

ABSTRACT

A Christocentric Anthropology Versus the Culture of Death

Gerald E. DeMauro, Ph.D.

While anthropomorphism is decried in the more liberal approaches to the social sciences, the underlying disposition of the post-Darwinian world is in conflict: modern trends place man as one of many outcomes of natural dynamics, while more traditional evolutionists place him on top of a main tree with several branches. The confused recent compromise sits man atop the tree, as a benevolent older (or younger) sibling of many in the animal kingdom. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that all of God's creations reveal something of Him, with man being built in His image, and Jesus being the perfect image of the Father. This paper examines the Magisterial approach of the Catholic Church, and what it means to the dignity of life to share in the image of God with Jesus as the perfect image of the Father. An approach centered on what we hold to be true transforms social science into a moral endeavor with human fulfillment as its goal. This restored social science is in fact a fulfilled anthropology in the purest sense of integrated study of God's image and likeness.