

Christian HealthCare

NEWSLETTER

MEMBER LETTERS:

The Lord protects, provides, and sustains!

The Lord protects, provides, and sustains! To share in the needs of other believers and to know the tangible hand of God through it all is to go from fear to joy, from weakness to strength, from despair to praise.

Thank you fellow brothers and sisters for sharing our need. We give thanks to God for leading us to Samaritan Ministries, and we pray for continued guidance and wisdom from the Lord.

*Andrew & Savetka Brazie
Tipp City, Ohio*

This ministry is such a tangible example of the Body of Christ. I am humbled by the prayers and provision from fellow members. The notes and cards are such an encouragement.

*Meagan Hostetler
Johns Island, South
Carolina*

Rights vs. wishes

by Walter E. Williams

Here is what presidential aspirant Sen. Bernie Sanders said: "I believe that health care is a right of all people." President Barack Obama declared that health care "should be a right for every American." The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: "Every person has a right to adequate health care." President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his January 1944 message to Congress, called for "the right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health." And it is not just a health care right that people claim. There are rights to decent housing, good food and a decent job, and for senior citizens, there's a right to prescription drugs. In a free and moral society, do people have these rights? Let's look at it.

In the standard historical usage of the term, a "right" is something that exists simultaneously among people. As such, a right imposes no obligation on another. For example, the right to free speech is something we all possess. My right to free speech imposes no obligation upon another except that of noninterference. Similarly, I have a right to travel freely. Again, that right imposes no obligation upon another except that of noninterference.

Contrast those rights to free speech and travel with the supposed rights to medical care and decent housing. Those supposed rights do impose obligations

upon others. We see that by recognizing that there is no Santa Claus or tooth fairy. If one does not have money to pay for a medical service or decent housing and the government provides it, where do you think the government gets the money?

If you agree that there is no Santa Claus or tooth fairy and that Congress does not have any resources of its very own, the only way for Congress to give one American something is to first take it from some other American. In other words, if one person has a right to something he did not earn, it requires another person's not having a right to something he did earn.

Let's apply this bogus concept of rights to my right to speak and travel freely.

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Sharing Summary from May

Shares: \$17,557,968

Needs: \$17,335,915

In Negotiation: \$2,543,071

New Needs: 2,616

Total Needs: 5,147

New Rewards: 103

Miscarriages: 31

Final Rewards: 5

Personalized prayer requests of the members with Needs are in the Prayer Guide. Please use your version of the Prayer Guide to support the members assigned to you.

Member Households: 60,621
(as of 4/22/16)

Contact Us: 877-764-2426 samaritanministries.org/members

Questions about?

Email

Phone Menu

Your medical need

needs@samaritanministries.org

1 - 1

Shares you are sending or receiving

shares@samaritanministries.org

1 - 2

Your membership

membership@samaritanministries.org

1 - 3

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Member Services Manager

Remember:



1 SEND A NOTE—

Burdens can be lightened emotionally as we encourage one another in the Lord.



2 PAY YOUR SHARE—

Burdens can be lightened physically as we do our part to financially meet others' needs as they would in our time of need.



3 ALWAYS STAY ALERT IN PRAYER—

Burdens can be lightened spiritually as we unite to call upon the God of the impossible.

Recovering objective truth, part 1

by Rob Slane

“The basic problem of the Christians in this country in the last 80 years or so, in regard to society and in regard to government,” wrote Francis Schaeffer in his *Christian Manifesto*, “is that they have seen things in bits and pieces instead of totals.” What he meant was that while Christians have seen a whole host of evils creeping into society and culture, they have tended to treat them as isolated issues and have failed to grasp the bigger picture.

Many examples could be given. For instance, we now live in a culture where two men can apparently marry. Christians see this and are horrified, but often fail to see how it came about. Was it just sprung upon us out of nowhere? Or is it not the case that same-sex “marriage” is simply the logical next step in a chain of events that began when people stopped seeing the direct link between marriage, sex, and having children? That’s obvious when you really stop to think about it!

What has been driving these rapid, connected changes we have seen over the last century or so? On a theological level, it is Romans 1 writ large. We gave up on God, so He gave us up to our own lusts. We gave up the truth about God, and exchanged it for a lie. I want to look in a bit more detail at how that “exchanging the truth for a lie” has panned out. Then, next month, I want to ask how we as Christians might begin to respond.

So how did we get to where we are? Taking the marriage example, we didn’t simply move from the truth to a lie in one step. Rather, we

moved there bit by bit, through a whole chain of social changes, each one of which saw the truth being diluted just a little more, until we reached the point in the last few years where men can apparently “marry” men. What drove this?

The answer, I think, is largely bound up in the philosophical system known as the Hegelian Dialectic, a system of thought proposed by the 19th century German philosopher Georg Hegel. His ideas can be said to have basically changed the way people think about the world, not simply by undercutting the truth, but more fundamentally by undercutting the very idea of truth itself. Although his Dialectic is a fairly complex idea, I think it important to try to grasp it, as it is key to where we now find ourselves.

Classical logic proposes the “law of identity” ($A=A$) and the “law of non-contradiction (two ideas cannot contradict each other and both be true). What Hegel did was to effectively tear up these rules. Instead of starting with truth opposing falsehood, he proposed the idea that there was merely a marketplace of competing ideas—thesis and antithesis—each one vying for the mastery. In other words, there is no objective truth, only subjective ideas. No black and white, only 50 shades of gray!

He suggested that these ideas—thesis and antithesis—inevitably clash with one another and out of that clash arises a “new idea”—the synthesis. In time, the synthesis itself becomes a new thesis, which is then opposed by a new antithesis, and once again they clash to bring about

a new synthesis. And so on and so on. In short, the theory suggests a world where there is no truth and falsehood, where everything is in constant flux, and where there is constant tension with no resolution, until the final clash in history which will lead to ultimate truth and freedom.

Now that might well sound like the inane ramblings of a 19th century intellectual, but actually it’s not something we can dismiss since it has had an enormous effect on the way we think. One manifestation of his idea of a world in which progress arises from a constant clash of opposites was that it formed the basis of the revolutionary ideas of Marx and Engels. Yet the Hegelian Dialectic is by no means confined to classical Marxism. In fact, it has formed the basis of most of the social and cultural upheaval we have seen over the past 100 years or so.

This can be seen in the pioneering of someone like Barack Obama, with his constant emphasis on concepts such as “progress” and “change we can believe in.” Whenever you hear a politician using phrases like “not turning the clock back” and “embracing the future,” you can be sure that they are—wittingly or unwittingly—good little disciples of Hegel.

But the strain is often just as evident on what is known as “the right.” For instance, consider the following amazing statement of George W. Bush’s senior advisor and deputy chief of staff, Karl Rove:

“We’re an empire now, and when

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Pete and Sunnie Frank **Gospelink Vietnam**

by Jaclyn Lewis

Pete Frank and his family are passionate about adoption, of more than one kind.

For a vulnerable orphaned child, adoption is a safe passage to a family. And for us believers, our adoption into God's family, through Jesus, is what restores our connection to God.

Yet, just as so many children have no parents or family, millions of people are spiritually orphaned from God's family, with no chance of hearing the Gospel, believing in Jesus, and knowing God as their father.

That's why Pete serves as representative for Gospelink, a ministry

based in Virginia that connects national preachers in 13 third-world countries to sponsors in the United States.

Gospelink focuses on empowering national preachers by supporting the evangelism and church planting efforts they have already begun in their own communities. This is accomplished by linking them to the prayer and financial support of sponsors in the United States. The goal is to accelerate the reach of the Gospel by providing as many people as possible the opportunity to hear about Jesus Christ, and to help them grow spiritually.

"We still support sending U.S. missionaries to the field, by all means," says Pete, "but Gospelink's model is working through nationals, and it's a great compliment to the traditional

missions strategy. In a lot of these places, the people native to the country know Christ, they've been trained, they have a heart for ministry, they know their people, they know their language, and they're accustomed to the culture, because they were born and raised in that nation."

Pete serves as a stateside representative for the 130 Gospelink national preachers in Vietnam and 55 national preachers in India. God led him to launch the Gospelink ministry in Vietnam in 2008 after he and his wife, Sunnie, adopted their two youngest daughters, Mikayla and Mikenzie, from Vietnam.

In fact, joining the Gospelink ministry team "all started with adoption," says Pete.

When Pete and Sunnie were married, Pete's older brother had just adopted a baby girl from India, and adopting always stayed in the back of their minds. In 2005, after their biological children were born—Taylor, Trinity, Trey, and Tyce—and as Pete was serving as a pastor in Indiana, God began weighing adoption heavily on Pete and Sunnie's hearts.

"I remember calling my wife from the church one day and saying, 'I think we're supposed to adopt from Vietnam,' and she said, 'I think so, too.' It was so crystal-clear in our hearts."

In 2006 they travelled to Vietnam to bring home their two daughters. Pete says, "You go halfway around the world to adopt, you might as well bring two kids home!"

When the three-week adoption trip stretched out into two months of delay, God used the extra time to break Pete and Sunnie's hearts for the people of Vietnam.

"It's like in the book of Acts," says Pete, "when the Apostle Paul was

in Athens. It says in Acts 17:16 that Paul's 'spirit was stirred in him when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.' I could relate to that at the time. These incredibly sweet people were created to worship God, but I remember going to so many different Buddhist temples and observing them bowing to idols. It really weighed heavily on our hearts."

There are approximately 90 million people in Vietnam, and only a small minority are believers. The rest are Buddhist, Spiritist, or engage in ancestor worship. Many have never even heard of Jesus.

Once Pete and Sunnie were able to return home with their newly adopted daughters, they continued to see the faces of people they met in Vietnam. They wanted desperately to help, but didn't know where to begin. As they poured out their hearts to God, Pete realized

Gospelink would be a great ministry for Vietnam.

Pete had learned about the ministry in 2001 from a Gospelink speaker he had hosted at his church to preach and share about the ministry. "I thought it was an incredibly effective and efficient model for doing missions," said Pete. He and his family chose to sponsor a preacher from the Ukraine at that time, and over the years have forged a great relationship.

"We support him for a relatively small amount each month, and we pray for him," says Pete. "We get his prayer letters, his reports, and we share those with the family. We pray for him. We've sent letters to him and photos. He's planting churches and doing missions work in his own country, reaching people in the Ukraine that I'll never meet. But he's

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Why SMI?

Pete first learned about Samaritan Ministries from a segment on Christian radio.

"I had gotten health insurance, and the premiums were just getting so high."

After he researched the ministry online and joined, he was thankful to have been pushed out of health insurance.

"It's been a blessing," says Pete, "It's so different from health insurance, like night and day."

Pete and his family have had a few needs, and he's appreciated the quick turnaround. "It's pretty cool to go to your mailbox on the receiving end of things," he says, "and get checks from all over the country from fellow believers just chipping in to meet your need."

"It's not about writing the check each month," he says, "it's way beyond that. It's about really feeling like you're fulfilling those 'one another's' of scripture outside of the context of the local church. It's about being involved in tangible, practical ministry to the Body of Christ."

"Even though you maybe don't know the people personally that you're ministering to each month, you know that they're part of the Body of Christ. When you know they're hurting, it's an opportunity to fill that gap. I really enjoy and look forward to the newsletter each month and seeing who I'm going to be able to hopefully help." ♦

Niacin: The Real Story

by Dr. Abram Hoffer, Andrew W. Saul, and Harold D. Foster
reviewed by David Lehnert

Niacin: *The Real Story* references nearly 300 scientific sources, along with many patient and doctor testimonies, to show that vitamin B3 (niacin) has been used to successfully treat arthritis, mental disorders, heart disease, and dozens of other serious medical conditions.

Abram Hoffer completed a Ph.D. in biochemistry in the 1940s, and during a stint at a food company, was involved in early efforts to put vitamins in the flour used to mass produce bread. He hoped to become a professor, but completed his medical degree in order to have a career that would better support his family. During his residency he decided to become a psychiatrist and went on to pioneer many innovative treatments with niacin, publishing his research until he passed away in 2009.

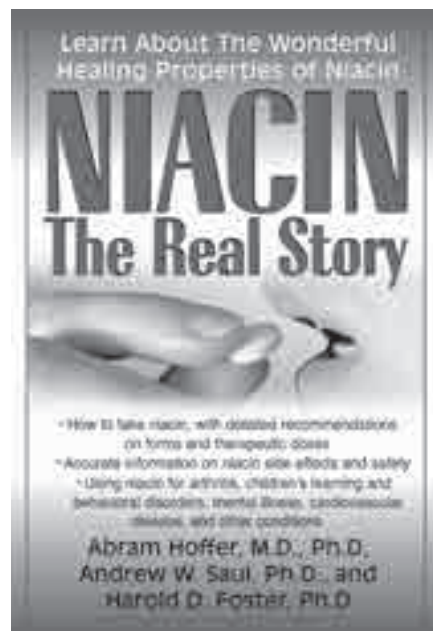
Harold Foster and Andrew Saul spent decades working alongside Hoffer and helped him publish his work, including this book designed to communicate the science in a way that is accessible to everyone. Generally, Hoffer contributes historical accounts of treating patients with niacin, Foster summarizes studies and publications, and Saul introduces and summarizes each topic.

Hoffer is considered a founding father of “orthomolecular medicine.” Orthomolecular means the “correct” or “right” molecule. In contrast, “toximolecular” is the term for a substance which acts as a poison in the body, which would include most pharmaceutical drugs and che-

motherapy. The basic principle of orthomolecular medicine is that for every disease, there are corresponding nutrients—molecules that occur in nature—which can treat that disease. According to the authors, niacin is one example that has been shown to be effective both as a monotherapy and in conjunction with other nutrients to treat a wide variety of diseases.

Niacin comes in several forms: niacin, niacinamide, inositol hexaniacinate, sustained release, and extended release. The most benefits come from the basic form, but with higher doses a “flush” is produced. This flush occurs because niacin dilates blood vessels, and it can range from warm to hot. Saul makes it clear that the flush is not dangerous, and is actually helpful for determining optimum dose. The unpleasantness of the flush will sometimes motivate people to take alternate forms of niacin, which do not produce the flush. However, the book notes that although alternate forms do not cause a flush, they can be expensive and also do not offer the full range of benefits that plain niacin does.

Saul begins by explaining that niacin has been documented to be a necessary component in more than 500 biochemical reactions in our bodies. It has significant benefits in treating heart disease, because it raises high density lipoprotein (HDL) levels and promotes good vascular flow. Dr. Hoffer discusses how niacin can be used as part of a regimen to treat or significantly reduce mental disorders, including schizophrenia,



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bipolar disorder, or common behavior problems like hyperactivity in children.

The book criticizes establishment medicine for treating niacin as if its only use is to prevent its own deficiency when its usefulness in treating a wide variety of diseases is well-documented. Proponents of niacin even encountered blatant censorship when the taxpayer funded MEDLINE database refused to index 43 years worth of the peer reviewed *Journal of Orthomolecular Medicine*. Thankfully the internet made the research available to all.

The book also discusses recommended daily allowances, or RDAs. RDAs are based on an average minimum amount needed to prevent a serious disease from developing, which for niacin is set at 16mg per day or 18mg per day for pregnant women. The authors argue that

RDAs fail to consider that much larger doses are needed to maintain optimum health or to treat specific problems.

Dr. Hoffer and Saul say that the safety of supplementing with optimum doses of niacin is well established. There are no known cases of anyone dying from niacin. It likely would prove toxic at an extremely high dose of about 200 grams, but there are several symptoms a person would experience before reaching that dose. The flush indicates the the body has stopped using the niacin, so it helps determine dose. If a person continued taking more niacin, they would experience nausea. If they kept taking even more in a short period of time, they would likely get very sick and expel the niacin.

Dr. Hoffer explains the connection between pellagra and schizophrenia. Pellagra is a niacin deficiency disease that manifests in severe skin sores and dementia. Three million Americans suffered from it during the 1930s and 1940s, and 100,000 died, but it was eradicated in two years when the government mandated fortifying flour and sugar with vitamins, especially niacin. However, Dr. Hoffer and Saul agree that this great success also resulted in a critical error made by the scientists in this era. The attitude of “vitamins as prevention only” was established, and they say it has impeded medical progress ever since.

Hoffer says that the major symptom of someone suffering from pellagra is a psychosis which is clinically indistinguishable from schizophrenia. In fact, he argues that schizophrenia is essentially a severe case of pellagra.

By adjusting the dose up to the flush point, Dr. Hoffer found that that his patients with pellagra

needed up to one gram of niacin daily—50 times the RDA—and they usually recovered in a few weeks. If they were unresponsive to a gram, Hoffer gradually adjusted their doses even higher. He found that schizophrenics needed three to nine grams daily, and it usually took months or years in order for all their symptoms to be resolved.

There is an excerpt included from Dr. Hoffer telling the experience of a teenager who had schizophrenia and could not find a physician that

would monitor her. She researched many books and websites searching for a treatment that could help her. She found out about niacin and began a supplementation program.

She eventually worked her way up to 60 grams a day—more than 3000 times the RDA. When she hit that dose, the voices she'd been hearing stopped. Three years later, she still takes three grams of niacin daily as a maintenance dose, determined by the flush. Dr. Hoffer says that while this story is a dramatic example of

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Niacin and mental illness, addictions, alcoholism

Additional resources available at Orthomolecular.org

Starting in the early 1950s, Dr. Abram Hoffer successfully treated thousands of schizophrenia patients with niacin, and conducted the first double-blind studies in the history of psychiatry on the subject. He found that niacin given along with traditional drug therapy reduced the amount of medication needed and reduced drugs' side effects. Many of the medical journal articles that have been published on this topic are available free at the Orthomolecular.org website. Hoffer also published a book devoted entirely to this topic: *Healing Schizophrenia: Complementary Vitamin and Drug Treatments*.

Fellow researchers following up on Hoffer's work discovered that in schizophrenics' brains niacin receptors were deficient, not properly synthesizing niacin to produce proteins the brain needed. Post mortem brain samples showed the problem could be resolved with therapeutic doses of niacin. (“The high-affinity niacin receptor HM74A,” *Brain Research Bulletin*, September 2008. <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18639743>>)

Dr. Hoffer also championed the pioneering work of Dr. William Kaufman, who had shown that niacin resolved hyperactivity in animals and people. By the mid 1950s Hoffer had treated thousands of hyperactive children with niacin. He was frustrated by the paradigm shift to drug therapy for hyperactive children in the 1970s, and spoke out about the dangerous side effects. (See chapter 7 of *Niacin: The Real Story*, and search “ADHD” at orthomolecular.org.)

Dr. Hoffer was a friend of the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, Bill Wilson, and found that niacin and other supplements were effective in relieving alcoholics of the anxiety and depression they often report after they stop drinking. The book *The Vitamin Cure for Alcoholism* is focused on this topic. The protocol involves taking niacin very frequently, six times daily, and is summarized in an article on the Orthomolecular.org website: orthomolecular.org/resources/omns/v01n06.shtml. ♦

Evolution, eugenics, abortion, and health care systems

by Dr. Randy J. Guliuzza

Western society's eugenics disaster of the early 20th century sought to weed out the "unfit"—people seen as genetically dragging the human race down. It flowed from a survival-of-the-fittest mentality.¹ The U.S. Supreme Court punctuated this blunder with the *Buck v. Bell* decision (1927) that effectively legalized eugenics practices. Though eugenics became widely stigmatized by the 1970s, a captivating fitness-survival-death mindset has endured. These death-fueled practices haven't missed a step following the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* (1973) decision that legalized abortion, the new eugenics.

The Eugenics-Abortion Link

Early eugenicists won a scientific consensus by using a few strategies. They established peer review to secure credibility, abused peer review to monopolize control, crowned "experts" to project authority, and marginalized dissenters to enforce compliance.¹ Though

the public found forced sterilization distasteful, recent research by social scientists Deborah Barrett and Charles Kurzman reveal how eugenicists perpetuated their practices right under society's nose. They document how eugenics-driven peer review continued by merely renaming the existing periodicals. *The Annals of Eugenics* transitioned to the *Annals of Human Genetics*, *The Eugenics Review* conveniently became *The Journal of Biosocial Science*, and *The Eugenic News/Eugenic Quarterly* morphed into *Social Biology*.²

Noting that eugenics-based ambitions were purposely channeled into abortion-rights activities, they added,

In keeping with the subterranean strategy, some eugenicists continued their work under the cover of non-eugenic disciplines and organizations, such as the birth-control and population-control movements. For example, the first administrator of the Population

Council, a former president of the American Eugenics Society, recalled in 1974 that the post-war birth-control and abortion-rights movements were great eugenic causes, but "[if] they had been advanced for eugenic reasons it would have retarded or stopped their acceptance."¹⁰⁵ Eugenic ideals such as racism, paternalism, scientific authority, and genetic manipulation did not disappear from the world, and were arguably institutionalized in certain wings of the reproductive sciences.³

Like cancer, eugenics spread into another death-driven method of population control: abortion. The old eugenics regrew into a new eugenics. With its atrocious history, how could this happen?

The Root Cause of Eugenics

While eugenics qualifies as a spectacular evolutionary blunder by all accounts, Professor Randolph Nesse accurately does not point the finger at evolution in general but specifi-

cally at Darwinian natural selection. Nesse says, “Most applications were ‘medical Darwinism’ that focused on the welfare of the species. In connection with eugenics, this led to moral and social disaster.”⁴

Darwinism is predicated on death eliminating “unfit” members from populations of creatures as they struggle to survive. That Darwinian *selection* is the root concept nurturing eugenics was unmistakably affirmed by a leading proponent during its heyday in 1927.

In my own mind and in a growing number of other minds...[civilization will end] unless civilisation can find a method of doing for itself what Natural Selection did for man during his ascent—insuring that he shall breed only from his best. The study of how it is possible forms the subject matter of what we now term the Science of Eugenics. We have to replace the ruthless action of Natural Selection by reasoned conduct in civilised man.⁵

That ruthless understanding of Darwinism continues unabated today even in diverse realms. Notably, a recent article critical of the Amazon Corporation quoted a former human resources director claiming that the company implemented “purposeful Darwinism.” This referred to some employees as winners and others as losers who leave or are fired in annual staff cullings.⁶

Unfortunately, those opposing eugenics, abortion, and euthanasia today often point at evolution as fostering these behaviors, but that blame may not be fully on target. Death-driven behaviors are tenaciously rooted in the fitness-survival-death mindsets that encompass selectionist thinking. But those who

embrace these ideas may not even realize this connection. By default, evolutionists must champion natural selection, but various non-evolutionists profess to be big fans also. Indeed, even some Christians claim in language akin to eugenicists that natural selection, though fueled by death, helps the population by getting rid of genetic defects and thus preserves the viability of a population by removing those members with severely harmful or lethal characteristics. They believe this process somehow exhibits God’s care for His creation in a post-Fall world.

Given the broad support for natural selection and that survival-of-the-fittest has not been targeted as a cause for today’s death-culture mentality, it isn’t surprising that eugenics is resurging within the pretext of “evolution.”

Eugenics Is Resurging Today

A 2014 headline in a popular newspaper read “Let’s (Cautiously) Celebrate the ‘New Eugenics,’”⁷ written by a senior research fellow at the University of California-Davis. He describes a new form of eugenics applied through pre-birth genetic screening by medical experts. Genetics tests before or after conception may determine if an unborn child might have a serious disorder.

Preventing genetic diseases is one end of a continuum that leads to dreams of genetically enhancing humans at the other end. Predictably, evolutionist Richard Dawkins dared ask the eugenics-reviving question “Why [is it] acceptable to train fast runners and high jumpers but not to breed them?” He adds, “But hasn’t the time come when we should stop being frightened even to put the question?”⁸

Today’s eugenicists, as explained in “The Eugenic Impulse,”⁹ still think

that crafting humanity using evolutionary methods is noble. The agenda appears in books like *Redesigning Humans*, *Radical Evolution*, *Enhancing Evolution*, *More Than Human*, and *The Price of Perfection*. A 2012 essay in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* details the evolutionary root that is responsible for society’s interest in eugenics. The author, a Johns Hopkins medical historian, highlights why eugenicists “cannot resist the allure of taking control of our own evolution, of engineering our future” and specifically links past-to-present reasons:

“Eugenics is the self-direction of human evolution,” proclaimed the poster for the 1921 International Eugenics Congress. It is this sense of eugenics that Maynard Olson, Matt Ridley, and others are invoking. For example, in *Enhancing Evolution*, John Harris proposes “both the wisdom and the necessity of intervening in what has been called the natural lottery of life, to improve things by taking control of evolution and our future development to the point, and indeed beyond the point, where we humans will have changed, perhaps into a new and certainly into a better species altogether.”⁹

Genetic information is medically valuable. Yet, genetic “engineering” of society—via elimination of those “unfavored” by nature’s lottery—threatens us with another colossal evolutionary blunder implemented by reckless experts. Just like 120 years ago, they still come armed only with the medical knowledge of the day, channeled through agendas crafted by human wisdom that is further disadvantaged by fitness-survival-death beliefs.

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being assisted and facilitated by our giving and our praying. It's a really neat partnership in missions."

Pete and Sunnie dreamed of facilitating this kind of connection between Vietnamese preachers and U.S. sponsors. In 2008, after months of prayer and counsel, God allowed Pete and his family to start Gospelink in Vietnam. It is now one of the largest ministries of its kind in the country.

"It's just amazing what God is doing there to reach people with the Gospel," says Pete. "Churches are being planted, and the Gospel is going out. There are obstacles to the Gospel, as there are everywhere, but the stories coming out of Vietnam are pretty amazing: Buddhists turning to Christ, amazing church plant stories in remote villages. The Lord is building His Church, just as He said. We're just glad to have a part in it, and that God has used us the way He has."

From his home office in Indiana, Pete carries out the administrative work involved in overseeing the

Gospelink programs in Vietnam and India, including reading all the quarterly Gospelink preacher reports and forwarding them to sponsors, and reviewing new preacher applications.

churches. He represents both what sponsored preachers are doing on the field, as well as advocating for preachers who have been approved by Gospelink, but who are still in

The stories coming out of Vietnam are pretty amazing: Buddhists turning to Christ, amazing church plant stories in remote villages. The Lord is building His church, just as He said. We're just glad to have a part in it.

He also leads two-week missions trips to allow U.S. sponsors to meet the national preachers in person.

A big part of Pete's work is visiting churches in America to speak and share what God is doing through the ministry.

Like the speaker that Pete had hosted at his church when he was a pastor, Pete shares what God is doing through Gospelink at

need of sponsors.

And when Pete visits a church on the weekends, he often brings either his wife or one or two of his kids along with him. He is thankful for his whole family's involvement with him in the ministry.

"My wife," he says, "has always been 100 percent faithful, encouraging, and supportive of however I've served the Lord," says Pete, "and in particular, she's supported me with this ministry through Gospelink to Vietnam. She homeschools our children as well as works part time as a beautician from our home, and with the income from her work she sponsors a preacher in Vietnam.

"The kids at home help me with office tasks like stuffing envelopes and sticking stamps. They're always eager to help me with my office work."

And like their mom, all the kids get involved in fundraising for Gospelink causes.

For example, when their son, Tyce, overheard his parents talking about the three grandsons of the preacher

The image shows a screenshot of the Gospelink website. At the top left is the Gospelink logo, which includes a cross and a person. To the right of the logo is the tagline "HELPING YOU ADVANCE THE GOSPEL THROUGH NATIONAL PREACHERS". Below the logo and tagline is a navigation menu with the following links: ABOUT, SPONSOR, DONATE, CURRENT NEEDS, LEAVE, and CONTACT. The main content area features a large banner for "SPONSOR AN ORPHAN". The banner includes a photograph of a young child and the text: "Provide a child with the basic necessities they need to live, to have a deep understanding of God's love for them, and to have hope for their future." Below the banner is a button that says "CLICK TO LEARN MORE". At the bottom of the page, there are four buttons: SPONSORSHIP, MEDIA, VOICES OF ZAMBIA, and NEWSLETTER.

Niacin: The Real Story

Continued from page 7

Sunnie sponsors, and how the boys couldn't afford to go to school because their father had passed away, Tyce quietly laid the money he had earned mowing lawns on his Dad's desk to pay for the boys' education.

As God continues to grow the reach of Gospelink's ministry, Pete is in awe of how God has worked through both physical and spiritual adoption to bring people into His family.

"It's been said that adoption is the visible Gospel," he says, "and that's true. But in our case, adoption has been a visible Gospel in more ways than one. There have been literally thousands of people who have come to Christ in Vietnam through the work of Gospelink's national preachers. Unreached people who were exposed to the Gospel, and wouldn't have been, without that missions partnership that's in place now."

And that Gospelink missions partnership in Vietnam would never have existed without Pete and Sunnie adopting Mikayla and Mikenzie back in 2006.

"I feel like I've stepped on board a moving ship," says Pete, "God is at the helm, and I'm just along for the ride!" ♦

niacin's safety and treatment potential, he does warn against self-dosing up to such a high amount, and that a treatment plan should be worked out with your doctor.

The authors contend that perfectly healthy adults need several hundred milligrams of niacin per day, and most adults probably need 1600 to 1800 milligrams per day, which is about 100 times the RDA. Dosage should go up from there for anybody dealing with health challenges.

Arthritis is another disease that shows a clinical response to niacin supplementation. Saul tells the story of Dr. William Kaufman, a doctor who successfully treated thousands of arthritic patients with niacin about the same time Hoffer was making breakthroughs with schizophrenia. Those suffering with arthritis tend to find the flush aggravates their joint pain, so Dr. Kaufman prescribed niacinamide. He recommended doses up to four grams a day for severely crippled patients, and writes that doses of 250 mg spread throughout the day are much more effective than single doses of 500 mg or more. Dr. Kaufman says that on average he saw positive changes in his patients after one to three months, but that it can take longer depending on how advanced the arthritis is.

Dr. Kaufman wrote a book entitled *The Common Form of Joint Dysfunction*, in which he discusses his years of experience working with niacinamide to treat arthritis. Saul describes Kaufman's book as an invaluable resource for anyone wanting to treat their arthritis nutritionally, and Hoffer and Foster echo his sentiments. They contrast niacinamide with Vioxx, a pharmaceuti-

cal drug used to treat arthritis. Vioxx was voluntarily taken off the market by its producer, Merck and Co., after it was associated with approximately 70,000 deaths, mainly cardiovascular related. Hoffer and Foster say that niacinamide is cheaper, more effective, and hasn't killed anyone who used it.

Niacin's versatility as a nutritional therapy was well demonstrated by Dr. Ruth Flinn Harrell, who worked with young children suffering from learning disabilities. She and her team used nutrients in large doses to help improve the functioning of children with brain damage or dysfunction. Dr. Harrell recalls the case of a 7-year-old boy who had never spoken a word and still had to wear diapers. After 40 days of her hyper-nutrition program, the boy's IQ improved from the 25-30 range to about 90. He could talk, ride a bike, play with classmates, and otherwise function in a normal manner. Dr. Harrell reported remarkable success with her treatment program and was able to help children with Down syndrome and those who had suffered damage from brain surgery for cancer or other medical conditions.

The book also discusses the anti-aging properties of niacin because of its ability to inhibit toxic reactions on a cellular level that would occur if there wasn't enough niacin in the cell.

A final chapter briefly discusses niacin's therapeutic usefulness in treating conditions such as allergies, Alzheimer's, anxiety, cancer, cataracts, fatigue, migraines, obesity, Parkinson's, post-traumatic stress disorder, Raynaud's disease, skin conditions, and viral illnesses. ♦

Answering two questions is vital: 1) How do today's citizens get informed on genetics-based eugenics, and 2) what outcome is expected when they are equipped with that information? Today's answers foreshadow a repeat of government or expert coercion that leads to deadly outcomes.

Before the formalization of government-coerced eugenics programs, eugenics was promoted in 1912 by coercing prospective parents via a twisted version of the doctor-patient relationship. Britain's leading eugenicist implored doctors to swap unbiased presentations of information for subtle pressure on patients during counseling. He writes,

But great as is the influence of medical opinion on public action, it is more than equalled [sic] by the weight which the individual medical man can exert in his private relationship either as a consultant or as a family doctor. He is the confidential friend of many men and women, and as such in a quiet and unobtrusive way he can do much to encourage the fit to parentage and discourage the unfit.¹⁰

That tactic inspires today's eugenicists. A 1998 worldwide survey of over 2,900 genetics professionals found a strong association between eugenics-based thinking and the goals of genetics in medicine.¹¹ Furthermore, this research revealed that "directiveness" in counseling, based on pessimistically biased information of persons with genetic disabilities, influences parental decisions after prenatal diagnosis. Information delivered by genet-

ics professionals underlies "patient education and consent"—the first step in health care provision. Only voluntary consent is truly valid. Consent that is given under persuasion is manipulation. Voluntary decisions mature from deliberations of accurate information and not misinformation that stigmatizes certain disabilities.

Depending on circumstances and how information is presented, when counselors tell patients the current "standard of care," or "weigh the impact on the family," or even consider "the needs of financially strained healthcare systems," patients could be coerced.

Certainly, the government has enormous financial interests in prenatal screening. A comprehensive report on the cost effectiveness of California's prenatal screening program in 1999 estimated lifetime medical costs of \$450,000 for a person with Down syndrome.¹² These researchers disclose how the government intends to avoid paying that money:

For evaluation purposes and to assess the benefits of the Program, NTD [neural tube defect], AWD [abdominal wall defect], and Down syndrome were selected as the major birth defects that the Program was designed to detect and prevent.¹²

Prevent? Screening doesn't "prevent" people with these conditions from entering society—abortion does. Further, the report labels events for the government as "missed opportunities" when citizens are informed that their child will have Down syndrome and still choose life over abortion.

Death-driven behaviors follow in a society so steeped in survival-of-the-fittest thinking that scholars recently set a perverse tone for explanations of how *beautiful* creatures emerged over time, all starting with, "In a cut-throat world where only the fittest survive..."¹³ When fitness-survival-death notions are even used to teach children why dog hair lengths vary in different niches, then death can be invoked as an avenue toward good for everything.

Today's eugenics-abortion link is stronger than ever. One president of the American Board of Medical Genetics plainly affirmed,

I come now to the final question regarding prenatal diagnosis and eugenics—does prenatal diagnosis involve deprivation of life? The answer, in real terms, is certainly yes. Whatever the theory might be with regard to prenatal diagnosis as merely providing information, prenatal diagnosis and abortion are inextricably linked.¹⁴

After 63 million abortions in the United States since 1973, including the selling of aborted babies' body parts, isn't it time to adopt origins explanations that condemn death-driven methods and promote a culture of life?

"For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works" (Psalm 139:13-14). ♦

Guliuza, R. 2016. "Major Evolutionary Blunders: Survival of the Fittest, Eugenics, and Abortion." Acts & Facts. 45 (1): 12-14. Copyright © 2016 Institute for Creation Research, www.icr.org. Used by permission. Available online at <http://www.icr.org/article/major-evolutionary-blunders-survival>

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Rights vs. wishes

Continued from page 1

Doing so, in the case of my right to free speech, it might impose obligations on others to supply me with an auditorium, microphone, and audience. My right to travel freely might require that others provide me with resources to purchase airplane tickets and hotel accommodations. If I were to demand that others make sacrifices so that I can exercise my free speech and travel rights, I suspect that most Americans would say, "Williams, yes, you have rights to free speech and traveling freely, but I'm not obligated to pay for them!"

As human beings, we all have certain natural rights. Of the rights we possess, we have a right to delegate them to government. For example, we all have a natural right to defend ourselves against predators. Because we possess that right, we can delegate it to government. By contrast, I do not have a right to take one person's earnings to give to another. Because I have no such right, I cannot delegate it to government. If I did take your earnings to provide medical services for another, it would rightfully be described and condemned as an act of theft. When government does the same, it's still theft, albeit legalized theft.

When God gave Moses the eighth commandment—"Thou shalt not steal"—I am sure that He did not mean "thou shalt not steal unless there is a majority vote in Congress."

If you're a Christian or a Jew, you should be against these so-called rights. When God gave Moses the eighth commandment—"Thou shalt not steal"—I am sure that He did not mean "thou shalt not steal unless there is a majority vote in Congress." The bottom line is medical care, housing, and decent jobs are not rights at all, at least not in a free society; they are wishes. As such, I would agree with most Americans—because I, too, wish that everyone had good medical care, decent housing, and a good job. ♦

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Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Hebrews 13:3 tells us to “Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.” Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world are being persecuted for the sake of the Gospel. We need to remember them in prayer. Each month, the Christian Health Care Newsletter will provide updates gleaned from such sources as World Watch Monitor and The Voice of the Martyrs and offer prayer points. Please use them in your personal or group prayer time.

Chinese Christian suffocates

A Chinese church leader's wife died from suffocation after she and her husband were pushed into a pit during the demolition of their house church in the central province of Henan on April 14, International Christian Concern and China Aid report. The demolition of the Beitou Church in Zhumadian was ordered to clear the way for new development. Li Jiangong and his wife, Ding Cuimei, stood in the way of the bulldozers as they tried to stop the destruction. China Aid reports that the couple was pushed into a pit by a bulldozer. Li was able to escape, but his wife suffocated before she could be rescued. *Pray for Li as he grieves the loss of his wife and for the Beitou Church as it finds a place to worship. Praise God for the witness of Ding Cuimei.*

Chinese pastor released

Pastor Gu Yuese was released from detention in China and put into “residential surveillance” in April,

according to ICC. He was detained in January for opposing government removal of crosses from church buildings. *Thank God for Yuese's release, and pray that his witness and that of other Chinese Christians will shine brightly through the darkness of the Communist nation. Pray also for others detained along with Yuese.*

Mexican pastor released

Praise God that Pastor Pedro Vazquez, who was kidnapped from his village in Chiapas, Mexico, has been released, according to Voice of the Martyrs. The pastor was abducted March 29 for several days by a violent group known as Chinchulines and released in mid-April.

‘Ideological re-examination’

The government of North Korea has announced it will conduct an “ideological re-examination” of its citizens, ICC reports. During such times, the loyalty of every citizen is determined and background checks are conducted. One source says families with defectors are removed from their posts and considered to be in a “hostile class,” even if the defector is a distant relative. *Pray for the protection of North Koreans during this time of scrutiny and intimidation, for the growing underground Church of between 200,000 and 400,000 believers, and for the many believers in prison.*

Former Muslim sentenced

A former Muslim who has become a Christian in Kazakhstan has been sentenced to two years in a labor camp. Yklas Kabduakasov was first arrested in August 2015, spending 12 weeks in prison before getting a

sentence of seven years of house arrest. He sought full acquittal, denying he had insulted Islam. In December, a court changed his sentence to two years' imprisonment in the labor camp. *Pray for Yklas as he prepares an appeal, for his eight children, and for fair treatment of Christians in Kazakhstan.*

Pastor's wife beaten

Vietnamese police beat the wife of a Mennonite pastor recently after she met with U.S. officials, ICC says. Tran Thi Hong was taken to a police station and beaten for information after she met with Rabbi David Saperstein, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom. Her husband, Nguyen Cong Chinh, a pastor, was arrested in 2011 and sentenced in March 2015 to an 11-year sentence. *Pray for Tran Thi Hong's rapid recovery from the bruising that resulted from her beating. Pray also that God will interfere with the Vietnamese police's attempt to act with impunity against dissenters.*

Pastor, pregnant wife attacked

An Indian pastor and his pregnant wife were nearly burned alive by unknown assailants in mid-April after their church was attacked in India's Chhattisgarh State, ICC reports. *Pray for physical and spiritual healing for Pastor Deenanath and his wife and for the health of the baby. Pray also for God's protection for Christians in Chhattisgarh.* ♦

For more information on the persecuted church, contact The Voice of the Martyrs (www.persecution.com, 877-337-0302), International Christian Concern (www.persecution.org, 800-422-5441) or World Watch Monitor (worldwatchmonitor.org).

we act, we create our own reality. And while you're studying that reality—judiciously, as you will—we'll act again, creating other new realities, which you can study too, and that's how things will sort out. We're history's actors ... and you, all of you, will be left to just study what we do."

That has to be one of the clearest expressions not only of the Hegelian Dialectic itself, but also of how the idea can be used by clever manipulators to bring about social change. It is not simply that one man proposed a theory, and there are followers today who still believe it to be true. No, the concept of the Hegelian Dialectic is used by those in positions of power—whether in government, media, or the corporate world, whether on "the right" or "the left"—to manipulate people for their own predetermined ends.

Here's how it works. Imagine living in a society where marriage is seen by 99 percent of people as being between one man and one woman for life. There are, however, some radicals who despise the concept of marriage and want to destroy it. What do they do? They can't destroy it overnight, so what they do is pick a particular problem within marriage—say, the fact that there are some marriages where the husband is physically abusive—and they begin to focus all attention on this, calling for something to be done.

Now, domestic abuse is a great evil and something does need to be done about it. But that something should not be a solution that leads to easy divorce for everyone. However, since the real aim of the radicals is the destruction of marriage, this is exactly what they start calling for. And so the thesis and

antithesis is set. On the one hand, there are the conservative Christians who, while wanting to protect women using other social and legal tools, do not want to destroy the sanctity of marriage but want to say no to easy divorce. On the other hand, there are the abused wives, whose plight is rightly mentioned, but whose numbers are blown out of proportion by the radicals. Those who (like Jesus) want to limit divorce are portrayed by the radicals as callous, and, slowly but surely, their message seeps into the minds of the masses in the middle: "You don't want to be like those cruel and heartless people, do you? Why, they're as bad as the abusers themselves."

By playing the two sides against each other, the radicals end up persuading the mass of people in the middle to accept a solution which actually doesn't deal with the problem of the abusive marriages. What it really does is deal with all marriages. Thus, by using the abuse issue as bait, the new reality of no-fault divorce (synthesis) is created, and the conservative Christians are left scratching their heads wondering what just happened, while the radicals have already moved on to set up their next clash and new reality, which is acceptance of homosexuality, followed by civil unions, followed by same-sex marriage, followed by who knows what.

Actually we already know what follows. Same-sex marriage is already yesterday's news. The new Dialectic being fought over is transgenderism, but the tactics are the same. The thesis is that people should use the restrooms of their biological sex; the antithesis is that there are people

identifying as transgender wanting to use a restroom not aligning with their biological sex. Those advocating it say it is a right and humane to allow this. Those against are portrayed as callous and you—Joe Public—don't want to be like them, do you?

But while this is an important battle, understand that this is not the real war. It is not just another one of those "bits and pieces" that Francis Schaeffer mentioned. The real issue was revealed recently by a prominent far-left social change activist, Riki Wilchins, in an article he wrote for *The Advocate*. He called his piece, "We'll Win the Bathroom Battle When the Binary Burns," and as this suggests, he said that the end game is nothing to do with who uses which bathroom, but rather the creation of a society where anyone can use whatever bathroom they want, because the very concepts of male and female have entirely disappeared.

We must understand the real issue. When we've lost the bathroom battle, and we're left scratching our heads over what happened, the radicals will have moved on to create their next reality, taking them ever closer to their goal of a society that no longer even recognizes the categories of male and female (and probably "disciplines" those who still do). Understanding this, and the Hegelian tactics at play, is vital if we are to know how to respond. I'll be taking a look at that next month. ♦

Rob Slane lives with his wife and six home-educated children in Salisbury, England. He is the author of The God Reality: A Critique of Richard Dawkins' The God Delusion, contributes to the Canadian magazine Reformed Perspective, and blogs on cultural issues from a Biblical perspective at www.theblogmire.com.

You search the Scriptures
because you think that in them
you have eternal life; and it is
they that bear witness about Me,
yet you refuse to come to Me
that you may have life.

John 5:39-40

It is possible to diligently seek to live by the commands of Scripture, yet miss knowing Jesus and living in communion with Him. The Scriptures provide principles we need to make wise decisions in our lives, which is a huge benefit, but they are intended for more than that.

In John 15, Jesus tells us the importance of abiding in Him. Be careful not to slip into seeking to obey the Scriptures for the advantages this offers, yet miss living in fellowship with Jesus and depending on Him. The Scriptures bring us to eternal life only when we come to Christ.

For the Kingdom,



Ray King