

Opinion / Editorial

“UNITE THE KINGDOM” RALLY GIVES HOPE, BUT THE FERTILITY RATE IS KEY TO FUTURE

By Bill Connor
On May 16, hundreds of thousands of British attended the “Unite The Kingdom” (UTK) rally. This rally came despite a concerted effort by the United Kingdom’s ruling Labor Party to demonize the rally as “far right” “racist” and “divisive”. Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the organizers “criminals and thugs” and Labor warned those attending would be recorded by facial recognition cameras. According to The Spectator of the event: “There were no mass chants calling for the death of particular groups, no calls for the eradication of foreign countries, and no flags of terrorist groups or tyrannical theocracies.... Nobody cited scripture to urge the slaughter of another people, nobody waved terrorist symbols.” Yet “Keir Starmer decided to speak out against (it).... threatening

police action and the full force of the law against those involved, and pulling out all the stops to block foreign speakers from entering the country at the last minute.” <https://spectator.com/article/much-of-the-traditional-media-coverage-referred-to-these-two-marches-as-the-far-right-march-and-the-pro-palestine-march/?edition=us> In contrast, a pro-Palestinian demonstration held at the same time in London included chants to “Shoot him in the neck like Charlie Kirk”. <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/shoot-him-in-neck-like-charlie-kirk-chants-attacks-pro-palestine-rally-11508260> That protest was praised by Labor and media allies. The success of the UTK rally against the progressive resistance was encouraging, but the key to the future of the West lies in the West’s negative fertility rate. A quarter century ago, Pat



Attorney Bill Connor
BILL CONNOR LAW FIRM, LLC
1408 RUSSELL STREET, SUITE 11, ORANGEBURG SC 29115
P 803-937-5571

Buchanan published his book *Death of the West*. Buchanan predicted much of what we see now in Europe, as he noted the acute negative birthrate throughout Western Europe drove harmful immigration policy. Buchanan exposed that immigration to Europe was primarily from third world Middle East, African, and Asian countries with much higher birthrates. <https://mises.org/mises-review/death-west-how-dying-populations-and-immigrant-invasions-imperil-our-country-and-civilization-patrick-buchanan> Not only did Western Europe not heed the warnings but doubled down. They even started attacking those noticing. Western European countries passed speech laws criminalizing critique of the disastrous migration policy and related issues.

America is not immune and following the pattern. Last year, the CDC released data showing America has followed the plummeting European birthrate and corresponding problems: “Overall, the number of births (in the US) declined by 2% per year, on average, from 2015 through 2020 and fluctuated in the years since.” <https://www.nbcnews.com/science/science-news/fertility-rate-was-stable-2024-still-record-lows-rcna202657>. Until the mid-2000s, the US birthrate was at or above the maintenance level of 2.1 average children per woman. It then fell to 1.6 after 2008. As migration increased, attacks on Western culture in America ramped up significantly. In 2025, the Trump administration proposed fighting low fertility with money to new mothers. The left exploded in criticism. CNN’s reporting on the Trump proposal to give \$5000 to mothers (regardless of race) stigmatized those concerned about the falling birthrate. <https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/25/politics/baby-bonus-trump-birth-rate-pronatalism/index.html>

Last year, the President of Dublin University, Ireland, gave insight into the thought process of elites in Europe doubling down on failed policy. From the Irish Times: “Ireland’s native population could be in a minority by the middle of this century, the president of Dublin City University (DCU) will claim today. But large-scale immigration is still essential if we are to remain prosperous. Prof Ferdinand von Prondzynski will say..... Universities have a particular obligation to prepare the country for the increasingly multicultural nature.... Inter-cultural studies and research should be prioritized.... Universities should also be ‘active contributors’ to anti-racism policies (in industry and government).” <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/irish-could-be-minority-ethnic-group-here-by-2050-professor-1.424517> Of note, the Irish fertility rate is now at a paltry 1.5 <https://www.macrotrends.net/global-metrics/countries/ireland/fertility-rate>. If and when the Irish become a minority in Ireland, their civilization not survive.

Sadly, despite the dim prospects for the West, the left appears to fight for a low birthrate. In recent years, several Liberal female celebrities have publicized their alleged joy of being middle aged and childless seeking to encourage this lifestyle choice. <https://www.businessinsider.com/never-had-the-urge-have-children-im-childless-and-happy-2023-4> Whenever negative Western birthrates are mentioned, left-leaning media sources will inevitably attack the alleged evil “pronatalist” movement and scream racism.

The birthrate crisis goes beyond current numbers into future challenges. In 2021, Pew Research Center published a survey report claiming: “a rising number of childless adults claim they are unlikely to have children. Of the nonparents aged eighteen to forty-

Family & Marriage MEMORIAL DAY



Roger Rollins,
Family and Marriage Coalition

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.” – Franklin D. Roosevelt
“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends”. – Bible (John 15:13)

The United States has two national holidays to honor and celebrate those men and women who have served in the military. Memorial Day on May 25, 2026 (always the last Monday in May,) honors all military personnel who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Veterans Day (November 11), originally known as Armistice Day, honors all U.S. military veterans, both living and deceased.

There are other days when we honor those in the military, although they are not national holidays. Armed Forces Day falls on the third Saturday of May every year and is the one day specifically set aside to honor the men and women currently serving in uniform, the active-duty service members on duty right now, stationed around the world. It was created to unify the separate service days of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force into one observance. Women Veterans Day, also known as Women Veterans Recognition Day or Women Veterans Appreciation Day, commemorates the signing of the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act by President Harry S. Truman on June 12, 1948. This legislation allowed women to serve as permanent, regular members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. Women Veterans Day, on June 12, is currently recognized in multiple states, including South Carolina.

National Medal of Honor Day (March 25) recognizes recipients of the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded for valor. Vietnam Veterans Day (March 29) honors U.S. veterans who served during the Vietnam War. Gold Star Spouses Day (April 5) honors the spouses of military members who have died in service to the nation, recognizing their sacrifices and the challenges they face.

Following is a brief listing of some of the benefits we have because of the service personnel who fought and sometimes died to give us these benefits.

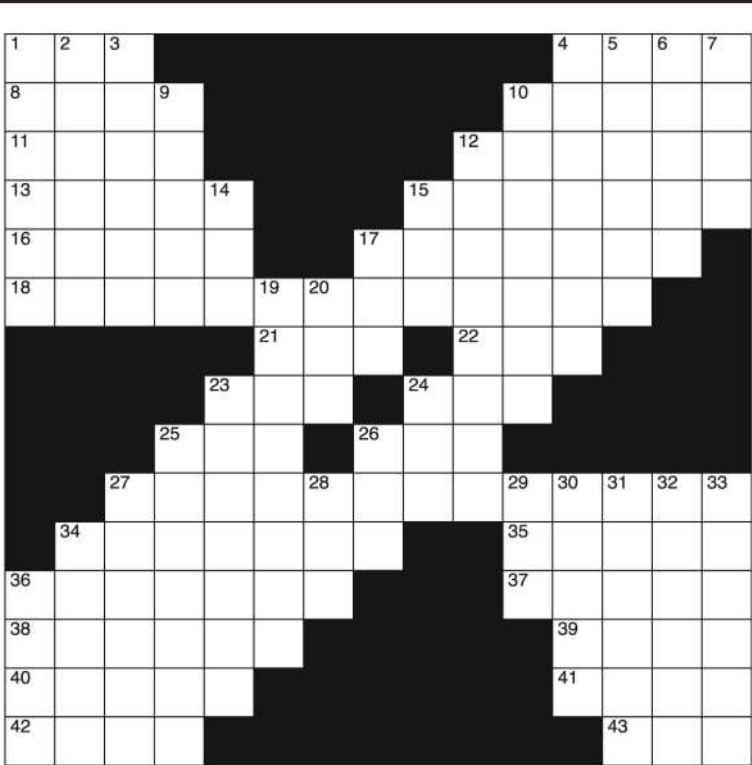
1. Freedom of Religion. This country was founded on the right of each citizen to choose and practice their religious preference freely. Freedom of religion is guaranteed by the First Amendment. It protects a person’s right to explore the deep questions in life and to publicly live out what they believe and protects a person from being threatened or harassed for living out what they believe.
2. Freedom of Speech. The First Amendment protects our right to talk openly about God and Jesus anytime and anywhere. People can also pray publicly, whether in a restaurant over their meal, while standing on the street, walking through a park, at sporting events, or wherever they happen to be. Students are allowed to pray in school when it is student led.
3. Freedom to Assemble. The First Amendment gives Christians the right to assemble in a church building and hold a worship service. It also gives all Americans the right to plan a peaceful protest, file a grievance against the government, form a picket line, hold a strike, or organize a parade.
4. Freedom to Choose Our Leaders. America is one of the few countries that gets to enjoy a

peaceful transition of power. Anyone who is born in America may choose to run for an elected office. America’s Constitution provides specific instructions for how elections are to be held and what to do if the government ever doesn’t function in accordance with the Constitution.

5. Our Military Protects Our Country. Our veterans deserve our gratitude, and they deserve to be honored for the sacrifices they make on behalf of the rest of the nation. While America may not be perfect, there’s a reason more people are trying to become American citizens rather than leaving America.

6. Freedom for States to Make Autonomous Decisions. The states have the right to create laws that the Constitution doesn’t specifically cover. Let’s say thanks to those who served in our armed services. (Ideas from Elizabeth Delaney, May 11, 2026, www.crosswalk.com)

Family and Marriage Coalition of Aiken (FAMCO) was created to provide resources for you to succeed in your marriage and families. Roger Rollins, Executive Director, FAMCO, 803-640-4689. Let us know how we can help.

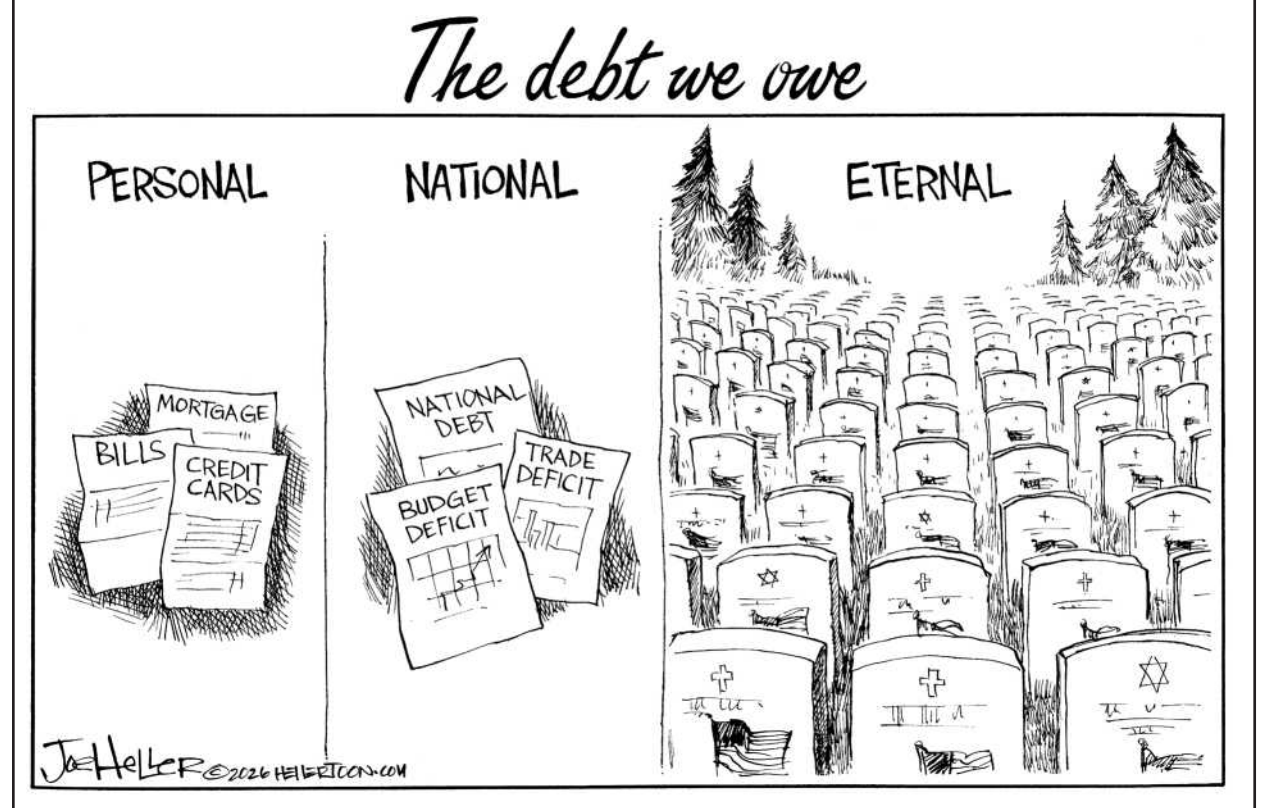
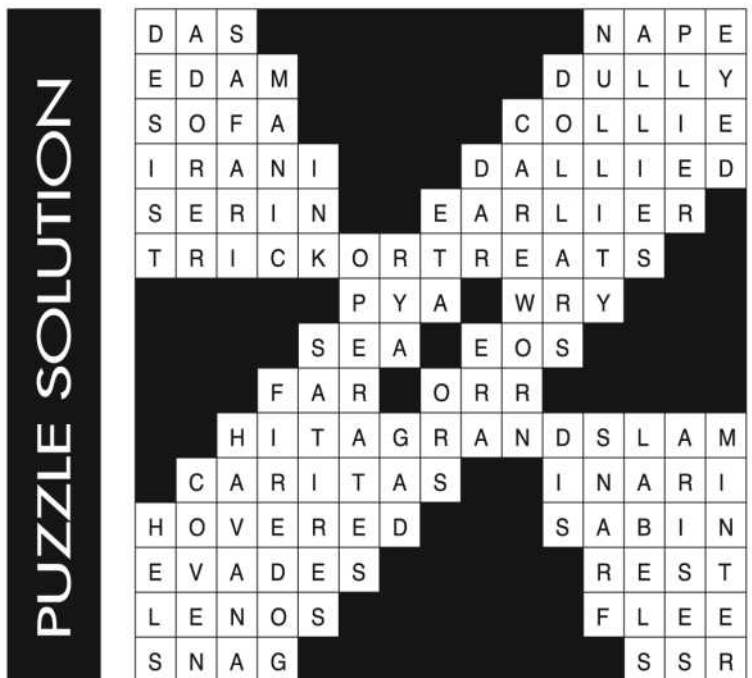


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Government lawyers
- 4. The back of a person’s neck
- 8. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- 10. In a less flashy way
- 11. Living room piece
- 12. Shepherd dog
- 13. A citizen of Iran
- 15. Moved slowly
- 16. Small finch
- 17. Previously
- 18. What a kid does on Halloween
- 21. Monetary unit
- 22. Using dry humor
- 23. Ocean
- 24. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 25. Not close
- 26. NHL legend Bobby
- 27. A ballplayer would love to do this
- 34. Charity
- 35. City in Finland
- 36. Loomed over
- 37. Vaccine developer
- 38. Avoids capture
- 39. We all need it
- 40. Openwork fabrics
- 41. Get away
- 42. Something you might hit
- 43. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Abstain from
- 2. Admirer
- 3. Expedition to observe animals
- 4. Act that is legally void
- 5. WW2 combatants
- 6. A tool
- 7. Looked at
- 9. Showing wild excitement
- 10. Banknotes
- 12. Tired
- 14. Printers need it
- 15. Women’s patriotic group
- 17. When you anticipate getting somewhere
- 19. Functions
- 20. Breed of sheep
- 23. Mocking pieces
- 24. A major division of geological time
- 25. Andiron
- 26. Many not ands
- 27. Cuban city
- 28. He voiced “Olaf”
- 29. Criticize
- 30. “Thundercats” character
- 31. Markings
- 32. Gets up
- 33. MLB lefty reliever A.J.
- 34. An assembly of witches
- 36. High energy lasers (abbr.)



nine who were surveyed, forty-four percent said it is ‘not too likely’ or ‘not at all likely’ that they would procreate, an increase of seven percent from 2018. And seventy-four percent of polled adults under fifty said they were unlikely to have more children after having one or two.” <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/11/19/growing-share-of-childless-adults-in-u-s-dont-expect-to-ever-have-children/> With the plummeting birthrate comes attacks on the family through attacks on marriage (note: Children of broken families have poorer mental health and future employment and less likely to be married and have children. <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2013/02/7821/>). Family expert, Carle Zimmerman, wrote of the connection of a high birth to the strength of families: “we see [ever] more clearly the role of proles or childbearing as the main stem of the family... the basis of (strong, enduring families) is the (high) birth rate.... Other societies (those with few children) do not have it.” <https://isi.org/intercollegiate-review/how-families-contribute-to-the-rise-and-fall-of-civilizations/> Families with children pass Western culture down from generation to generation.

We must continue to support events like Unite The Kingdom and fight to reverse destructive policies designed to destroy Western freedom and culture. At the same time, we must fight for marriage and childbearing in the West. Let us take Psalm 127:3 to heart: “Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.”

SUDOKU

						6	2	
				1	3			
			4	5	2			7
	8	5						
					6	3		
9	2			1		5		
2				5	1			
7			3		9			
		8		9				4

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

4	2	2	7	1	9	7	8	3
7	5	1	2	3	4	6	8	9
6	9	4	8	6	5	1	7	3
8	7	5	3	4	1	7	5	8
9	2	6	8	8	2	5	7	1
3	8	5	6	7	6	2	4	1
8	6	9	4	5	2	3	1	7
4	7	2	1	3	8	5	9	6
5	1	3	7	8	9	4	6	2

ANSWER: