

Spreading Pro-life Alternatives Now a Crime in France¹

It is now considered a crime to spread pro-life information via the Internet in France. In a vote, it was decided by the French Senate that they “will prosecute pro-life activists for ‘exercising, by any mean, moral and psychological pressures, threats or any act of intimidation against people seeking information on a voluntarily termination of pregnancy.’”

This bill “targets those who operate pro-life websites or provide information about abortion alternatives.” The punishment for violating this new law? Up to two years in prison and \$30,000 in fines.

France doesn’t want anyone learning information that challenges the belief that abortion is acceptable. The director of the European Centre for Law and Justice said, *Publishing the Christian teaching that abortion is a crime could be seen as putting pressure on people.... The simple sharing of information that might upset moral conscience could be sufficient to constitute a crime.*

Silencing - or attempting to silence - those who disagree is an increasingly common tactic used by secularists to promote their agenda. It’s happening here in Australia with gay “marriage” and gender issues, and it’s happening in France in regards to abortion. This is a troubling trend for religious freedom and freedom of speech across the Western world, not to mention the consequences for the unborn.

And what of the woman that doesn’t fully realise what she’s doing because it’s intentionally hidden from her, and the incredible emotional pain she may suffer when she finds out. Many women have reported regretting their abortions and wishing they would’ve fully understood what they were doing at the time. Apparently, this sort of guilt is ok with the French government.

This isn’t the first time France has shown a disdain for pro-life messages. For Global Down Syndrome Day in 2014, the Global Down Syndrome Foundation released a touching video showing children and adults with Down syndrome and their mums, smiling, laughing, and hugging. The video, *Dear Future Mom*, was an answer to a letter they received: *I’m expecting a baby. I’ve discovered he has Down syndrome. I’m scared: what kind of life will my child have?*

The video was an attempt to show what people with Down syndrome can accomplish. Things like going to school, travelling, having a job or an apartment - just like anyone else.

Earlier this week the French Council of State upheld a ban on this video, saying it was “‘*inappropriate*’ and believed it [was] *‘likely to disturb the conscience of women who had lawfully made different personal life choices.’*” So, to avoid offending people who may have chosen to abort their babies who were diagnosed with Down syndrome, the French court deemed this video “inappropriate.”

Really, what they are saying is that people with disabilities don’t matter as much as the sensibilities of some people. Watch the video for yourself. The only thing disturbing is that anyone would see this video with its beautiful children and message as disturbing!!

One commentator wrote on this decision, “*The court has said, in effect, that the lives of Down syndrome people - and by inescapable implication, the lives of many other disabled people - matter less than the serenity of people who have acted on one or more of three vicious principles: That the lives of the disabled are not worth living. Or that the lives of the disabled are of negligible value next to the desire of parents to have a child who has no special, meaning inconvenient, needs. Or that government should suppress the voices of Down syndrome children in order to guarantee other people’s*

¹ As reported by Ken Ham from *Answers in Genesis*, edited

right not to be disturbed by reminders that they have made lethal choices on the basis of one or both of the first two inappropriate principles.”

Because abortion kills a human being, abortion is murder - there's no way to get around it. The moment the egg is fertilised, all the unique genetic material needed to build a human being is present - that little fertilised egg is a human being.

Humans are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). And because of this, all human life has value. Those with disabilities or an extra chromosome aren't worth less - they have the same value as any other image bearer, and their lives deserve to be saved and the parents deserve to fully understand any decision before they make it.