

# Christ’s Pastoral Solutions

## Specific Tactics Part 1

### “PASTORAL SOLUTIONS”

Genuine pastoral solutions are always based on Faith, Hope and Charity, i.e. be Kind and hold Firm.

A recent trend dismisses doctrine in the name of compassion: this actually makes things worse for marriage and family and for the everyday living the faith.

Nor can sexual morality evade Christ’s call to “Repent and Believe in the Gospel” (Mark 1:15). Humility, obedience, faith, repentance and religion: they all stand or fall together.

What can be done? First and foremost, “pastoral” mean practical — supernaturally practical, even heroic. Pastoral does not mean pragmatism without loyalty to truth and principle.

### CHECK LIST AGAINST ALL HABITUAL SINS

1. What regular praying do you do? See p. 6.
2. What regular penance do you do and do you receive the Sacrament of Penance? See p. 7.
3. What ideas and ideals do you gain or suffer from in your reading, viewing or listening? and
4. (against sexual sins) How do you occupy your last hour before going to bed?

Those trapped in irregular (i.e. *immoral*) situations need help and encouragement to pray for virtue, and to adore God at Mass while refraining from sacramental Communion. See divorce, p. 9.

### This ADULTEROUS and WICKED GENERATION

Mark 8:38

Divorce is **disruptive**, while masturbation, contraception and sodomy are **disordered**. All are **damaging** to marriage and family, because children need, and have a right to, both biological parents.

Diagnosis: Our virtues are under attack: our best defence is counter-attack, out of love for sinners:-

atheists	idolatry of Man (mankind) or simply self: resenting God, believers and Godly living
ecologist	idolatry of whales and trees; quasi-religion of “saving the planet”
contraceptionists	idolatry of sex: anti-child, anti-life, anti-nature; negating full meaning of sexual embrace
feminists	idolatry of Women, the ultimate in a new-named sin of sexism (female chauvinists!)
sodomists	idolatry of sex: failure to accept their God-given sex: envy, depression, despair
economics	idolatry of greed: false economics favours dollars \$ over hearts ♥ enslaving man
socialists	idolatry of oligarchy ruling over individuals and ignoring family, Church, independent groups.

**Spiritual healing:** Pastors and lay apostles act with kindness, clarity and persuasion:-

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Galatians 6:1

### FRAUDULENT PASTORAL SOLUTIONS disobeying or misusing God-given authority

Kind hearted motives cannot negate Christ’s doctrine and Church discipline. Faulty motives assume an unstated major premise that, “any politically correct desire or practice is morally legitimate”!

### ECONOMY OF GREED

Our modern economics negates morality, both Christian and natural. It makes an idol out of profits contrary to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Commandments and “offers human sacrifice” to that idol.

Today’s society is subversive of marriage and family. **Persons are reduced to isolated individuals in a fur-lined mouse trap** of self-interest. The socialism of “the planned society” has proved to be a creeping dictatorship. The culture of marriage and family, which until now made every civilization, is being *terminated* — along with the babies in the womb.

The Australian Government’s 2014 budget weakened family life and marriage further by financially penalizing mothers not in paid work and by promoting the child-care industry with subsidies. Yet Dr Peter Cook, a psychiatrist since 1957 (and seemingly without religious convictions) condemns “child-care” in meticulous detail in his 2011 book, *Mothering Matters, The sources of love, and how our culture harms infants, women, and society*. He even quotes Germaine Greer (p. 111):-

... now I would argue that motherhood should be regarded as a genuine career option.

Until feminism, civilized societies **invariably** honoured a man and woman who promised publicly to “give their lives to give life”, and rejoiced when it was “**blessed with children**” — now rarely mentioned.

### CATECHETICS WITH CONTENT

In Australia, catechetics in Catholic parishes and schools is of very uneven quality.

Many boys & girls, after 13 years to their Higher School Certificate and do not know the Apostles’ Creed and could not explain the Trinity, Incarnation-life-death-Resurrection of Christ, Mission of the Holy Spirit and the Church, or sacraments or commandments. Unsurprisingly, nor can many teachers!

From the 1970s, home schooling among Protestants in the USA got its impetus from the moral corruption in schools; so too did Family Catechetics get its impetus from the doctrinal inadequacies in the Catholic schools of Australia.

### CONTRACEPTION

- Contraception within and outside of marriage —
- **anti-child** — against primary purpose of marriage and akin to same-sex copulation;
  - **mentality of abortion** evolves as a seemingly justifiable ‘final resort’ if contraception fails;

- **anti-nature** - a disordered act, despite matching bodily organs and power of sperm to fertilize ovum);
- **mutual masturbation** (as George Bernard Shaw pointed out);
- does **not consummate** a marriage (CCL n. 1061 §1)

False pastoral solutions were condoning contraception in Australia before the mid-1960s, long before *Human Vitae* in 1968. Recreant theologians tended to bully bishops and priests into silence.

Blessed Paul VI accurately foretold the outcomes of ignoring or defying God and His law:-

- (1) **infidelity** in marriage and general lack of morality;
- (2) men, especially youth, with **little respect for women**, treating them as things for selfish enjoyment;
- (3) governments **enforcing immorality**, or at least promoting it;
- (4) mankind **making its own morality** and losing its self-discipline and capacity to bring up the youth of the nation as morally responsible to God (cf. Adam and Eve, Genesis 3:1-7). *Humane Vitae* n. 17

Today, we might add:

- (5) **separating sex** from motherhood and fatherhood divorces what God has joined, so that wives no longer want to be homemakers or husbands breadwinners; sex and love lose their meaning;
- (6) **licence**, via pill or condom, leaves a man unrestrained in lust, under guise of “no pregnancy” for a woman;
- (7) feminist **unisex** doctrine declares the opposite sexes inter-changeable, hence psycho-sexual confusion in adolescents; also unisex has corrupted the English language and underpins calls for women priests;
- (8) **sodomy** has become “political correct”; it derogates from true marriage and having children; it spreads disease to its practitioners and society at large, both to body and soul;
- (9) abortion is a **human wrong**, not “a woman’s right”; also “terminating a pregnancy” is actually **terminating a baby** and with torturing pain; the RSPCA should protest, since babies are ‘animals’!
- (10) the **myth of over-population**, whereas the real causes of food shortages and starvation are wars and the greed of the rich, not the fertility of the poor.

## LIVING TOGETHER WITHOUT MARRIAGE

Contraception promotes shallow human relationships, reducing sex to unmarried copulating animals.

Traditional pastoral practice sought to convalidate the invalid unions where at least one of the couple was making spiritual progress with daily prayer and Sunday Mass.

Our preaching, catechesis in homes and schools, social life in parishes for families must become bravely counter-cultural. Our vocation requires us to change the secular culture, first by proclaiming the Creator, God Almighty, Whom much of modernity ignores, denies or even hates.

Invalidly remarried Catholics do not usually strive for a virtuous life. Without sacraments, or with sacraments received sacrilegiously, they fail to strive upwards and “make-believe” it is all right.

## PORNOGRAPHY, MASTURBATION, PERVERSION, VIOLENCE

Intensive spiritual life and discipline in virtues are essential for the spiritual war that Christians are engaged in: modern living and modern youth are “too soft”. Even pre-schoolers view violence and sex perversions on TV. At home and school are computers and mobiles etc — brilliant but addictive gadgetry — with porn via internet.

All gadgetry should be within parental view to inhibit addiction to vice.

*Constant vigilance and eternal suspicion* (motto of Jungle Warfare) is apt for stranger-danger in lounge room, bedroom, at school, to combat worldliness, greed, impurity.

## NO DIVORCE FOR CATHOLICS

### only Declarations of Nullity

### or Dissolutions of *Ratum et non consummatum*

We now realize that the Sacrament of Matrimony has been given and received far too casually considering the moral strengths and graces necessary for this new vocation in life.

Australian governments and our society long since ceased to uphold the indissolubility of marriage. State interventions on marriage have always made things worse (Anthony Esolen in *Defending Marriage*).

On the 1960s sex revolution, see *False Promises*, by Dr Lucy Sullivan, on divorce statistics etc., including no-fault divorce, based solely on Australian Government Bureau of Statistics, 1903-1993.

Divorce separates what God has joined, so Christ forbade divorcees remarrying:

And he [Christ] said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Mark 10:11-12 (Matthew 5:32; 19:9 adds “except for fornication”, i.e. unchastity because they were only apparently married). cf. CCL n. 1141; cf. Matthew 5:27; 19:18; John 4:17-18.

## INVALID MARRIAGES OF DIVORCEES:-

- **Separation**, if it will not damage dependent children whom they are bound to raise in the faith;
- **Living as brother and sister**, as in *Familiaris Consortio* n. 84: attend Mass, keep praying for God’s grace, do works of charity and justice, bring up children in the faith, and practise penance;
- Meanwhile making **spiritual Communions** at Mass, yet fulfilling the more basic duty of adoration.
- We need to clarify the confusion about “**the supremacy of conscience**”, since a properly informed Catholic conscience cannot negate Gospel doctrine. See Snares of the Devil, *Handouts* n. 120..
- **Church Matrimonial Tribunals** have given scandal to priest faithful by annulling what seemed valid marriages — a sort of back-yard Catholic divorce, and even a “no fault divorce” when a church marriage is annulled against the wishes of one of the spouses. Hard cases make bad law.