

The New Pro-Life Library Compact Disc
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In January 1971, Father Paul Marx, O.S.B., who holds a doctorate in family sociology, attended the *Symposium on Implementation of Therapeutic Abortion* in Los Angeles. He obtained permission to record every talk, and from this experience came his book *The Death Peddlers*, which sold nearly 150,000 copies in just a few years. This little book was the first widely-published attempt to disseminate general information on abortion to the members of the nascent pro-life movement in the United States.

For many years, the best source of pro-life information available to activists in the United States was Dr. Jack and Barbara Willke's *Handbook on Abortion*, also first published in 1971 and eventually selling over one million copies and reaching its 21st printing in 1983. This book was superseded by the Willke's *Abortion: Questions and Answers* and *Why Can't We Love Them Both: Questions and Answers on Abortion*. These books were and still are invaluable sources of up-to-date facts and statistics on fetal development, exceptions for abortion, the history of abortion, and even how to take action against it. Lately, other excellent pro-life books have hit the market. One of these is Randy Alcorn's *ProLife Answers to ProChoice Arguments*, which addresses the primary slogans and arguments used by pro-abortionists, and is an invaluable aid to debating and recruiting.

However, times do change, and often with distressing rapidity. Today, any generalized book on abortion is outdated before it even reaches the printer. Every field associated with pro-life activism is exploding and mutating at an accelerating rate: Stem-cell research, assisted reproduction, new abortifacients and contraceptives, population control, the legal arena, euthanasia, natural family planning, and activism, to name just a few.

No single source, regardless of format, can possibly remain up-to-date in all of these areas, but some formats are more suited to the current-day battlefield than others.

There are many different types of pro-life activists fighting the Culture of Death. There are hundreds of thousands of part-time and occasional activists who write college and high school papers and letters to the editor, and who need basic information in order to convince friends or relatives of the morality and correctness of pro-life teachings. There are also thousands of pro-lifers who do in-depth and serious research in narrow fields, and who need detailed data.

Human Life International has developed a one-stop portable source of information that can fulfill both the broad but relatively shallow needs of the occasional activists and the deep but narrow requirements of the experienced or full-time pro-life researcher. This project, which has been in development for nearly a decade, is the *Facts of Life Library Compact Disc*. Its purpose is to put into the hands of pro-lifers all over the world a complete library they can use for virtually any depth or width of research.

This is a fully hypertexted compact disc that includes more than 10 million words (the

equivalent of 50 hefty books) and hundreds of colorful graphics. All a user needs to do is insert it into the CD player on their computer and it will start itself up. Then the person can click to go wherever they desire. The CD's ease of use and simplicity make it ideal for those many pro-lifers who are intimidated by computer technology.

The *Facts of Life Library Compact Disc* will be published two formats. The first of these is the standard 4-3/4 inch compact disc, which is universal all over the world. The second is the 3-inch or 8-centimeter format which a person can slip easily into a purse or shirt pocket and take anywhere.

The "backbone" of the compact disc is the electronic version of HLI's *The Facts of Life: An Authoritative Guide to Life and Family Issues*. The five-volume electronic *Facts of Life* is more than two thousand pages long and is divided into 25 major chapters, including;

- Abortion Definitions, Procedures and Effects;
- Abortifacients;
- China's Forced Abortion Program;
- The Holocaust Analogy to Abortion;
- The Racism of Abortion;
- Maternal Deaths Due to Legal and Illegal Abortion;
- Catholic and Jewish Teachings on Abortion;
- Scripture on Abortion;
- Fetal Development;
- Fetal Pain;
- Fetal Experimentation and Tissue Transplantation;
- Assisted Reproduction;
- Cloning;
- Sex Education and School-Based Clinics;
- United States Abortion Statistics;
- The Demographic Impacts of Abortion;
- Contraception;
- Natural Family Planning (NFP);
- Euthanasia;
- Eugenics; and
- Pro-Life Groups.

The Facts of Life is designed to be an easy-to-use reference guide for general pro-life information. Other resources on the compact disc provide specific in-depth information on some of the more important narrower fields of study, including;

- A complete forty-hour self-guided pro-life debating course whose completion virtually guarantees that the user will be unbeatable in any debate with any pro-abortionist, no matter how experienced;

- Detailed historical and projected demographic information on every country in the world;
- A full-color map and detailed state-by-state and province-by-province documentation on more than 5,000 incidents of pro-abortion violence and illegal activities, including more than 150 murders and every kind of crime and illicit activity from mass murder, torture, rape and mayhem to cheating on sports events, blackmail, bribery and animal abuse;
- More than 5,000 anti-life quotes divided into 31 categories, including racist quotes, anti-Semitic quotes, and quotes supporting incest, violence and illegal activities. There are also hundreds of comically stupid quotes that are just a lot of fun to read. The author's personal favorite is this whopper by Raquel Welch: "I was asked to come to Chicago because Chicago is one of our 52 states, and the mandate we've now been given on the pro-choice abortion issue is that we have to pick up the pieces. ... in 52 states across the nation, we have to bail water now out of the boat;"
- A documented list of the names and circumstances of the deaths of 360 women who have been killed by "safe" and legal abortion, and a summary showing that a disproportionate percentage of these fatalities are minority women;
- A spreadsheet and documentation proving that abortion mills are concentrated in minority areas of United States cities;
- 1,174 eugenicist, racist and other quotes from Margaret Sanger's *Birth Control Review*;
- More than 250 bizarre quotes from leaders of Planned Parenthood, more than 300 quotes from leaders of 'Catholics' for a Free Choice (CFFC), and hundreds more from the leaders of other pro-abortion groups;
- The complete texts of United States Supreme Court decisions on abortion;
- Detailed information and documentation on more than one thousand anti-life organizations, from the Abortion Access Project to the Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council;
- Many historical documents of interest to pro-life researchers, including the complete text of books by Margaret Sanger, Lothrop Stoddard, Charles Darwin, and Thomas Malthus; and
- Proof from the actual transcripts of the Nuremberg Trials that the Nazis were both pro-abortion and anti-Catholic.

All of these documents are linked to the theological resources on HLI's *Facts of Life Library Compact Disc*. These resources are Roman Catholic, but future editions will include many documents from other pro-life denominations.

Such theological documentation is necessary for in-depth background research into the Church's teachings on all of the life issues. Theological resources on this compact disc include;

- The full text of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and its index;

- St. Thomas Aquinas' complete and indexed *Summa Theologica*;
- Pope John Paul II's complete *Theology of the Body*;
- The complete text of all 293 encyclicals ever written by the popes;
- The full text of all sixteen documents of Vatican II;
- The complete texts of the books *Call to Action or Call to Apostasy?* and *Catholics for a Free Choice Exposed*; and
- Nine books and 165 articles on natural family planning, population and Catholic doctrine by Father Anthony Zimmerman, S.V.D.

Most importantly, the entire compact disc is tied together by a comprehensive index that includes more than 10,000 citations. A user can click on topics from “abortifacients” to “Zyklon-B gas,” and instantly obtain the information he or she needs.

Father Paul Marx, O.S.B., the father of the international pro-life movement, has said that "This is absolutely the best and most complete pro-life and theological resource I have seen in my 56 years as a priest and in my more than 40 years of pro-life activism."

Joe Scheidler, National Director of the Pro-Life Action League, has said that "This compact disc is a living library of facts and information we will all be using for generations to come."

Because this compact disc contains such a large amount of information, it is constantly being updated. Since printing compact discs is easier and less complicated than printing books, several updated versions of the CD can be released each year in order to keep up with current and recent events.

In order to make the compact disc accessible to everyone, Human Life International is selling it for \$24.95. The proceeds from the sale of the Facts of Life Library Compact Disc will be used to support HLI's international pro-life operations in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

For information on ordering the compact disc, visit HLI's Web site at <http://www.hli.org>, or call us at 800-549-LIFE.

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