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Statement submitted by Catholic Women’s League Australia Incorporated (CWLA) and JMJ Children’s Fund of Canada, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

Challenges for Gender Equality

Gender equality for women, must begin in Utero. Unfortunately, Gendercide has, and continues to be carried out on the girl child, as millions of innocent girls have been executed before birth, just because they were a GIRL.

Gendercide, is the systematic killing of members of a specific gender. It is the assault and murder against victims, due to their gender. Gendercide is reported to be a rising problem in several countries. Gendercide commonly takes the forms of induced abortion and infanticide. Lethal violence against a gender, at any stage of life, is barbaric and must be condemned.

Pregnant women need to be educated and supported, however abortion practitioners who choose to perform gendercides should be prohibited and jailed.

Stakeholders, Member States, UN Agencies and the Commission on the Status of Women should be on the frontlines in making gendercide a human rights violation, and advancing the inherent Human Rights for the innocent girl child in the womb; never endorsing or condoning the choice to practice gendercide on the girl, or boy child, for that matter.

Gendercide is a death sentence for females. The CSW should fight for the RIGHT TO LIFE for every girl child, no matter how small, or young. The Right to Life for every girl, empowers women and girls.

With the advent of ultra sound technology, research and science, we can clearly see and acknowledge the humanity and personhood of every child in the womb. From the time we are conceived, our DNA already determines if we are a boy or girl and how cells will differentiate to form every organ; such as the heart, lungs, liver, immune system, kidneys, pancreas, every muscle, bone, joint, blood cells, hair, ears, nose, mouth, and limbs. We have a beating heart by three weeks after conception. There are visible arms, legs, fingers and toes by eight weeks. From approximately 10 to 12 weeks into a pregnancy, doctors can determine whether the child in the womb is recognizable as a boy or girl.

Tragically, the reality of gendercide results in tiny little girls being systematically poisoned, dismembered, and/or decapitated while in the sanctuary of their mothers' womb. The choice to abort one's daughter, just because she is a girl should be unimaginable; never a violent form of birth control!

Aborting girls is the ultimate exploitation, discrimination, and violence against girls in our generation. Many reports document that it is a common cultural belief- especially in China and India- that boys, are more "wanted" than girls. As a result, millions of "unwanted" girl children are targeted for abortion, or left to die after birth (infanticide). These antiquated customs and policies must be adamantly addressed by all the Member States and condemned by the Commission on the Status of Women. We must form an alliance to protect the youngest and weakest of our girls, who have no voice.

We also denounce the Two-Child Policy in China, which forces and/or coerces pregnant women to abort their children.

Gendercide and the Girl Child: According to the UN Charter, The Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and the 'Declaration on the Rights of the Child' state

“the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and are, including appropriate legal protection, before, as well as after birth.”

Access of Information and Communication Technology

As a former (legal) abortion patient myself who deeply regrets my abortions; I can testify that myself like most young pregnant women, are not informed about all of the risk factors of legal abortion. Induced abortion may cause much physical, psychological and spiritual damage to women; as well as taking the lives of our children.

Yet, misinformation, rhetoric and lies abound, touting and promoting abortion as “safe and legal,” which it is not. There are several United Nations Agencies and wealthy, Non-Governmental Organization’s who have a conflict of interest, as they rake in billions from the destruction and extermination of human beings before birth. They use euphemisms to dehumanize the lives of children in utero. Induced abortions, whether surgical and/or chemical are killing adolescent girls and young women too.

Information and Evidence

Access to credible published research indicates that induced abortions are not “safe” for women’s mental, or reproductive health. The comprehensive book, “Complications — Abortions Impact on Women” by the DeVeber Institute, and USA based ‘Elliot Institute’ has found that many studies affirm that women do suffer for many years as a result of abortion. See www.afterabortion.org. Hundreds of women in the USA alone, have also died because of legal abortion, www.lifedynamics.org. Operation Outcry and Canada Silent No More has over 5,000 testimony/declarations from former abortion patients stating the physical and psychological injuries of legal abortion to their bodies and minds.

Women’s Health Risks

A large study in Finland reported higher rates of suicide for women after abortion. Women who had an abortion, had a whopping 650 percent higher risk of death from suicide compared to women who carried their babies to term.

University of Minnesota researchers found a ten-fold increase in suicide attempts among teens within six months after their abortion. Another study found that 50 percent of post-abortive teens (15-18 years) had suicidal thoughts and behaviours — twice the rate of teens who chose not to abort.

The British Journal of Psychiatry published a study in 2011, whereas 81 per cent of women who aborted suffered mental health issues compared to women who gave birth in “unplanned” pregnancies.

The largest study of rape victims ever completed, indicates that most women not only experience severe trauma from the rape, but also experience additional trauma if they choose to abort the baby conceived in rape.

Researcher Brent Rooney found over 140 global studies revealing a significant increased risk of cervical/uterine damage by abortion, resulting in subsequent Pre-term birth in wanted children.

Dozens of credible worldwide studies also link breast cancer to induced abortion according to The Breast Cancer Prevention Institute.

The choice to systematically “kill the unwanted” children, (no matter what gender, or how small), is like the Nazi philosophy to “kill the unwanted Jews” and should be condemned; not promoted as a woman’s right.

In conclusion, The Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, states the following:

“Women’s right to the enjoyment of the highest standard of health must be secured throughout the whole life cycle, in equality with men. Prevention of unwanted pregnancies must always be given the highest priority, and every attempt should be made to eliminate the need for abortion.”

Governments are asked to: “Address the acute problems of children, inter alia, by supporting efforts in the context of the United Nations system aimed at adopting efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of female infanticide, harmful child labour, the sale of children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and other forms of sexual abuse and consider contributing to the drafting of an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child”.

The World Conference on Human Rights reaffirmed clearly that “the human rights of women throughout the life cycle are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights.” And science declares that the cycle of human life begins at the moment of conception.

For the elimination and prevention of Gendercide of the Girl child, we appeal to you for this Platform of action:

- Enact Media, Education and Awareness Campaigns on the value of the girl child, foetal development, and access the research on the damage of legal abortion to women’s mental & reproductive health.
- Enact measures to end violence against pregnant women and their children in utero.
- Produce accountable and protective measures against perpetrators who practice gendercide.
- Enact legislation and policies condemning gender-selective abortions, and provide stiff penalties for abortion practitioners who commit gendercide.
- Provide practical support for pregnant women and their babies before birth.
- Provide the basic human right to life for babies in the womb according to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights & Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

A girl is a girl, no matter how small.
