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Submission: Modernity: Yearning for the Infinite

Abstract Title: *Authentic femininity: Essential for this critical moment.*

Problem: Humanity is suffering from an unprecedented loss of identity due to unique and clever temptations in the present age. This confusion has led modern societies to embrace a variety of diverse but equally toxic paths, which only serve to exacerbate the fundamental problem. The current precipitous decline is bringing humanity to the brink of calamity, and yet the remedy proposed is subtle and unprepossessing: *In the face of overwhelming, antagonistic powers, the seemingly vulnerable vocation of motherhood will save us.*

Thesis: Authentic femininity – which nourishes the surrounding community by restoring it to communion with God and building bridges among its members – is the antidote to the inherent indignities of modern cultures.

Definition: Authentic femininity is the woman's embrace of her God-given vocation to image Holy Mother Church as virgin, bride, and mother. It reflects the nuptial backdrop of all creation, as outlined in the theology of the body, and gives flesh spiritually and physically to the seed of the bridegroom according to her state in life.

Authentic femininity as exemplified by women in all walks of life and permeating all cultures of the world will restore mankind to its true dignity, paving the way for the truths of the Catholic faith to be embraced and understood by all.

- Motherhood (spiritual and physical) grounds the human person in reality and truth, and interprets the created world in a way that he knows his place and finds security.
- Women receive the human person in a unique way and hold the child's undivided attention at a pivotal stage of his formation.
- Holy Mother Church offers a complete and universal paradigm for all women to guide them in their feminine vocation, so that subsequently every person can discover a meaningful relationship with God the Father.
- The answer to alienation, utilitarianism, and sexual confusion is authentic femininity, which must be restored on the firm foundation of the bridal image of the Church.

Understanding of the theology of the body is essential to the establishment of moral order and genuine peace, but within that framework, which is God's gift to the third millennium, authentic femininity provides the touchstone for humanity to find meaning, direction, and joy.