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# XXIII.27 On the law made in France to encourage the propagation of the species

- The Spirit of Law - Book XXIII. On laws in their relation to the number of inhabitants -

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Louis XIV decreed certain annuities for any who had ten children, and larger ones for those who might have twelve. [1] But it was not in order to reward prodigies. To impart a certain general spirit that can promote the propagation of the species, what was needed was to establish, like the Romans, general recompenses or general penalties.

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[1] The edict of 1666 to encourage marriages.