

## **FAMILY POLICY IN LIGHT OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND THE SDGs (USA)**

### 1. Introduction and objectives:

Goal 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals is “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages.” Target 3.1 reads “by 2030 reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.” Target 3.7 reads “by 2030 ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs.”

We present the following initiative exemplifying good practices at the country level: First, we recommend that preeclampsia be included as an indicator for improving maternal health and reducing child mortality in assessing Goal 3, Target 3.1 of the SDGs; Second, we recommend that the link between increased incidences of preeclampsia and barrier method contraceptives be noted as a counter indication in all information and education programs aimed at ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services in assessing Goal 3, Target 3.7 of the SDGs. (See B. Scarnecchia, “Submission to WHO regarding Maternal Health and Child Mortality Development Goals” *The Catholic Social Science Review*, vol. 19 (2014), p. 311 <http://catholicsocialscientists.org/cssr/>)

### 2. Summary of results:

The joint recommendation of the Society of Catholic Social Scientists (SCSS) and International Solidarity and Human Rights Institute (ISHRI), both EcoSoc accredited NGOs, was submitted to the World Health Organization’s call for papers “Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda Measurement of Progress towards the Health Goals: What are the best Indicators and Targets for Health?” WHO did not accept our recommendation that “Preeclampsia should be included as an Indicator for improving Maternal Health and reducing Child Mortality, MDG Goal 4 and Goal 5.” However, preeclampsia remains one of the leading causes of maternal-mortality in the world. Moreover, many studies show that barrier method contraceptives increase the incidences of preeclampsia 200% to 600%. It is imperative that we warn woman of this risk. To this end I have begun to include this information in the law school courses I teach at Ave Maria School of Law where this is appropriate as in – Bioethics and Law, Moral Foundations of Law, and Global Warming and the Public Trust Doctrine.

### 3. Contact Person



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