

Testimonials from Students Applying to the Pope Paul VI Institute's Education Programs
1978–2017

1978–1982

"Fertility is a very precious and special gift. It is not an illness and one should not have to take a pill because of it." -0100026, 1978

"It is sad and ironic that the women's movement, which supposedly stands for freedom for women, is really enslaving them by promoting so-called 'reproductive freedom.'" -0300014, 1980

1983–1987

"It grieves me so much that both contraception and abortion are children of ignorance." -0700013, 1984

"...My work in public health...has also made me so much more aware of the vulnerability of our young people groping for love with so little understanding of what love is...The message they so often receive in crisis of an unwanted pregnancy is 'have an abortion now and take the pill in the future...'" -1000035, 1987

1988–1992

"We were impressed by a faith that said no to contraception and provided such a wonderful alternative...we decided to seek (catechetical) instruction and became Catholic in January 1980." -1100008, 1988

"Two years ago a woman came to me for a pregnancy test. When I confirmed the test as positive she asked for a referral for an abortion...I tried to talk alternatives...(but) she left. Last month she stopped by the office unexpectedly with her oldest daughter...They were on their way to a scheduled abortion (for her daughter). As they drove by my office the mother felt compelled to stop. Unconsciously, she desired to save her daughter the agony she was suppressing over her own abortion...the daughter agreed to consider open adoption for her unborn baby. Had I given in to the 'hard case' 2 years ago, I don't think this unborn child would be alive today." -1500004, 1992

1993–1997

"I...see referrals from family doctors regarding the sometimes devastating effects of oral contraceptives (stroke, deep venous thrombosis, depression, infertility). I would like to give these patients a real alternative." -1700017, 1994

"My family and I were a foster family for pregnant teenagers. These girls ranged in age from 11 to 17 and had a universal lack of knowledge about their bodies and family planning. One girl was even having her second baby at age 16. This underlined in my mind the need for fertility awareness for this age group." -1900007, 1996

"Genuine love manifests itself in the marital act through complete and mutual self-giving. Natural family planning preserves the wholeness of the marital act in regard to all the dimensions of the human person, namely biological, psychological, social, and spiritual." -2000016, 1997

1998–2002

"Unfortunately, I have seen a continued rise in the application of situational morality among my patients (Catholics, Protestants and otherwise) which has resulted in a precipitous decline in the willingness of adults to accept responsibility for their behavior and its consequences. I have become convinced that my practice of prescribing birth control pills, performing tubal sterilizations, and recommending other forms of contraception have done nothing to curb this trend, (and,) in fact, it may have made it worse." -2300074, 2000

"I also hope to learn the signs of basic gynecological pathologies and methods of treating them other than the hormone pills that seemed to be presented as the panacea to everything in medical school. I would like to have more than just a hammer in my toolbox since not all gynecological pathology is a nail." -2500013, 2002

2003–2007

“The Creighton Method doesn’t begin and end with charting one’s cycle. It is the foundation for medical care, if the need arises.”-2600031, 2003

“As a nurse who works in a pediatric intensive care unit at a major hospital, I have cared for several children who were conceived through (IVF). These young patients suffered from severe metabolic disorders or other congenital problems, often fatal. Their parents sometimes bore the additional stress of having had a twin ‘selectively reduced.’ The fact that these disorders are found in babies who seemed fine in utero...emphasized to me that IVF is far from the panacea for infertility that its proponents suggest.”-2900034, 2006

2008–2012

“One of my jobs (as a missionary) was to travel with a mobile health an out into the barrios of Quito, where the very poor lived. This Catholic charity provided almost-free medical and dental care, and, as I was surprised to discover while examining a cupboard, oral contraceptives...I then asked to give a few introductory talks about NFP to the women of the barrios...I will never forget the expression in the women’s eyes as I spoke: hope.”-3100022, 2008

“God...transformed the eyes of my heart to see the spiritually poorest of the poor in our own country and I believe that one of the primary causes of this deep poverty is contraception.”-3100038, 2008

“How has it come to pass that the standard for healthcare for women in the modern world involves essentially shutting down the very organ systems that defines them as female?”-330000, 2010

“The power of the Holy Spirit commanded me to proclaim bravely, ‘To show you the validity of NaPro, through an evaluation of my cervical mucus, I tell you that I’m ovulating today.’ This physician didn’t believe that an unmedicated

woman with my diagnosis (at this point a very high FSH) could possibly know when she was ovulating. He demanded bloodwork and ultrasound which showed that I was correct. Then he sat there stunned.”-3400023, 2011

“I remember a patient saying to me ‘If my husband and I can talk about mucus, then we can talk about anything.’”-3400057, 2011

2013–2017

“Amidst the confusion and cacophony of the mass media that overwhelms our young people in a manner reminiscent of the Tower of Babel, the Church is the only voice that declares that what modern society offers is not working and we have a working alternative.”-3600052, 2013

“Thanks for NaPro TECHNOLOGY, this model has allowed us to give birth to 5 fantastic children. I feel so empowered by being able to review my daily charting, with the help of both a FertilityCare Practitioner and a NaPro doctor, and knowing where I am at in the menstrual cycle. This method has also blessed our marriage with a heightened sense of communication and appreciation for one another.”-3800060, 2015

“We need more authentic witnesses to truth in a world that has a deeply disordered view of marriage, human sexuality, and the human person.”-3900031, 2016

“I dream of a culture that values life, motherhood, and purity. Unfortunately, magazines, media, and even medical doctors today portray a very different story. Pregnancy is a disease, sexual promiscuity is the norm, children are a burden, and abortifacients are common... Women and children deserve better.”-4000018, 2017



This photograph represents the five volumes (each three inches thick) of testimonials that was sent today to the Vatican's new commission on *Humanae Vitae* along with the digital version of the same material.