LIFEWATCH
A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF ALLIANCE FOR LIFE INTERNATIONAL
FEBRUARY 2026

IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD, PART III

We continue our focus on the need for a children's rights movement as promoted by authors Kathy Faust and Stacy Manning in their book: *Them Before Us.*

We are reminded how adult decisions impact children in instances such as marriage, divorce, cohabitation, same-sex unions, and the use of reproductive technologies.

In our previous *LifeWatch*, we examined how most children who experienced the divorce of their parents suffered because of it.

In this issue, we will turn our attention toward children raised by same-sex parents. Let's start with a reminder of the foundational principles needed for children to thrive [1]:

- Biology: A wide body of research confirms that biological parents offer the best environment to raise children
- Complementary gender is not optional but essential to child-rearing
- The loss of a parent harms the child

In spite of there principles not being met in same-sex unions, studies show that the children raised under these circumstances fare no different than those raised by their own biological parents [2]. For this to be true, you would have to negate all previous research!

In 2015, the Heritage Foundation issued a report to explain the bias they found in these studies. First, the studies' participants knew that their answers would help advance their cause supporting same-sex marriage [3].

Another flaw in methodology may explain the "too rosy picture" from these arrangements: the same-sex parents (cont. p.2)



ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE ARE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, LOUISE ALLARD

AN UPDATE FROM UGANDA

This new year is stretching before us like a promise already in progress. We can't buy the time that has already passed. Instead, we are focusing on the present to make each day count.

The life of our Pregnancy Resource Center and Celebration Bakery and Training Center in Uganda has returned after an election season that slowed everything down.

President Museveni was reelected and offers the best chance for continued progress while maintaining safety and peace. This is very important to us as a foreign NGO.

Our bakery training center welcomed two women who will be with us for 4-6 weeks to learn pastries and cakes. Even with a scholarship, (thanks Steven!) (cont. p. 3)

IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD, PART III

were asked questions such as: “Is your child struggling with depression?” The parents answered the questionnaires, not the children. Not surprisingly, the study did not find major differences. The author reports: “children of same-sex parents had fewer reported difficulties than children of different-sex parents [4].”

Participants were not selected at random but volunteered. The studies had often less than 40 children living under these conditions [5]. These studies can provide anecdotal evidence but no statistical findings could be derived from them.

To remedy this lack of reliable outcomes, researcher and author, Mark Regnerus, studied randomly selected adults raised with same-sex parents and found significant differences in 25 out of 40 outcomes evaluated compared to adults raised in intact biological families. There was a deluge of criticism from same-sex activists. The study results proved reliable [6].

Enter Paul Sullins, a well-known researcher. He performed the mother of all studies: from the U.S. National Health Interview Survey, and out of 1.2 million cases, he gathered 512 same-sex-parent families. The outcomes are as follows: 9.3 percent of children from same-sex families suffered emotional or behavioral difficulties compared to 4.4 percent in dual-gender families. Here are the main findings [7]:

- definite or severe emotional problems in 14.9 percent vs 5.5
- ADHD in 15.5 percent vs 7.1
- Learning disabilities in 14.1 percent versus 8
- Special education and mental health care in 17.8 percent vs 10.4

Sullins shared his understanding. The same-sex parents or other characteristic of their families are not at fault for the increased emotional and other difficulties that the children experience.

Only when children are raised by both their biological parents can they experience optimum well-being [8].

Faust points out that the issue with same-sex parenting is not the homosexual parent, it is the *missing* parent. In many ways, they experience the same hardships as other children who miss one biological parent: the adopted child, the child of divorce, or the child conceived via third-party reproduction. But with same-sex parenting, there is also a gender imbalance caused by the absence of the opposite sex parent [9].

Here is a comment from someone who experienced that lifestyle. Samantha spent the first eight years of her life with her biological father and his gay partner:

“My formative years were almost entirely devoid of women. I didn’t even know that there was such a thing as a mother until I watched *The Land Before Time* at school. My five-year old brain could not understand why I didn’t have the mom that I suddenly desperately wanted. I felt the loss. I felt the hole. As I grew, I tried to fill that hole with aunts, my dad’s lesbian friends, and teachers. I remember asking my first-grade teacher if I could call her Mom. I asked that question of any woman who showed me any amount of love and affection. It was instinctive. I craved a mother’s love even though I was well loved by my two gay dads [10].”

The hunger for the missing parent is palpable. There is plenty of love from the dads. It is still not enough to meet the child’s needs.

We would be remissed not to mention the adults who were raised in transgender families. The pain is huge for the children who are abandoned by a parent seeking their own idea of a relationship. Joshua was in his senior year of high school when his dad became “Karen”. At age 36, Joshua suffered “a massive mental breakdown.” He shared: “Twenty-one years ago I lost my father. The hardest part of losing him is that he didn’t die. One day he walked out the door and never returned [11].”

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The foundational principles needed for children to thrive:

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REPORT FROM UGANDA

It is difficult for them to raise funds for the remaining. Therefore, we are very flexible. They pay week-by-week. They take a week off in between to earn school fees. But then they will acquire a marketable skill. Most often, they will supplement their family income by working from home.

We also take two days to teach them business skills such as accounting, price-setting, business set-up, cleanliness, procuring equipment and supplies, etc. See pictures.

Our goal this year is to increase our presence in the churches. Some denominations are more welcoming than others. So, we will focus on those. They welcomed all our teaching such as the Billings Ovulation Method and the Youth Sexual Integrity Program.

The Kibaale District approved our revised designs for the children's hospital facilities. We are still awaiting the recommendations and approval of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.

It will open a new season for the St Raphael Hospital Project focusing on activities related to construction.

As always, we count on your continued support either to provide for the needs of the PRC or to become a St Raphael Founding Member.

We are so thankful that you prioritize your giving in this new year to include the work of the *Alliance.* May God reward you richly.

IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD….

Joshua maintained a relationship with Karen and said: "[T}he person that sits here today [Karen] is entirely different to the person that I grew up with. They are not the same people. I don't have a father anymore. The day that she said, "I want to live the rest of my life as a woman," she exploded an enormous bomb, and the carnage from that will exist forever. It will go on. It won't stop [12]."

This is the ultimate form of prioritizing the parent's desire to live his life free from family responsibilities and break the bonds irremediably.

Putting children's needs before our own as adults means that we consider that children will likely thrive when they are raised by both biological parents. All other arrangements such as divorce, cohabitation, same-sex parenting, or recourse to third-party reproduction cause an inordinate amount of pain to children and for a lifetime.

Government entities may start removing the terms "mother" and "father" from legislation. They will use "parent" instead. That's a step in the wrong direction which must be opposed [13].

How can we help those children raised with a missing parent, regardless of the reason? A boy raised without a father needs role modeling. Manhood is not acquired from a woman or two; it is transmitted by a man [14]. Invite the boy to manly activities. A woman can do the same for a girl who is missing a mom in her life [15].

It's also a good opportunity to validate a child's feelings about their missing parent if the child confesses his sadness [16].

In the next issue of *LifeWatch,* we will examine how children that came through third-party reproduction experience their lives.

Alliance for Life International

Trusting God with Life
February 2026

Alliance for Life International is a Catholic Christian, non-profit educational and charitable organization committed to assist and encourage States in building cultures of life in which preborn children are welcome and the lives of those who are vulnerable are protected. The lack of essential medical care in Uganda is a reflection of health disparities found in socially disadvantaged countries. We are leading and cooperating with church partners to bring modern medical care in Uganda.

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