



WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE, USA

*Logic of Love
News*

WFWP USA Logic of Love News

Angelika Selle

February 2015

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our new WFWP USA newsletter - with a new format and new title!!

We felt it was a good moment in time to "upgrade" ourselves, which happens to coincide with the Chinese New Year (lunar calendar) on February 19. So Happy New Year again!

This February issue of the Logic of Love News also contains new types of articles and welcomes our new vice president, Katarina Connery, who was appointed by our founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, to be groomed as the future president of WFWP USA (see her profile and article below). We wholeheartedly welcome her to our WFWP USA team. She will be joining our current, seasoned vice president, Juanita Pierre-Louis, who will remain in her role as well.

As we celebrate Black History Month here in the United States and are gearing up for the upcoming 59th session of the UN's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59) events in New York City, during Women's History Month in April, it occurred to me that there is actually a deep connection between women and blacks here in America. Not only do women and blacks share a history of suffering, abuse, and disempowerment (which continues to this day in many countries), but they also share amazing strengths that they can bring to the table at this time to contribute to making peace a lasting reality.

To make that point more clear, I would like to highlight the article below on the Ubuntu culture throughout Africa, the motherland of African-Americans. This culture, which is based on a consciousness of all human beings being interconnected, is expressed in the simple phrase, "I am because of you." This is a mindset that also comes naturally especially to women and mothers, whose brains are already "wired" to see connectedness rather than division. And it is that very God-given gift, or Ubuntu way of thinking and acting, that I and WFWP feel is needed at this time for women and blacks to contribute in all aspects of life, especially in areas of conflict, in order to bring lasting solutions to our social ills.

Only when I see that your problem is "my" problem, and that we are in this together, and think what I can do to help you, instead of accusing you for your problem, can we find healing and inner peace.

This is a call to all women and mothers to bring that voice of Ubuntu to the table wherever we are and in whatever we do, as we continue to "Live by the Logic of Love."

Warmly,
Angelika



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"An anthropologist proposed a game to children in an African tribe.
He put a basket full of fruit near a tree and
told the children that whoever got there first wins the sweet fruits.

"When he told them to run, they all took each others' hands and ran together,
then sat together enjoying their treats.

When he asked them why they had run like that
when one could have had all the fruits for himself,
they said, " UBUNTU, how can one of us be happy if all the other ones are sad ? "

['UBUNTU' in the Xhosa culture means: 'I am because we are.']
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FEATURE

HerStory: Remembering Heroines of Black History

By Mrs. Lena Yasutake

We have come a long way since Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus. Women of color, however, still face unique challenges.



Mrs. Lena Yasutake

Prejudice is real. Race still creates division around the globe, and America is not immune. But the strides we have made as a nation toward freedom, opportunity, and equality simply would not have been possible without some amazing black women. They made important progress at a time in history

when women were facing severe gender inequality and when black women faced the additional challenge of racism.

Being a heroine does not mean being perfect. It means standing up in the face of adversity. It means not letting limitations define you. It means being determined and persevering in the face of obstacles and challenges. Here are just three of my favorite black heroines, two of whom are not particularly well-known but all of whom without a doubt have been influential in this nation. So I would like to acknowledge them in light of Black History Month.

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INTERVIEW: Young Woman's Perspective



CSW 59 In Plain Language

By Ms. Emily Cornier

Heather Fraser-Harris is a 23-year-old University of Bridgeport graduate who was appointed as administrator for WFPW International's UN Office in fall 2014. I am excited to see what Heather will bring to the WFPW community, as she is currently the youngest appointed staff member in the WFPW UN office.



Heather Fraser-Harris

As of late, she has been busy coordinating WFPW's contributions to the CSW 59 (the 59th session of the UN's Commission on the Status of Women), which will take place from March 9-20. WFPWI will hold a Parallel Event on March 9, from 12:30-2 p.m. in Ballroom II of the Armenian Convention Center. Then WFPW will host a luncheon on March 10 in the West Terrace Room of the Delegates Dining Area at the UN Headquarters.

I was personally very curious about the work my friend has been up to at the UN, and I wanted to find what it is all about, and why it is so significant to WFPW. Here are my questions and the answers Heather gave me.

Q: What is CSW? What is the purpose? When did it start? Who started it?

Heather: Established in 1946 by a resolution of the UN's Economic and Social Council, the UN Commission on the Status of Women is an intergovernmental body that promotes women's rights, documents the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shapes global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

It hosts a two-week session annually at the UN headquarters in New York that includes plenary sessions, forums, and parallel events. These activities are attended by representatives of UN member states, civil society organizations, and UN entities, as well as by more than 5,000 women participants from around the world.

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INTRODUCING: New WFPW Vice President Mrs. Katarina Connery



Mrs. Katarina Connery

Katarina Connery is 29 years old. She holds a bachelor's degree in International Political Economy and Diplomacy from the University of Bridgeport, and a master's degree in International Development from the University of Pittsburgh. She received the Marriage Blessing with Michael Connery in 2013, who is a medical student with PhD in physiology, and is soon starting his hospital residency.

Katarina attended Sun Moon University in Seoul Korea, for one year, and Kyung Gi University for one semester on a US State Department Critical Language Scholarship.

She has been working for the World Affairs Council in Richmond, Virginia, in the area of membership and program development. This organization is part of a network of eighty five councils in the US that focus on international affairs, as well as provide educational resources to teachers and students.

FEATURE

The Secret to Achieve Gender Equality

By Mrs. Katarina Connery

This year looks to be significant for international gender equality. In fact, it's the target year for the accomplishment of the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), of which goal number three is to "Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women." This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. It is this declaration that will be under review during the upcoming 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in New York City.

As nongovernmental organization (NGO) and national leaders from around the world discuss accomplishments and disappointments regarding current gender equality goals, and as they set post-2015 targets, one necessarily crucial question is, "How does one realistically accomplish gender equality and empowerment?"

A major criticism of MDG 3 has been how it inadequately addresses how to accomplish its proposed goals of gender equality and empowering women. MDG 3 was given only one target (to eliminate the gender disparity in primary and secondary education) and three indicators: the ratio of boys to girls in schools, the share of women in non-agricultural wage employment, and the proportion of seats in national parliaments held by women. However, women certainly face discrimination in more than just school, work, and government. They are disproportionately affected by numerous ills, such as domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual exploitation.

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NEW YORK - Harlem

Mothering the Next Generation: WFWP and New Future Foundation Prepare for NGO CSW Forum

By Ms. Nandi Bengu and Mrs. Juanita Pierre-Louis

On February 6, the Harlem Chapter of WFWP, the New Future Foundation, and the Harlem Women International held a panel discussion in preparation for the NGO CSW Forum [Consultation Day](#) that will be hosted March 8 by the [UN Women](#) at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. WFWP Harlem invited community leaders and families of the Harlem community to discuss this unique opportunity.

The forum panel discussion was held to inform and encourage the Harlem chapter of WFWP, led by Chairwoman Nandi Bengu, collaborated with Mrs. Pierre Louis; Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely, who is the community mayor of Harlem, an ambassador of goodwill to Africa, an Ambassador for Peace appointed by the Universal Peace Federation, and founder of the [New Future Foundation](#), a UN NGO; and Ms. Gail McClouden of Harlem Women International to put together this program for the Harlem community women and men of Harlem to learn about and register for Consultation Day, which opens and sets the stage for the 59th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 59), which will be held from March 9-20. WFWP USA Vice President Juanita Pierre-Louis welcomed UN

participants and the community alike to the event.

Dr. Blakely was the moderator for the panel, which included Mrs.



The panel discussion

Pierre-Louis and the queen mother of Ghana, who is part of the Ghana delegation to the UN. The panel addressed issues concerning women and children both here and abroad. The queen mother of Ghana spoke about the boarding schools she started for children, especially girls, who are left on the streets with no means of survival or education. "This is not just Africa's problem, but a worldwide epidemic that the world is faced with," said Mama Nana, as she is lovingly called in the global community.

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INSPIRATION

Grudges Hide Your Beauty

By Mrs. Shirley Chimes



Empowered by grudges

Holding on to grudges usually makes people feel powerful and strong. In fact, however, holding on to grudges is a sign of weakness that can be overcome. Grudges are rooted in darkness, and they edge God out. They result in a low spirit and are a waste of time.

Grudges are errors. With a willingness to let them go, we receive rich spiritual assistance and peace. Recently a friend posted the following on his Facebook page: "Holding a grudge is letting someone live rent free in your head."

When our heart is stuffed with grudges and can't hold any more, they then fill our mind as well. When our heart and mind are filled with grievances, they then move to fill up our stomachs.

The only way to let them go is through opening our heart to release them. We may protest and say, "But, my heart is already open." But I ask you, how can you tell if your heart is open or closed? If



Finding fault



Reconciliation

you carry sorrow, anger, jealousy, or hatred, I'm sorry to say, your heart is closed. On the other hand, if your day is filled with love, joy, peace, and happiness, this is a sign of an open heart. It is that simple.

The exercise for opening the heart, the love exercise, practiced faithfully, is the start to creating a beautiful, open heart.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

A Big THANK YOU to Lorna Todd

Mrs. Lorna Todd, who has been co-chairwoman of the Las Vegas Chapter of WFWP for the past three years, has gone back to school and has relinquished her position - yet not her involvement - in WFWP.



Mrs. Lorna Todd

In "leaving," she said, "The experiences I have had in WFWP and the understanding I have gained of the true heart of its founders, what this organization has done in the world and in the U.S., and what it will continue to do in the future are what

make me feel proud to say that I have been a part of it. Nevertheless, I am not going anywhere, so I will continue to give my support to WFWP regardless of the situation."

Here is a heartfelt message from WFWP President Angelika Selle:

"Thank you for your great support of WFWP Las Vegas since 2010, when I met you for



Lorna's first presentation in 2011

the first time!! Whenever I came to Las Vegas, I enjoyed being with you and working with you, especially for the 20th anniversary annual National Assembly! You still have an important role to play in Las Vegas, and you are doing the right thing as you are

going 'back to school' to acquire more knowledge and education, which will assist you to make even greater impact when you return.

"Thank you again for your heartfelt investment, love, and dedication to WFWP in Las Vegas, in seen and unseen ways, and best of luck with your studies!



At West Las Vegas Arts Center

"We love you!"



2013 WFWP Mother's Day Celebration in Las Vegas

VIRGINIA

New Beginnings - Creating a Culture of Heart

By Mrs. Zena Ruf

On Saturday afternoon, February 7, about 20 women and men gathered in the Northern Virginia Learning Center for a "New Beginnings Women's Meeting: Creating a Culture of Heart." The



Mrs. Katarina Connery
sharing

meeting was divided into three parts: a personal sharing by our new national vice president, Mrs. Katarina Connery; a presentation by national President Angelika Selle on the national and global vision for WFWP; and a brainstorming session among the participants.

Mrs. Selle introduced Mrs. Connery, who then shared with us about her experience with our WFWP founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, at the time Dr. Moon appointed her to her new position. She also outlined her background, her experience, and her faith.

Then Mrs. Selle gave a PowerPoint presentation on the vision, values, and activities of WFWP on both the local and global levels.

She explained that the core of WFWP is a "mother's heart," upon which is built WFWP's four areas of focus: women's rights and human dignity, marriage and family, reconciliation through the Bridge of Peace Ceremony, and spirituality and healing.

In addition, she spoke about WFWP's work to support the Schools of Africa Project, and the work of the Global Women's Peace Network that is striving to bring about a culture of peace and human dignity through the innovative leadership of women. She touched on some of the key work of women throughout history, including Mother Teresa and Rosa Parks.



Mrs. Selle's presentation

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NEW YORK-Westchester

Caring by Sharing

By Mrs. Kristi Mas

At this month's WFWP Westchester Young Women's Initiative meeting, we decided we wanted to let go of things we didn't need, and to give to those who do. The ladies subsequently went to work and cleaned out their closets, pantries, and toiletries, and shopped at local pharmacies and grocery stores. The flurry of activity resulted in a sizable donation for the local women's shelter, [My Sister's Place](#).



Kristi and her friends

On January 16, we all brought our things to a SWAP party. For a SWAP party, we all bring our gently used or brand-new items of clothing, toiletries, lotion, and makeup, and we swap what we have. It's a fun way to clean out our closets and try new things. After we were done looking through the swapping items, the remainder was donated to My Sister's Place.

[Read the full article on our website...](#)

NEW JERSEY - Paterson

Coat Drive Warms Bodies and Souls

By Mrs. Meadow Tallakson



On January 15 the Islamic Center of Paterson held a Winter Coat Drive to provide warm clothing to families in need of warmth in this especially cold winter. Lady Zakiyyah Salahuddin, who has been working hand in hand with the Paterson, New Jersey WFWP Chapter for many years, invited WFWP to participate in this service drive to support families in need.

WFWP Paterson members gladly gathered quality coats to donate for the Winter Coat Drive. We collected, cleaned, and hung many coats on hangers for the drive. We donated coats, toiletries, toys, diapers, vitamins, and many other items.

We then helped distribute the collected articles to families in Paterson. Especially this winter when the weather is brutally cold, as caring women it was very meaningful to work together in every way to satisfy the pressing need for warmth not only in human bodies but in the human family.

Working together with Lady Salahuddin and her team is always a pleasure. It warms the heart as well as the body!

[Share and leave a comment on our site!](#)

Editor's Note:

How do you like our new look? Among her many talents, WFWP's new vice president Mrs. Katarina Connery is also a designer and put this together for us.

Let us know how you like it and send in your articles and photos so we can publish what WFWP is doing in the US.

KFC