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Dear Colleague,

This week we report on two more instances of Western countries and NGOs ratcheting up the pressure on sovereign nations to liberalize their abortion laws.

Nicaragua, whose National Assembly unanimously passed an abortion ban in 2006, was recently berated by 11 nations at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva to reform their abortion laws. Helping to instigate this pressure was Amnesty International, which issued a press release calling on Nicaragua to “decriminalize abortion in all circumstances,” despite the fact that Amnesty has repeatedly said [publicly](#) that it “does not take any position on whether abortion is right or wrong.”

Also, we report on the newest report from the American abortion-rights law firm, the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), which is up to its old tricks in trying to use bogus arguments based on “international law” to convince the people of Kenya, who are currently drafting a new constitution, that they must liberalize their abortion laws.

Western Nations Continue to Pressure Nicaragua on Abortion Laws

By Samantha Singson

(NEW YORK – C-FAM) At the recently concluded session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, Nicaragua came up against intense and concerted international pressure from fellow United Nations (UN) member states over the abortion ban the Latin American country’s National Assembly adopted unanimously into law four years ago.

Despite promising initial evidence that the prohibition on abortion has helped lower maternal mortality rates, Nicaragua has been the target of international pressure and scrutiny from UN agencies, donor governments and non-governmental organizations.

Last month, Nicaragua underwent the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), which is an opportunity for the UN Human Rights Council - an inter-governmental UN body made up of 47 States responsible for addressing situations of human rights violations and making recommendations on them - to examine the human rights record of all member states. Each country is reviewed every four years with the aim of ensuring compliance with international human rights obligations. [Read more](#)

picking up steam. See our [webpage](#) devoted to this issue for the latest information, including a clip from the O'Reilly Factor and the op-ed in this Monday's Washington Times.

Spread the word.

Your Sincerely,

Terrence McKeegan, J.D.
Vice President / Senior Counsel

New Report by American Law Firm Pushes for Abortion in Kenya

By Terrence McKeegan, J.D.

(NEW YORK – C-FAM) Earlier this month, the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), a New York-based public interest law firm that seeks to expand abortion access globally, released a report titled, "In Harm's Way: The Impact of Kenya's Restrictive Abortion Law." The report and a related video (which was highlighted on CNN this week) were first made public at a CRR side event at the Beijing +15 UN Commission on the Status of Women. [Read more](#)



Editor in Chief – Austin Ruse
Managing Editor – Terrence McKeegan, J.D.
Assistant Managing Editor – Hannah Russo
Chief Correspondent – Samantha Singson
Contributors – Susan Yoshihara, Ph.D.

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