

KIRILL, PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA.

To the participants of the Moscow Demographic Summit: Family and the Future of Humankind
June 29-30, 2011.

Moscow 26.05.2011.

Document # 01/3939.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

I greet with all my heart the participants of the Summit whose aim is to defend traditional family values and to analyze the world's demographic problems.

Organized by the World Congress of Families, this forum stands up for inviolability of human life, it speaks out against abortions, so-called same sex 'marriages', euthanasia, drug addiction and alcoholism.

This event has brought together leading scientists, politicians, entrepreneurs and public figures from many countries. This provides a framework for a fruitful discussion. This also gives us hope that decisions taken here will draw a response from the world.

The family is established by God. The Holy Scripture says the following regarding the creation of the first married couple: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it." Gen. 1:27-28

Since the creation of the Universe the family has a special purpose, by renouncing it the human race endangers the very foundation of its own existence.

I am convinced that all the healthy forces of society must unite to preserve the institution of the family and moral values. I hope that presentations by the numerous guests of the Summit will become a testimony demonstrating that the majority of the population of Europe, America, Africa and Asia is united in their determination to defend the family and morality.

I wish that God would help the organizers and participants of the forum and that their work would be crowned with success.

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