton Model Practitioners years ago. When they realized that talking to couples as they were getting married about the Church's teaching was too late, they began a journey with others to establish what is now known as "Family Honor". It is a chastity education course for parents and their youth. Family **Honor** is now celebrating thirty years and has programs around the world.

 $oldsymbol{T}$ HINK ABOUT IT.... REAL MEN

Use NFP

HV \$\foating{50} FEATURED HV50 VIDEO / AUDIO

Pope Paul VI and His Vision for Humanity by Pia de Solenni, SThD

Shared freely at www.CelebrateHV50.com

thanks to the generous support of the Catholic Communication Campaign

Vision Paul VI and His Humanity Pope Paul VI authored the controversial encyclical Humanae Vitae in 1968. Within the Catholic Church, this led to a tremendous lack of confidence in papal authority, resulting in a majority of Catholics rejecting the Catholic Church's teaching on contraception. While the ensuing debate has been about contraception and fertility awareness, these topics were only part of the encyclical. In promoting these teachings, Paul VI was underscoring a deeper reality about the human person, which deserves further consideration, particularly during the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the encyclical when we can survey the concrete consequences of rejecting this specific teaching.

Dr. Pia de Solenni, SThD, serves as Chancellor for the

Diocese of Orange and Theological Advisor to the Bishop. She earned her doctorate theology summa cum laude from Pontifical University the Holy Cross. Her work has spanned wide range a of academia policy and



including substantial media expertise includes moral theology, women in Church, culture, bio-ethics, and women's health.

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