

# UN International Day of the Family

Auckland, New Zealand - Janne Sawada - May 18, 2019

UPF-NZ commemorated the UN International Day of Families at the Polynesian Centre, Mangere, Auckland. A total of 80 participants from diverse religious and ethnic backgrounds gathered for the event. Under the theme: “The Family Ideal, Our Common Heritage”, the event was co-sponsored by the Women’s Federation for World Peace New Zealand (WFWP-NZ).



Mr. Geoffrey Fyers, UPF-NZ Secretary-General was MC for the event. Rev. Elder Suamalie NT Iosefa Naisali of the Reformed Christian Church opened the proceedings with prayer. Rev. Iosefa with his youth choir gave a great start with a soulful song accompanied with a guitar and a mandolin.

## Keynote Address



Mr Adel Jamati, UPF NZ Director, in his keynote address *The Family Ideal and World Peace* said, “Our responsibility towards love is paramount; humanity is at a crossroad: Selfish love or True Love. The world can be healed by the power of family love: conjugal love, parental love, filial love and siblings love. A great revival of the Family Ideal is needed at this critical time of human history.”

## Comments from the Panel Discussion on ‘Social Trends Affecting Youth and Families Today’



Mrs. Janne Sawada, Parenting Program Facilitator:



More influence from Government policies is creating a need for parents to become more aware of their impact on the family.

Time together is a very necessary component in creating connection and family culture. Nurturing is missing for many children when parents are too busy.

Ms. Violet Noel, Social Work Team Leader, Shakti NZ:



Speaking as a Social Worker who is supporting victims, the Social System has to confront the rising number of violence abuses, especially on women; 98% of abuse issues are from men to women. Motherhood is not an easy task, so men need to have more respect and understanding.

Mr. Elliot Ikilei, Youth Resilience & Leadership Trainer:



Having been a youth worker for many years, Elliot has seen the weaknesses of broken families and the lack of support for youths. The results are crime, drugs, alcohol and gambling.

The Mates and Dates Education which is being brought into schools through trained facilitators isn't as it has been portrayed publicly.

Through obtaining a copy of the Facilitator Manual, it is clear that its goals are biased towards transgender education: Children starting from the age of five are taught they are not a boy or a girl, but somewhere on a sliding gender spectrum and

therefore, sexual identity depends on the child's desire and choice. The taxpayers are paying for this indoctrination. Teachers are not in the classroom during these sessions.

### Questions and Answers

The panel discussion was then followed by questions and comments from the audience. Comments highlighted what we are facing as a nation.



### Closing Remarks

Mrs. Felicity Cairns, President of WFWP-NZ gave the closing remarks. Summarizing the contents given by all the speakers, she gave thanks to everyone who made the event possible.

## **Conclusion**

The importance of family and its ideals cannot be understated, especially in this value-confused world. As we gather to celebrate the UN International Day of Families, we are united to protect what is most fundamental and dearest to world peace and human happiness, our families.

TOGETHER WE STAND, TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Keynote address of the event can be found in the following link:

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/2f3ecd3380055520e6c45ba11/files/c602e105-fd1d-4d16-b005-c77153496c41/The\\_Family\\_Ideal\\_World\\_Peace\\_by\\_Adel\\_Jamati.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/2f3ecd3380055520e6c45ba11/files/c602e105-fd1d-4d16-b005-c77153496c41/The_Family_Ideal_World_Peace_by_Adel_Jamati.pdf)

**Written by Janne Sawada**