



# Perspectives

## NPG LAUNCHES NEW "CAMPAIGN FOR A NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY"

Can you imagine what it will be like to live in an America of 450 or 500 million people?

Not many people have even thought about it. And that's a major problem!

The fact is that unless we do something about this critical problem now, the average 10-year old child today will end up living in such an overcrowded nation, and the economic, social and environmental challenges are going to be overwhelming.

That is why NPG has launched our new "Campaign for a National Population Policy" that will be the centerpiece for many of our activities throughout 2008.

The goal of this new endeavor is simple: to push Congress to create a new U.S. Commission on Population Growth that will help steer our nation toward a sensible and livable future.

For all Americans concerned about today's upward-spiraling population and unrestrained immigration, the need is long overdue for such a government entity to bring together some of our nation's brightest leaders to rethink our nation's "growth at any cost" mentality.

As NPG President Don Mann stated in announcing that NPG will put the full weight of its membership behind this

new grassroots effort, "We can no longer hide from reality when it comes to out-of-control population growth. Areas of our country are already facing major water shortages...We are on a path to a national energy crisis...Our roads are gridlocked and our national infrastructure is crumbling...We are paving over productive farmland and fragile wetlands at an alarming rate...And our lack of restrictive immigration policies has sent our population skyrocketing."

When you realize that our nation is presently growing at the rate of 30 to 40 million people per decade – a number equal to the population of California – there is definitely a compelling need for the federal government to take the lead now in planning how we can keep our nation from such overpowering numbers.

The fact is that in 1970, when America's population stood at 203 million, we passed up an invaluable chance to set our nation on a proper course for the future. That year, Congress created the Commission on Population Growth and the American Future, headed by John D. Rockefeller, III. For two years, it diligently studied our nation's problems and future needs and made 47 recommendations. Had

Congress and then-President Nixon followed the Commission's recommendations our nation would certainly not be confronted with the population and immigration dilemmas that exist today.

A new U.S. Commission on Population Growth will avert future disasters by helping to put the brakes on massive population growth. America is already starved for energy to keep our economy strong. We are confronting a crumbling infrastructure of roads and bridges that cannot accommodate massive increases in traffic and we face endless construction of countless millions new homes, office buildings and commercial centers that will encroach on open spaces and wildlife habitats. Most important, a federal Commission can and must start today to address the issue as to just how our already greatly-indebted nation is going to fund the needs of 450 million people if we don't act.

Don Mann has it right when he says, "For our leaders to push the issue of population growth aside year after year only sets the stage for countless economic, social and environmental

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## GET ACTIVE IN NPG!

With population and immigration issues much more in the news, one of NPG's major goals in 2008 is to have a greater personal presence in states all across the nation. We are presently laying plans to increase our grassroots

activism in key areas and will very much rely on NPG members, teachers and students to take our message into the classroom, to community forums and local events and fairs. In the coming months we will be building a nationwide

volunteer network and invite all who would like to be part of it to sign up today. Please check the appropriate box on the enclosed response form and we will get in touch with you soon.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



*A message from  
NPG President  
Donald Mann*

At the beginning of every new year I look at the challenges ahead and am reminded that NPG's ability to make a difference in our nation and world would never be possible without our dedicated members whose generous support and activism drives our success. Therefore, let me start this column by extending a very sincere "thank you" to all of our members for all you've done – and will continue to do – to make NPG such a proud, successful and effective organization.

As 2008 presents us with new challenges and greater opportunities to expand our message and fulfill our mission, I am extremely encouraged that the immigration and population issues that NPG has focused on for more than 35 years are becoming more dominant in the national media and in everyday discussions among citizens all across America.

Certainly, it is unfortunate that it has taken a national crisis concerning illegal immigration, a growing concern about global warming and the reality of major droughts in large areas of our nation, to get more citizens to realize the disastrous consequences our country faces if we continue to permit our population to skyrocket out of control.

What's so troublesome is that the politicians on Capitol Hill continue to put politics ahead of progress when it comes to enacting long-overdue immigration reform. It says a lot about our nation being unprepared for future population-driven crises when Georgia's governor

calls for a prayer meeting on the steps of the state capital as one of the "solutions" to a devastating drought. We are long past the time when our elected leaders can continue to ignore potential crises that are staring us right in the face. They alone have the power to bring about the solutions to halt – and reverse – America's unchecked population growth and they must begin to act now!

Taking the population issue directly to thousands of America's elected leaders was the purpose of NPG conducting our first *Elected Leaders Survey on Population and Immigration Issues* last March and we are pleased with the results. We received a positive response from hundreds of elected officials at all levels of government who are willing to work with us to help resolve crucial population and immigration problems.

Throughout 2007, NPG was very active in rallying our members to forcefully speak up on key immigration reform measures as they came up in Congress. The informative, targeted ads NPG ran combined with the thousands of constituent petitions we solicited and delivered to Capitol Hill helped defeat such radical measures as amnesty and citizenship for millions of illegal immigrants.

Other key NPG projects of 2007 included launching our long-term *Chesapeake Bay Project* to sound the alarm about the imminent dangers of massive population growth. The Chesapeake Bay watershed is home to many diverse species of fish and wildlife and it is crucial that they do not fall victim to greedy developers.

We also used the occasion of NPG's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year to initiate our very first NPG Student Poster Contest. Students are very receptive to NPG's message of skyrocketing

population as it is their generation that will have to live with the consequences of rampant growth. Invitations went out to thousands of art teachers across the country to join in this project and the winners will be announced in the Spring.

In addition, in recent months we took the initiative to seek input from our members on our newest *NPG Radio Campaign* that will take our message into fast-growing states and communities across the nation.

As 2008 unfolds we will continue our diligent efforts to give NPG more of a powerful presence in America. I am excited about the potential for our *Campaign for a National Population Policy* (see related story) to help us expand our message and membership. We are also looking to greatly increase our member involvement and activism. And, of course, it is vital that we also follow through on our mission to fund valuable research on population issues, publish our informative quarterly newsletter and our *NPG Journal* that reaches thousands of people via the Internet, spread NPG's message through print and radio ads, build our website into a powerful and informative research tool and fund our NPG student scholarships.

With so many opportunities to help drive the national debate on immigration and population issues in the 12 months ahead, we really need you with us. It is your personal and financial support that makes all of our progress possible. If you have not yet renewed your 2008 NPG membership, please use the enclosed "Special Contribution" form to tell us you will continue to be part of our team. Thank you.



### NPG IN THE NEWS

NPG continues to work with media outlets across the country and our message is getting out and being

embraced by more and more Americans. In recent months we have had our press releases and other activities reported by such noteworthy media venues as: MarketWatch, BizJournals.com, Forbes.com, Earth

Times, AOL Money News, Houston Chronicle, State House News Service, Quote.com, Los Angeles Times, Long Beach Press-Telegram, PR Newswire and US Politics Today.

## ASK THE PEOPLE!

In concert with NPG's launch of our Campaign for a National Population Policy, NPG President Don Mann has taken the initiative to write to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez asking that the U.S. Census Bureau include a question about the need for our nation to control population growth in the 2010 Census. In his letter, Mann noted, "It is only right that all American citizens who will be burdened with the negative consequences of today's escalating population should be able to register their desire to see it brought to a halt as soon as possible. A strong response from the American people to this critical question will be a strong incentive for Congress to take action to stop and reverse our population growth as soon as possible." Mann continued, "The U.S. Census Bureau exists to keep Congress informed on vital population information. There is no reason in the world why we should not use its extensive resources that will reach every household in America to determine the sentiment of the American people when it comes to critical population and immigration issues as they relate to our nation's future."

## AMERICA IS ALREADY OVERPOPULATED

"The United States in 2007 is overpopulated."

That's a pretty strong statement for anyone to make and it goes along with our contention here at NPG that America turned the corner years ago on long-term sustainability.

Now, Albert Bartlett, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Physics at the University of Colorado at Boulder, has put forth a very valuable – and easy-to-read – research paper that backs up this claim.

In his *Thoughts On Immigration Into the United States*, Professor Bartlett reminds us that a crisis of sustainability already exists in America but we too willingly turn a blind eye to the evidence all around us. He notes how immigration rates today will boost our present numbers of 303 million Americans to a projected 468 million by 2060. Radically scaling back today's legal and illegal immigration rate of 1.6 million people each year to only 300,000 per year would drop those projected numbers by 80 million!

Through a well-organized text, Professor Bartlett explains how "we live in a world of limits" and how today's population growth is creating a situation where we are "living on the edge" when it comes to sustainability in the areas of agriculture, petroleum and natural gas and "degrading and depleting the global environment upon which all life depends."

Professor Bartlett's conclusion is a great message for all of us to take into the new year, "If we are to bequeath anything to our children, let it be a United States population that is declining in size toward sustainability and which is supported by the use of renewable resources."

We urge all NPG members to take a moment to read this informative paper which we've included with this newsletter. Beside being available in printed text (copies can be requested via the enclosed response form) it can also be accessed online at [www.npg.org](http://www.npg.org).



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## NPG's STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

We continue to receive entries from art teachers across America who are registering their classes to compete in NPG's 35th Anniversary Poster Contest. Teachers are telling us "this is a great topic" and "it's smart to get children thinking about this issue at an early

age." Hundreds of teachers have signed on and thousands of students will participate in the contest where students at three different education levels are asked to use their artistic talents to convey the message of "TOO MANY PEOPLE." Cash prizes of up to \$3,500

will be divided between both the schools and their talented students. Winners will be announced in the Spring. We look forward to unveiling some amazing talent among America's youth!

## PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

Every organization has committed leaders who willingly “set the bar higher” on the level of their financial support. At NPG we honor these dedicated donors with the title of President’s Circle members and we urge you to join

them today.

President’s Circle members voluntarily commit to a monthly tax-deductible contribution of anywhere from \$5 or more that is automatically charged to their credit card or checking account.

As a reward for enrolling in the President’s Circle program, we’ll send you a specially-designed lapel pin that will identify you as a prominent benefactor and active team member in advancing NPG’s mission.

## CAPITOL HILL IS LISTENING!

As NPG sends petitions from our members to U.S. Senate and House members on critical population and immigration issues, we are always heartened to hear back from our nation’s leaders who are willing to go on the record on controversial topics. Below are excerpts from two letters we received in recent weeks:

*“I do not support amnesty for those individuals who have broken our laws and will work to deport those individuals who have become a financial and social burden on our society. I believe we must establish an Employer Verification System that is easy to use and provides timely feedback to employers. Any employer that continues to knowingly employ illegal aliens should be assessed heavy fines and penalties.”*

– Congressman Ander Crenshaw (R, FL)

*“First and foremost, providing amnesty for low wage illegal immigrants harms American workers. Illegal immigration increases the labor supply, reduces wages, and decreases the number of jobs available to Americans, particularly in the entry-level tiers of our labor markets. I also thoroughly reject the premise that there are jobs Americans won’t do.”*

– Congressman Paul Kanjorski (D, PA)

## NPG LAUNCHES NEW “CAMPAIGN FOR A NATIONAL POPULATION POLICY” (continued)

horror stories in the future. Every year we delay in tackling this critical issue the stakes get higher and higher.”

At present, NPG is working to line up a number of Congressional sponsors

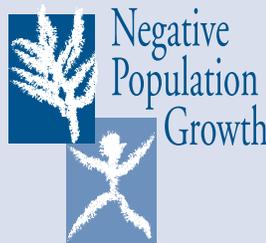
for this proposal who will introduce a bill that will lead to Congressional action.

We will keep NPG members posted on the progress of this effort in the coming months and hope we can all work

together to use the power of our numbers to make a U.S. Commission on Population Growth a reality.



*Population Perspectives* is a quarterly publication by Negative Population Growth, a national non-profit membership organization dedicated to educating Americans about the devastating effects of overpopulation on our environment and quality of life.



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FOR OUR NEW INTERNET NPG JOURNAL!**