## WFWP Italy's Women and Family in Iraq Today roundtable

Elisabetta Nistri November 5, 2024



"Women and Family in Iraq Today" was the theme of the round table that took place online on November 5th. This was promoted by the President of WFWP Italy, and was graced with the participation of Dr. Marco Rizzi, Dr. Raffaella di Marzio and Dr. Vittorio Patanella who asked questions to Sister Caroline Jarjis from Iraq who was in Rome for participation in the Synod. She met WFWP some years ago during a conference at Angelicum Pontificia University in Rome, and since that time she is following and supporting WFWP.

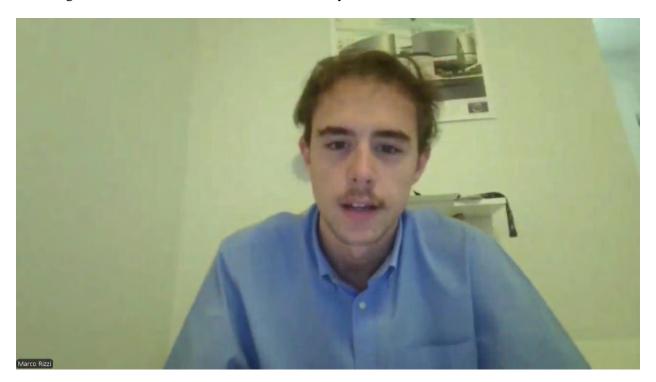


Sister Caroline, in answering the various questions, reported that now women in Iraq have equal opportunities to access studies compared to men, and that during the war they even replaced men in various positions and responsibilities, including top positions.

As sisters of the congregation of the Daughters of the Sacred Heart, they are committed to visiting and supporting the neediest women and families, but as religious women they are also well integrated into the social fabric, and some of them teach at the university trying to educate for peace.

The Pope's visit 3 years ago brought great benefit to the nation, because everyone was committed to working together for the preparations, Christians and non-Christians, to better receive this important religious and peace figure.

Although the country is prospering and there is more tolerance even for Christians, unfortunately there are fundamentalist tribes that push for absurd laws such as allowing girls to become brides as early as the age of 9. This is a serious problem because it prevents girls from growing up freely, continuing their studies and being able to choose when and with whom to marry.



The hope is that thanks to the protests of international NGOs and international organizations, this law will not be passed and the girls can continue to grow up by completing their studies.

The meeting ended with the proposal to stay in touch with WFWP Italy and WFWP International and see the possibility of carrying out activities together in Iraq.

The meeting was also attended online by several people with great interest. Here you can find the video recording:

youtu.be/z2oljZXQP-w

Reported by Elisabetta Nistri WFWP Italy President