

## A New Dark Age: Have We Forgotten God's First Command?

by Jed Stuber

**D**o you ever read a news story and just shake your head in disbelief? The following *London Daily Mail* story<sup>1</sup> is so bizarre it cannot be explained, only quoted for the full effect:

*Had Toni Vernelli gone ahead with her pregnancy ten years ago, she would know at first hand what it is like to cradle her own baby, to have a pair of innocent eyes gazing up at her with unconditional love, to feel a little hand slipping into hers—and a voice calling her Mummy.*

*But the very thought makes her shudder with horror. Because when Toni terminated her pregnancy, she did so in the firm belief she was helping to save the planet. Then she was sterilized to reduce her carbon footprint.*

*Incredibly, so determined was she that the terrible 'mistake' of pregnancy should never happen again, that she begged the doctor who performed the abortion to sterilize her at the same time. He refused, but Toni—who works for an environmental charity—'relentlessly hunted down a doctor who would perform the irreversible surgery.'*

*At the age of 27 this young woman at the height of her reproductive years was sterilized to 'protect the planet.' Incredibly, instead of mourning the loss of a family that never was, her boyfriend (now husband) presented her with a congratulations card. While some might think it strange to celebrate the reversal of nature and denial of motherhood, Toni relishes her decision with an almost religious zeal.*

As humorist Dave Barry often says, "I am not making this up." Its not funny but it might be tempting to dismiss Toni as a crazy who only represents the fringes of society. Not so. Her story was a huge fawning profile in a major newspaper and it created quite a buzz in the internet news cycle.

### Overpopulation is so 70's. We're now talking about the death of civilization.

"Matt from USA" posted this typical comment in response to the article, "Good for them! There are far too many people, and natural resources are running out. Having children is a selfish act."

Somebody should tell Matt and all the other enthusiastic commenters to keep up with the times. Overpopulation is so 70's. Haven't they heard of the new demographic crisis?

It's completely the opposite. We're now talking about the *death* of civilization.

#### Demographic Realities

According to Mark Steyn's *New York Times* bestseller, *America Alone: The End of the World as We Know It*, the facts of the last thirty years are in and the future is not looking pretty. We are not even having enough babies to replace ourselves and the Western world has simply lost the will to survive.

Here are just a few of the astonishing concepts Steyn explains.

- For a stable population you need a total fertility rate of 2.1 live births per woman. That's just barely what America has now, give or take. The rates in Canada, Japan, Russia and Europe as a whole are so low that these countries are simply dying. Contrary to popular belief, even China faces a future demographic decline.

- What's happening with developed countries' declining birth rates is one of the fastest demographic changes in history. The total world population will soon peak and begin to decline. We are entering a demographic revolution the world has never seen before.

- Between 1970 and 2000 the developed world declined from just under 30 percent of the global population to just over 20 percent, and the Muslim nations increased from about 15 to 20 percent. Europe will be semi-Islamic in its politico-cultural character within a generation. Many are predicting that some countries in Europe will soon become Muslim. Some experts really are talking about a collapse into a dark age.

- The modern social democrat state is everywhere collapsing under its own weight. Americans complain that we're piling up debts our children can't pay off but in Europe there aren't even any kids or grandkids to stick it to. We are witnessing the end of the late twentieth century welfare democracy. Its fiscal bankruptcy is merely a symptom of its fundamental moral and spiritual bankruptcy: when you don't even

reproduce there is no animating principle of society left.

- Because of demographic realities, big government—especially socialized medicine—really is a national security threat. Later chapters in the book explain how it increases vulnerability to economic collapse and Islamism.

Steyn's book should be required reading for us all. His lampooning of political correctness and multiculturalism is alone worth the price, making his readers laugh out loud, but ultimately it's no funny business. He proves his thesis thoroughly, convincingly, over and over again with facts and hard numbers.

### **Math, Science, and Insinuations**

Any scientist worth his salt can confirm these things but that does not stop governments and media from their deceptive propaganda campaigns—or Christians from swallowing the lies whole. In January 2006, eighty-six evangelical leaders signed on the Evangelical Climate Initiative. ECI proponents claimed that “most of the climate change problem is human induced” and makes predictions that “millions of people could die in this century.”<sup>2</sup> The Acton Institute called these Christian leaders out for allowing themselves to be “exploited by the global warming/population control lobby.” What's worse, the report documented the ECI's connections to groups lobbying for abortion-on-demand.<sup>3</sup>

As the saying goes, there's nothing like a mathematician to kill the conversation—or a little science to quell ignorant passions. The current population of the world is 6 or 7 billion, and some mathematicians debate whether the world can sustain 1000 billion.<sup>4</sup> That's *one*

*thousand billion*. A one with twelve zeros after it. 1,000,000,000,000.

Here's a factoid that you may have seen embellished on the internet, but it is based on a reliable report from the National Center for Policy Analysis, “If the entire population of the world were put into the land area of Texas, each person would have an area equal to the floor space of a typical U.S. home and the population density of Texas would be about the same as Paris, France.”<sup>5</sup>

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As for food scarcity, you can find competing experts on that too, depending on who's funding the research. Paul Ehrlich's famous 1968 book, *The Population Bomb*, predicted that by 1985, the “population explosion” would lead to world famine, hundreds of millions of deaths by starvation, the death of the oceans, a reduction in life expectancy to 42 years, and the wasting of the Midwest into a vast desert. Erlich is a laughingstock now.

Some experts claim that the United States' midwest, the “bread basket” region, or Brazil, which enjoys a year round growing season, could easily produce enough food to supply the whole world. Roger Revelle, former director of the Harvard Center for Population Studies put into print his estimate that Africa alone—yes, Africa—could feed the world twice over if its people were free to farm without state interference and socialist planning.<sup>6</sup>

In his article, “The Overpopulation Lie,” Anthony LoBaido at WorldNet Daily writes that the overpopulation myth “is perhaps the single greatest disinformation campaign in human history.”<sup>7</sup> So why in the world are Christians still buying into this stuff? Could it be that our worldview has become thoroughly secular while our Bibles gather dust on the shelf?

The dominion mandate in Genesis 1 to fill the earth and subdue it—man's first job description—has not been rescinded. The planet is actually quite empty and lonely. So go ahead and enjoy doing that Christian thing—be fruitful and multiply. Our national security, the economy, and the survival of civilization itself may depend on it.

1. “Meet the Women Who Won't Have Babies – Because they're not eco friendly.” Natasha Courtenay-Smith and Morag Turner, *London Daily Mail*, November 21, 2007.
2. Statement of the Evangelical Climate Initiative. January 2006. [www.christiansandclimate.org](http://www.christiansandclimate.org)
3. From Climate Control to Population Control: Troubling Background on the “Evangelical Climate Initiative.” [www.acton.org](http://www.acton.org)
4. “How Many People Can the Earth Support?” Tim Radford. *The Guardian*, November 11, 2004.
5. “Overpopulation Myths” Daily Policy Digest, October 5 1995, [www.ncpa.org](http://www.ncpa.org).
6. Kasun, Jacqueline. *The War Against Population: The Economics and Ideology of Population Control*. p35.
7. “The Overpopulation Lie” Anthony C. LoBaido. May 2, 2000. [www.worldnetdaily.com](http://www.worldnetdaily.com).