

Review of: "The Gradual Growth of Man in the Freedom of a Child of God"

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Review

The Inocent-Mária V. Szaniszló article *The Gradual growth of man in the Freedom of a Child of God* discusses something extremely relevant at all times, but it is particularly important in our days in view of the increased difficulties in taking care of the Planet and the Planet taking care of us, when the milestone of 8 billion human beings has already been exceeded. In an indispensable process to guarantee the growth and sustainable development of the Humanity, the issue of contraception proves to be unavoidable – given the continued depletion of resources, how can we guarantee the continuity of future generations? Naturally, this continuity does not depend only on the number of human beings that populate the Planet – it also depends, and probably particularly, on the way in which resources are distributed among human beings and on the lack of humanity that characterizes the world's economic and political relations, subject that the article never addresses.

In the article, the idea that the love of man and woman must fight against the objectivation of the body and redeem itself in subjectivation, concretized in the respect of one for each other, is certainly an idea to be highlighted and promoted among us: the love must manifest itself in work for the well-being of the other. However, this work for the well-being of the other should also include sexual well-being, and it should not, I believe, be conditioned by fear of conception. Believing that the purpose of human beings is, without a doubt, procreation and, therefore, believing in the special relationship that is the union of a man and a woman, I believe that we were also given the freedom to choose the right moment, the moment in which the couple is in the material, psychological and moral conditions for motherhood/paternity.

In this sense, this article is not open to this situation in which the couple can, in freedom, decide when to procreate, in addition to presenting arguments against practice of contraception based on ideas that call into question the very essence of marriage: to affirm that the contraceptive practice is an "easy path for marital infidelity, a general decline in morality and a degradation of ethical values. There is a danger that men and women, accustomed to using contraceptives, will lose respect for each other; they will disregard their physical and mental balance they will make themselves a tool for satisfying the sexual urge, and they will not regard themselves as life partners to be loved and honored" is not to believe in what is the essential in human beings: the respect for the other and, consequently, for oneself and, obviously, for God.

While not disagreeing with most of the arguments presented in the article, I believe that the debate will be strengthened and enriched if the author/author rereads his/her speech and the issue of "technically assisted" contraception in the light

of other arguments, of which I highlight three: the question of the sustainability of the Planet that God has given us, which is completely ignored in the text; the inhumanity that characterizes relations between states and, within the same state, between different social strata of the population, where millions of human beings are present who advocate the author's ideas of contraception; and, the unconditional respect and love that every human being has, instinctively, for the other and for God.