



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM  
PRO FAMILIA

Prot. N. 2007/0683-IX/16

Vatican City, November 26, 2007

Your Excellency,

Please receive my warm greetings.

I have been informed of your query whether groups promoting family and life may receive funds from pharmaceutical companies that produce contraceptives or abortifacient pills.

Accepting donations from those who promote abortion and contraception will compromise the Gospel of the Family and of Life, and will greatly harm our efforts to strengthen and defend the family and life; hence, it should not be done.

First, in this concrete case, the funds offered also come from actions that are morally evil, abortion and contraception. Accepting such funding creates confusion among the faithful, as they give the impression that abortion and the production, distribution, and use of contraceptives and abortifacients are acceptable practices. Besides, in their advertisements and promotional materials, these companies could say that they help the Catholic Church, and thus give the false idea that their contraceptive and abortion causing products and services are acceptable.

Second, the risk exists for the pro-family groups receiving similar funding to be at least silent about the unacceptability of such products.

Third, it would provide those working against the family grounds for extremely persuasive criticism to attack and discredit Church organizations and the Church herself – especially through charges of incoherence and insincerity.

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On a positive note, please rest assured that God's providence is never lacking for those who keep His teachings. Furthermore, if the faithful are seriously formed in Christian values and frequently strive to receive God's grace, especially through the sacraments of the Eucharist and Confession, they will be extremely generous in supporting truly laudable projects with their prayers and contributions in terms of time, effort and resources. In this regard, there is no need at all to receive funding from questionable sources, an action that besides will directly go against efforts towards truly Christian formation.

With every best wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ A. Card. López Trujillo  
\* Alfonso Card. López Trujillo  
President