



REALity

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FEDERAL FUNDING FOR INDIGENOUS MATTERS

Federal spending on Indigenous matters has exploded. In 2006, the then-federal government under Stephen Harper set aside \$1.9 billion for “common experience” payments to former students who lived at residential schools. There was no requirement that these students produce evidence of harm caused them during their residence. However, those who suffered sexual or serious physical abuses that caused serious psychological effects were to receive between \$5,000 and \$275,000 each. In Mr. Harper’s last fiscal year, \$11 billion was paid out by the government on Indigenous matters. In the current fiscal year, over \$24.5 billion has been set aside for Indigenous matters.

Since Mr. Trudeau became Prime Minister in 2015, his government has faced nine class action lawsuits by Indigenous groups. Trudeau has repeatedly signalled that he would rather negotiate than litigate. This has led to an increase in class action cases. Apparently, handing out money without people having to demonstrate specific instances of harm, has removed any incentive to stop asking for money.

These class action lawsuits have also been encouraged by the fact that Trudeau has broadened the grounds for compensation. Students in Indigenous day schools, i.e. where the students are taught during the day and go home at night to be with their families, speak their own language and live within their own culture, are slated to receive \$1.6 billion to cover payments for the 100,000 such claimants. According to Professor Tom Flanagan, emeritus professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, “for all practical purposes, the government of Canada has now embraced the position that providing a Canadian education to native children was an injustice deserving of compensation”.

When Canada was established in 1867 under the BNA Act, the federal government was given responsibility for the Indigenous population. At that time, these communities supported themselves by way of hunting, trading and fishing. Over the ensuing years, Canada changed dramatically, first, by entering into the agricultural stage and then later, into an industrial era. It was only reasonable that the Indigenous communities should be assisted in adjusting to these changes by way of learning to read and write. However, RoseAnne Archibald, the new National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations claims that “reparations must be paid to all Indigenous people because of the harm caused by colonialism”. Colonialism is defined in the Oxford dictionary as the practice of “acquiring control over another country, occupying it with settlers, and exploiting it economically”. Providing a Canadian education to

Indigenous students does not appear to fall within this description.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

According to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), it is estimated that only one in three Indigenous children attended residential schools. The rest were educated in schools located on reserves with Indigenous administrators and teachers, in public schools, or did not receive any education at all. Much of the controversy in recent years has been over how the Indigenous children were treated in the residential schools. Although the approach taken by establishing the residential schools may be questionable, it was not unreasonable. These schools were established because there were not sufficient children in some of the smaller reserves to warrant establishing a day school. Therefore, a central school was established for children to attend, even though it required that the children leave their homes and families to attend.

The TRC estimated that, in total, over 150,000 Indian, Inuit, and Métis children attended residential schools from 1883 to 1997. There were 139 residential schools in total within the system, which were established, owned and funded by the federal Department of Indian Affairs, which determined the school policies.

1931 - There were 80 residential schools operating in Canada.

1948 - There were 72 residential schools with 9,368 students.

1979 - There were 12 residential schools with 1,899 students.

Religious organizations were requested to administer the schools under the direction of the federal department. This was a cost effective way for the government to operate the schools. That story has not ended well. Except that Indigenous elected legislators, senators, physicians, lawyers, professors, teachers, nurses, social workers, entertainers and businesspersons indicate that a Canadian education may not have been so harmful to many. †

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THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF UNIVERSAL CHILDCARE: LESSONS FROM SWEDEN

Editor's Note: Sweden has a national child care program which insists all women work in paid employment and denies them any choice, either economically or culturally, to raise their own children at home.

Below is an article written by Madeleine Wallin (madeleine.wallin@haro.se) Swedish mother, which outlines her experiences while living under such a policy.

'MY STORY' BY MADELEINE WALLIN



Madeleine Wallin

I became a mother in 1989 and have now five children who are between 18-32. Together with many other Swedish parents, mainly women, I experienced the difficulty in caring for my own children after the days of parental leave in the workplace, were finished. I struggled to work part-time, leaving my three little boys to childcare and got sick from stress. When I expected my fourth child, my only daughter, I suddenly realized how the state and the existing norms had made me go against my own wishes and what actually would work best for us.

I quit my job and stayed at home despite that no one stood on my side, not even my husband at the time.

"We can't afford it". "People don't do that". That's what he said.

But he changed his mind. We managed, but got no support from the state and I spent some years working more intensely at home, than ever before or after in my life, but in the statistics I was invisible. My work didn't count and I felt excluded.

It is remarkable that we as a society accept a situation where care is not counted in the economy unless you pay someone else to do it. If another mother cares for my child it "counts" in the economy. If I do it myself, I'm an "inactive person", according to the statistics in Europe.

RESPONSIBILITY SHIFT

In 1934, the famous Swedish couple Gunnar and Alva Myrdal argued for the value of sharing responsibility for child rearing between parents and society with trained teachers. Alva created and developed the first day-care centers in Sweden with progressive ideas on how to support mothers and improve the lives of children built on modern psychology.

90 years later, their vision has become reality. Sweden has undergone a shift in responsibility for children: from parents to the state and now we see the individual as strong and the family as weak.

Stefan Fölster, the well-known Swedish National Economist and grandson of Alva and Gunnar Myrdal, said: "It's more socio-economically profitable for the state to compensate parents with two or more children to care for

their children themselves than to pay for preschool or child-care." (Almedalen 2011)

But the state provides a huge subsidy for childcare in Sweden. Parents pay only 8% of the annual \$18,500 USD annual per child. In 2019, Sweden paid \$10 billion USD for child-care.

There are now proposals to make preschool compulsory. But there is no support at all for parents who want to care for their children themselves.

Under Swedish and international law, the main responsibility for children belongs to the parents, but in Sweden, parents have become persuaded that experts and trained teachers will care for their child better than they do themselves.

Other consequences we see of the system Sweden has established are:

- A distrust in parents. The school, the healthcare system and the police have the obligation to report any case of concern to social security. There were 1000 reports of concern made daily in 2018 and that number has since increased, especially during the pandemic.
- Homeschooling has been forbidden since 2011. If you don't take your children to school, you have to pay a fine and can even lose custody of your children.
- Even though women use almost 12 months of the parental leave when their baby is born, rates of breastfeeding have declined steeply over the past two decades. Today, only 75% of mothers even start breastfeeding, down from 93% in 1998 and in the same year 39% of mothers were still breastfeeding at 6 months compared to only 13% of women today.

WHY PARENTING MATTERS

Parenthood is transferred from generation to generation and we should protect this silently transferred, but highly important knowledge.

Before replacing parents and the home environment, we should be very aware of the effects it might have on children. A child needs a close, permanent emotional attachment during the first years. *A child's healthy development is fostered through the adults they are deeply attached to and the consistent, intimate interaction between them.*

The first years in life have a huge impact on the rest of our lives. We have to see caring for young children as one of the most important societal tasks. It is work that requires emotional commitment and must be taken seriously. It is through early caring that children develop into emotionally responsive, empathetic people.

- The question has to be: *Who is responsible for the children and their emotional growth?* Is it the parents? Or is it the state?
- This is a highly relevant question for deciding on policy. The child's needs cannot be compromised.

DENIAL OF PARENTS'/MOTHERS' CHOICE. GENDER EQUALITY

Parents' role and wishes are now seen as secondary to the "public good". Not what many women want—e.g. reports

Sweden has a Feminist Government, which claims that, "Women and men must have the same power to shape society and their own lives. This is a human right and a matter of democracy and justice."

But why does this not extend to caring for our children?

Article 25.2 in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights says that "Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance." But when it comes to prescriptions for achieving gender equality, much of the feminist movement in Sweden and elsewhere neglect *children and motherhood alike*.

Unpaid care is invisible. But it's the foundation of everything.

In Sweden in 2021, though, full time employment outside the home has become the norm for all working people and is pushed, especially for women.

Women who choose to stay at home are seen as backwards. The work they do is seen as a waste of resources. They have even been called, "brains in vain" by liberal female Ministers.

The question is, do we get the same outcome if another woman cares for my child than if I do it myself?

The goal is economic growth rather than human wellbeing.

The European Union's so-called Lisbon Targets had an agreement to reach a 75% employment rate by 2020. That meant that women, whether mothers or not, are expected to go to work.

Care responsibility is the main reason why women in Europe don't work in paid employment, and therefore the EU loses 370 billion euros each year.

Because of that, in 2002, another agreement called the *Barcelona Objectives* was made to support the employment of women. It stated that a specific percentage of children in Europe should attend childcare facilities, in order to support their mothers' employment:

- 90% of children from age 3 to school age; and
- at least 33% of children from birth through age 2.

But this disregards what women want.

A survey was done in 2011 by MMM (Make Mother Matter), where almost 12 000 European women were asked about their preferences as mothers. They said that being a mother was a source of enormous joy, but they experienced a lack of choice, time and recognition for their work.

- 26% said they wanted to take full time care of their families,
- 63% preferred a combination of part-time employment and family care and
- Only 11% wanted to work full-time.

Catherine Hakim from London Schools of Economics arrived at similar results in her Preference Theory 1998.

At a side event at the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN, our former Minister of Gender Equality and now Deputy Executive Director for UN Women, Åsa Regnér, was asked if Swedish parents get angry when forced to share the parental leave: She answered, "*No, no, it's not a parental choice, it's political will*".

Consequences of this policy are:

- Many Swedish women are increasingly ambivalent about becoming mothers. In 2019, the average age for a woman to have her first child was 29.6 years.
- We have fewer and fewer children and the birth rate was just 1.66 children per woman in 2020.
- Women are on sick leave more than men, especially between the ages of 30–40. The difference has

grown steadily since the early 1980s until today, when women are on sick leave almost twice as often as men.

- Many women are sick because of stress. One out of 3 women between the ages of 16 and 29 reports feeling stressed. Sick leave in this group has increased by 370% since 2011.

EFFECTS ON CHILDREN

Just like the world now focuses so heavily on economic growth, there is a similar focus on the cognitive education of children. But it's at the exclusion of *children's emotional growth and wellbeing*, which is the prerequisite for cognitive development in the first place.

I WOULD LIKE TO END WITH A STORY.

Max, my sister's first son, went to pre-school and it worked fine for him. For his younger brother Ebbe though, it was a bad experience. They went to the same pre-school, but were separated into different groups, despite the security it would have given Ebbe to be with his brother. Ebbe was crying and very sad when his parents left him, which the school always says is normal and will pass. But, one day when they got home, Max told his parents that when two-year-old Ebbe had to sit at a different table than him at mealtime, he had cried until he got a nosebleed. Max couldn't understand why they treated his young brother that way. The teachers didn't tell the parents what had happened!

My sister and her husband took him out of that preschool immediately and had to manage the situation themselves. They worked in shifts and asked relatives for help.

In Sweden, the option to make a different choice in this situation does not exist. You are on your own.

Whatever decisions we make for our future we have to prioritize children and their wellbeing. †

"A child needs a close, permanent emotional attachment during the first years. A child's healthy development is fostered through the adults they are deeply attached to and the consistent, intimate interaction between them."

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA SEX ABUSE SETTLEMENT

The US Boy Scouts of America (BSA) agreed to a US \$85 million dollar settlement to groups representing 60,000 men who had brought sexual abuse claims against it. This abuse occurred when they were children or adolescents while members of the BSA.

The abuse of boys increased in the last eight years when the BSA agreed to accept LGBTQ members and scout leaders. It affirmed everything from transgenderism to female members, thereby abandoning the principles on which the organization was based. The BSA became instead, a moral free-for-all, even descending to distributing contraceptives to adolescents at its international jamboree last summer in the US. The BSA is now financially ruined and publicly scorned, but the latter apparently hasn't caused the BSA to change its behaviour. According to the former youth protection director of the BSA, in a speech to the U.S. National Press Council in October 2021, the BSA had become less receptive to needed reforms. He urged Congress to investigate the cover ups of past abuse by the BSA, as well as the dangers that the organization still posed to children.

BOY SCOUTS CANADA

Scouts Canada, which is a completely separate organization from the BSA, sought to hide its financial sexual abuse settlements by insisting that sex abuse victims sign out of court confidential agreements. This prevents the victims from revealing the amount paid for the abuse or the facts that led to the settlement.

It is known, however, that in 2011, Scouts Canada hired an auditing firm to review 486 cases of sexual abuse, misconduct or assault that occurred within the organization during a period of 64 years.

It is also known that, in August 2018, a \$4.5 million negligence suit was launched against Scouts Canada in connection to a sexual abuse claim by a Brockville, Ontario man. In his court challenge, the accuser claimed that Scouts Canada had at least two decades of records and data sufficient to indicate that the organization had a widespread problem with the sexual abuse of minors.

It is also known that, between 2016 and 2018, five sex abuse law suits alone were filed against Scouts Canada, which are currently before the courts. †

FLAGRANT ATTACKS ON WOMEN

Society seems to have focused on one main issue regarding women—namely, sexual abuse. It is a serious problem, but there are also other areas detrimentally affecting women, about which there seems to be little discussion. Examples of this are as follows:

I. SURROGACY: THE RENT-A-WOMB INDUSTRY

The rent-a-womb industry (surrogacy), is a huge, profitable, world-wide industry.

According to Global Markets Insights Inc., which is a global market research and management consulting company, surrogacy is forecast to increase by 32.6% by the year 2027, when it will be worth \$33.9 billion dollars.

The surrogacy industry is poorly regulated, with medical clinics using unregulated technology. The procedure has led to the exploitation of poor women in third world countries, who carry the children for minimal financial payments, usually for servicing infertile couples and same-sex couples from the West.

Many of these poor women are used repeatedly for relatively little pay but creating huge profits for the clinic owners and operators. Women are also being trafficked for this purpose. The commercial surrogacy industry occurs in Nepal, Cambodia, Mexico, Colombia, Nigeria, Ukraine, the Republic of Georgia, Kenya, and Ghana. Many countries have outlawed this procedure. Not Canada, however, which allows foreign nationals to take advantage of our health care system. If complications occur during the pregnancy or af-

ter birth, the Canadians taxpayers covers the cost under our medical system, amounting to many millions of dollars.

II. THE ELIMINATION OF FEMALES BY SEX SELECTIVE ABORTION

A study, released on August 2nd, 2021, reported in the British Medical Journal Global Health, the number of females eliminated by abortion or otherwise killed by failing to provide them with adequate health care and nutrition, is expected to rise by 4.7 million by the year 2030. 50% and 43% of these deaths of females will occur in China and India, respectively. A further 17 countries, predominantly in Sub-Sahara Africa, are also at risk of developing a serious sex imbalance due to the reduction of female births. This leads to a “marriage squeeze” caused by a lack of women and triggers elevated levels of antisocial behaviour and violence. China has already experienced this because of the 30 million “extra” males now residing in that country. China's one child policy favours the birth of males. Due to the lack of women, increased kidnapping of females and prostitution have greatly increased in China.

III. BILLIONS RAISED TO IMPOSE WESTERN CULTURE ON AFRICAN AND OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

Western countries have been frustrated at the UN from imposing their “values” of abortion and homosexuality on Third World countries. This is because the UN procedure requires a consensus in reaching decisions. This permits pro-

life and pro-family countries to override the anti-life/family policies of the West.

To offset this, the feminist agency at the UN, called UN-Women, together with the governments of Mexico and France, organized their own conference, called the *Generation Equality Forum*, held in Paris, June 30th to July 2nd, 2021. Pro-life NGO's and individuals were excluded from this meeting. Representatives from wealthy Western countries, together with multi-national corporations present, raised US \$40 billion dollars in new funding for so called women's "gender equality". This term, however, does not mean equal opportunity for men and women. It actually means, in UN terms, the acceptance of Western cultural norms, including extremist sex education for school children and the promotion of contraception, abortion, and homosexuality. The Conference, of course, marketed itself by claiming it only wanted to empower women. In fact, the conference was a method of providing a state of 'enlightened' Western values on the developing world, especially when it comes to

issues of sexuality. However, There are many countries in the world, such as in Africa, that have a strong culture of life and their priority is to reduce maternal mortality, rather than to deliberately kill unborn children, which is especially repugnant to them.

The imposing of an offensive Western culture by way of offering money to Third World countries, is in fact, a form of ideological colonialism. This is because these grants are most frequently made with the condition that Third World countries make societal changes by adopting offensive Western values. Due to their desperate financial needs, many countries are compelled to acquiesce to the demands of these donors.

Some of the top pledges to the fund made at this conference includes US \$10 billion from Procter and Gamble, \$2.1 billion from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, \$420 million from the pro-abortion Ford Foundation, US \$100 million from the US corporation PayPal, and \$100 million from the Soros Open Society Foundations. In addition, the US contributed \$1.0 billion to the fund and Canada contributed \$100 million. †

LESSONS ON ABORTION: BRAUER V. CANADA

A courageous woman from Nova Scotia, Connie Brauer, tried to change the scandalous abortion situation in Canada by suing the federal government in the Federal Court in 2019. Brauer, a "self-represented party"—meaning she had no lawyer—sought, among other remedies, an immediate injunction banning all abortions in Canada and an immediate end to the public funding of abortions.

The case was dismissed by the Federal Court of Appeal in early October, but not on its merits. Rather, it was due to Brauer's failure to follow court rules with respect to the facts around her allegations and with respect to her "standing", meaning she failed to establish that the abortion law had caused her injury and loss—therefore, she had no personal substantial legal interest in the case.

Although her case was dismissed, Brauer was and remains entirely correct that abortion represents nothing less than "mass genocide" perpetrated against the unborn. The government punishes dissent against abortion by imposing restrictions on anti-abortion protests and by denying federal youth summer job grants to organizations because they oppose abortion.

Brauer v. Canada reinforces a number of important lessons that the pro-life movement needs to bear in mind as it moves forward.

First, the *Brauer* case is a timely reminder that abortion remains unregulated in Canada, despite the fact that such regulation is entirely within the competence of the legislature. The Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *R. v.*

Morgentaler (1988) did not say abortion could not be regulated. It held, rather, that the regulation of abortion under the *Criminal Code* violated the Charter because it failed to provide equal access to abortion. The court did not state that the Charter provided a woman with an absolute right to abortion.

"Today, we are in the midst of an epic battle between the Culture of Death and the Culture of Life. And the primary battlefields are the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens, including our politicians."

Second, *Brauer* reminds us of the importance of the rule of law and that the issue is not merely a matter of "obeying the law." The rule of law has a number of facets, one of which is the importance of court procedures. These procedures help to ensure that the court bases its decision on facts that have been proved through cross-examination and not on judges' whims and personal preferences. Supreme Court Justice McIntyre, in his dissent in *Morgentaler*, was quite right when he warned of the dangers of relying on unproven materials as his colleagues had done in that case. He stated that the court should "place principal reliance upon the evidence given under oath in court."

The third lesson is reinforcement of the fact that abortion is primarily a political issue, not a legal issue. It's undeniable that there are legal issues and consequences associated with abortion. However, it should not be forgotten that the decisions regarding whether to permit abortion and under what conditions, are primarily political and social questions. Indeed, it is the defining moral question of our age, much like abolishment of the slave trade was the defin-

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear supporter of REAL Women of Canada:

Welcome to the November 2021 edition of e-REALity.

This month's edition includes articles on the federal government's funding on Indigenous matters and another article written by a Swedish mother and her experiences with the national child care program in her country. We also give you an update on the sex abuse settlement by the Boy Scouts of America, ongoing attacks on women across the world, and the courageous story of Connie Brauer from Nova Scotia, and her legal challenge of the abortion laws and funding in Canada.

Would you consider placing a REAL Women of Canada advertisement in your local church bulletin? Church bulletins/newsletters usually have a sponsorship page with ads of companies and organizations. The cost of your placing a church ad will vary, depending on your church's policy. Contact our Ottawa office if you would like to do this and we can e-mail you the PDF of the ad, which is about the size of a business card. We have one in color, and one in black and white. With the permission of your pastor, you would then submit this ad to your church and be responsible for the cost of the ad. This is a way of promoting our name and organization, while at the same time, you are helping your own church financially.

Please sign Campaign Life Coalitions' [petition](#) to stop Prime Minister Justin Trudeau from removing charitable status from Crisis Pregnancy Centres and other pro-life organizations. This policy was included in the federal Liberals' platform during the recent election. We are waiting to see what legislation this new parliament will try to introduce. Crisis Pregnancy Centres make an invaluable contribution to Canadian society, providing resources, support, supplies, information, and options to women facing an unexpected or challenging pregnancy. If these Centres lose their charitable status, donations will undoubtedly decrease and many Centres may be at risk of closure. If charitable status is removed from pro-life organizations, will churches be next?

We are planning to include a FAQ page (Frequently Asked Questions) to our website. It should be available by next month. If there are any questions that are not included and that you would like to see answered, please e-mail our Ottawa office: realwcna@rogers.com with your suggestions.

If you are planning to make Christmas donations this December to your favourite non-profit organizations, we hope that you will keep REAL Women of Canada on your "nice" list. We have had to replace some of our office computers this year and it has put a strain on our limited finances. We rely heavily on the generosity of our supporters, in order to keep speaking up on behalf of your traditional family values.

We are very appreciative of the many wonderful ways that you are supporting our work.

Warm regards,
Pauline Guzik
Pauline Guzik, National President

(LESSONS ON ABORTION *continued from page 5*)

ing moral question of the 1700s.

Today, we are in the midst of an epic battle between the Culture of Death and the Culture of Life. And the primary battlefields are the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens, including our politicians. The battle for the hearts and minds of Canadians will not be easy. The particulars of how abortions are carried out, the physiology of an unborn child, who profits from fetal tissue harvesting and the abortion industry, the harm done to women who have had abortions and experienced sex-selection abortion practices—these are not the stuff of light banter but involve serious and heartbreaking discussions. This is one reason why a great many people prefer not to talk about it—precisely because they instinctively know that what is at stake is a human life.

There is no escaping the fact that the abortion question resonates with other vital questions such as the meaning and value of human life, human sexuality, and when human life begins and ends. These are questions that human beings can only answer through thought, reflection, and personal experience. As such, there are as many answers as there are human beings. Nevertheless, our shared humanity makes possible a consensus—stripped of political hyperbole and grandstanding, it is not difficult to understand and appreciate that human life is unique and precious and begins at the moment of conception and ends with natural death. This awareness comes from the heart and stillness of the conscience.

There are those who will "celebrate" Brauer's defeat, but they should be careful. The Left and the Culture of Death don't want abortion to be discussed, let alone debated, preferring instead to treat the matter as "settled." However, it looks very much like Brauer's "loss" is actually a win, because rather than not discussing abortion, once again it is a front-page story, proving that abortion is anything but "settled" in Canada. †

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