When Families Fail: What Children Need (Foster Care, Adoption)

Elizabeth R. Kirk, JD Independent Scholar Leigh F. Snead, MA Contributing Author Altfem Magazine

For this presentation, we propose to describe the impact of poverty on mothers and children within the specific context of abortion and the foster care crisis. We will offer reflections on particular Church teachings that bear upon these problems, and how adoption and foster care are integral parts of a Christian response. We will describe how a particular challenge is the soft stigma against adoption as a meaningful response. We will suggest that responses to the problem must involve an emphasis on the Church's teachings on marriage and hospitality. We will end with one or more concrete case studies of commendable responsive initiatives.