

REPORT ON THE WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILY CONFERENCE HELD ON THE 31ST OF OCTOBER AND 1ST NOVEMBER 2019 AT THE SHIPPERS COUNCIL ACCRA GHANA.

DAY 1

1.1 PRESENT AT THE MEETING WAS:

- Mr. Brian Brown: President of the World Conference of Families
- Mrs. Sharon Slater: Co-founder and President of Family Watch International
- Rev: Catherine Emmanuel Onwioduokit: President of Family Renaissance International
- Lawyer Moses Foh-Amoaning Executive secretary for the National Coalition for Proper Human Sexual Rights and Family Values
- Theresa Okafor: African Representative for the World Congress of Families
- Apostle professor Opoku Onyinah: Former Chairman of the Church of Pentecost Ghana
- Dr. Abu Bako:
- Angela Dwamena Aboagye: CEO of Arc Foundation Ghana

1.2 BACKGROUND

The coalition for proper human sexual rights and family values is a Ghanaian based organization with the aim of preserving what they call the indigenous African Traditional and Cultural Sexual rights and family looming and dangerous threat of LGBTQI activism in Ghana and Africa at large to proffer solution to what they see as a menace.

To expand their activities, they partnered with the Family Renaissance International to achieve their objective.

The Family Renaissance international is an organization under the World congress of Families which is the mother anti LGBTQI organization.

The aim of the congress was to launch the WFC in Ghana and also to create awareness of LGBTQI, family planning and the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in the Ghanaian society, and also to prepare a draft anti lgbtqi document to government to incriminate such activities in the country.

2.1 FIRST SESSION

The congress was addressed by several people giving goodwill messages to WCF, FRI and the coalition for Proper human sexual rights and family values,

Key among such messages were the goodwill messages from Ghanaian member of Parliament Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, from the opposition National Democratic Party. He called on his fellow politicians to declare the country “a no-go area for the LGBT agenda”. Ablakwa took specific aim at new Comprehensive sexuality education proposals from the Ghanaian government – and, incredibly, compared it to the historical enslavement of “the strongest members of African families” by European colonisers, with the supposed purpose to “penetrate and wreak havoc” on our societies.

A representative of the Ghana Prisons Service took turn to condemn LGBTIQ people as a “modus to depopulate the African continent”, and our sexual orientations as “a major part of why we imprison people in Ghana”.

“If we strengthen the family, there will be less people in prisons, but prison will also serve as a corrective measure for sexual deviants”, she argued.

Moses Foh-Amoaning, leader of the local National Coalition for Proper Human Sexual Rights and Family Values that hosted the event, boasted of support from what he called the “Holy Trinity” of Christian, Muslim and Traditionalist leaders in Ghana to fight comprehensive sexuality education. He also pledged to support similar campaigns from Togo to Uganda.

True to his word, Foh-Amoaning had invited both Muslim and traditional leaders to speak at the summit including Professor Zakaria and Professor Nii Odatei Mills. The former took aim at the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the global reproductive health NGO, while the latter told us that Ghana “has very strong cultural structures to contain homosexuality”.

Soon we were introduced to one of the key players of this movement, Reverend Catherine Onwioduokit.

Onwioduokit is president and founder of a Nigerian group called Family Renaissance International (FRI), which is well-known for its role in advocacy for the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act passed in 2014. “It has been a long way coming,” she said of the WCF summit in Accra. We were then asked to stand in prayer, and subsequently for the national anthem of Ghana.

Africa’s first nation to gain independence from colonial rule, Ghana was positioned at this summit as a new leader in the war against LGBTIQ inclusion on the continent. The WCF’s Africa regional representative Theresa Okafor even introduced a new acronym: G.H.A.N.A.: God Has A New Africa.

Brian Brown, president of US-based International Organization of the Family (and global president of WCF) also gave a message in which he said LGBT practices are a fundamentally

wrong behavior. He further mentioned that LGBT activism is the cause of higher crime rate, lower economies, streetism just to mention but a few. He said the reason LGBT practices should be criminalized is that it destroys the natural family system which is the radical fabric of society and if the fabric is weak the attire cannot stand the test of time.

He further suggested that rights are given by God hence any act that does not come in agreement with the will of God shouldn't be given rights. Hence LGBTQI do not need any rights.

He called for a united and courageous front to work towards such a mission that whenever family is mentioned it comprises of mother, father, and the children they beget.

Apostle professor Opoku Onyinah said he sided with the views of the speaker of the 7th parliament of Ghana and that homosexuals are human beings with a deviant behavior and such people need medical, psychological or sometimes spiritual support to change such behaviors.

He reiterated that something is fundamentally wrong with LGBT activism hence called it foolishness and collective insanity.

2.2 PLENARY SESSION

The theme for this session was revisiting the paradigm of marriage and family for sustainable development.

In this session Angela Dwamena Aboagye, CEO of Arc Foundation Ghana was Chairperson.

Brian Brown spoke of a “mission to unite organisations, families and individuals around the shared vision of the natural family”. Brown claimed that many sovereign states in the Global South had been ‘bullied’ into accepting sexual and reproductive rights and health goals.

American evangelist Bill Muehlenberg meanwhile apologised on behalf of the West for failing to win their own cultural war and applauded African activists for “putting Christianity to shame in the West”.

Another American speaker, Sharon Slater, specifically encouraged Ghanaian participants to lobby national politicians to reject comprehensive sexuality education, and to further legislate for ‘parental rights’ to decide what children learn in school. Her husband and fellow activist Greg Slater argued that sexual and reproductive rights under international law are “fictitious”.

The event's core message was that “strong families create strong nations”, and that Africa’s traditional values are under threat from outside forces. Speakers even blamed corruption and political mismanagement in Africa on family structures that deviate from ‘the natural order’ of God with two-parent households of married men and women and their many children.

For their part, the women of the WCF summit chose a decidedly anti-feminist stance to support families led by men as the only possibility.

A Nigerian activist, Theresa Okafor, warned us not to be manipulated by the UN language promoting “women’s empowerment” which she claimed risks turning women into heads of their families, at the expense of men. Blaming the dress girls wear as the reason for being raped.

Some speakers touched on LGBT activism calling it selfish and not the original version of family hence the need for such versions to be disregarded and criminalized.

The speakers sought to say that any version of family that does not reproduce is evil and not according to God’s supreme plan for mankind.

During question and answers for that session some members of the audience still saw homosexuality to be a mental illness even and was removed from the American Psychological Association (APA) because of strong gay lobby.

Other members of the audience who were clergy asked how they could show love to people involved in such practices and still preach against them. The answers given was to love the doer and hate the act in plain terms.

3.0 FINAL SESSION

In this session the entire focus was to run down organizations who were providing sexual health services to masses in different African countries such as the Marie Stopes International, Plan Parenthood etc.

The speakers in this session were of the view that sexual health organizations sought to depopulate the continent by rolling out family planning services on the continent.

Others said that the introduction of contraception in the 1990s is the cause of the increase in Sexually Transmitted diseases on the continent.

DAY 2

1.1 PRESENT AT THE MEETING WAS:

- Mr. Brian Brown: President of the World Conference of Families
- Mr. Bill Muehlenberg: he currently runs the culture watch blog and is a strong pro-life campaigner.
- Mrs. Sharon Slater: Co-founder and President of Family Watch International
- Rev: Catherine Emmanuel Onwioduokit: President of Family Renaissance International
- Lawyer Moses Foh-Amoaning Executive secretary for the National Coalition for Proper Human Sexual Rights and Family Values
- Dr. Abena Asomani Antwi: Founder Angel Zoe Foundation, Health Economist.
- Mrs. Akech Aimba: Founder Pearls and Treasures Foundation Kenya
- Theresa Okafor: African Representative for the World Congress of Families
- Apostle professor Opoku Onyinah: Former Chairman of the Church of Pentecost Ghana
- Dr. Abu Bako: international Director for Logos-Rhema Foundation for Leadership Resource Development.
- Ann Kioko: the African Regional Director for Citizen Go
- Angela Dwamena Aboagye: CEO of Arc Foundation Ghana

FIRST SESSION

Lawyer Moses Foh Amoaning addressed the conference speaking on the topic: Christian Understanding of Human Sexuality In The Light Of the Spread of LGBTQI.

In his presentation he defined homosexuality as sexual attraction of member of the same sex.

The first he discussed was psychological view: he expressed that there is no medical research that says homosexuality is not a mental illness, hence the declaration of the APA in 1952 still stands to him that homosexuality is a mental illness.

The second view he discussed is psychosocial view: he postulated that people become homosexuals through individual choice, decision making, identity development, and conformity.

He further stated that real homosexuals do not like the place they are and that they are becoming victims of suicide and mental disorders least of them is depression according to him.

He claimed that human rights are judo Christian and that all human rights are given by god and comes from Christianity.

SECOND SESSION

Abena Asomaning Antwi, a supposed “gender advocate” made bold yet convoluted arguments that overcrowded prisons lead to homosexual activity with inmates “practically sleeping on top of each other”. She said the purpose of prisons is to rehabilitate and reform inmates but the current prison population and feeding allowance makes it almost impossible for the Prison services to achieve such feat, as a result, the current prison population is the cause of homosexual activities in the prisons in Ghana.

In her presentation she said the eradication of poverty will reduce crime levels as the major cause of crime in sub-Sahara Africa is poverty. She however stated that poverty is the main reason for people engaging in homosexuality.

Another speaker, Akech Aimba, spoke about the shame, regret and hatred towards God she said that women face after having abortions. In her presentation she said abortion as a demonic choice for a woman to take in the case of a crisis pregnancy, she saw abortion as not being an option for the African woman to take but instead take the pregnancy to term irrespective of daring consequences. She herself having had two abortions postulated that abortion destroys the self-worth and esteem of the woman hence opening her up to more abortions.

She concluded that abortion does not solve the problem of promiscuity as it only encourages it.

Mr. Solomon Appiah is a public policy analyst, he in his delivery sought to explain the policies that are for and against African culture values and norms.

He concentrated on how policies were ill formulated on the continent and the need for governance and policy making to be discussed and thought in schools to help develop Africa in a sustainable manner he however linked his speech of poor governance to the introduction of CSE instead of teaching policy making process and governance in schools

CONCLUSION

In the conference’s final session, we heard again from Reverend Onwioduokit who presented a laundry list of bold and expansive actions to focus on over the next year – including establishing new organising structures for this movement across the continent, with competent and efficient legal teams to focus on court cases and constitutional challenges.

Other actions included testing “holistic sexual therapy systems to bring healing and comfort to Africans and other persons with LGBTQI disorders”. We must use all of our “spiritual weapons” to block the “LGBTQI propagandist onslaught” across the continent, she said, including via lobbying at the African Union. Each item was met with a chorus of “yeses” from her audience.

One comment from the floor drove home the convening's core message: a woman stood up to criticise the summit's flyer, which depicted a woman, man and three children. Future promotional materials should show at least five children, she argued, to avoid giving the "wrong impression" that this movement "supports family planning". Her comment was met with a mix of laughter and applause, and her suggestion was recorded and accepted.