

UPF
International Federation for World Peace

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"QUALE FAMIGLIA... verso QUALE FUTURO?"

14 Maggio
ore 18,30
Tavola Rotonda
Online

GIORNATA INTERNAZIONALE DELLA FAMIGLIA

"Oggi in tutto il mondo la famiglia sta cambiando. L'accelerazione della industrializzazione e della modernizzazione promuove un approccio individualista, edonista e materialista che intacca sempre più il valore delle relazioni umane ed il valore della famiglia come fulcro di queste relazioni. Costruire relazioni familiari solide e felici come piattaforma per la formazione del cuore e del carattere delle nuove generazioni rappresenta una base centrale per un futuro di fiducia e speranza."

INTERVENGONO
Elisabetta Nistri - Presidente WFWP Italia
Donatella Bramanti - Docente di Sociologia della Famiglia
Luciano Sesta - Docente di Filosofia Morale e Bioetica
Annalisa Ronchi - Family & Team Coach
Carlo Zonato - Presidente UPF Italia

MODERA
Francesca Baldini - Giornalista

Partecipazione ONLINE
ISCRIVITI ORA

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International Day of the Family "What family ... towards what future"

Italy, May 14, 2021

By Franco Ravaglioli

On "The family is the fundamental social group and the natural environment for the development and well-being of all its members, particularly children." With this statement of the United Nations, **Carlo Zonato**, President of UPF-Italy opened the roundtable on the theme "Which family ... towards which future". The meeting was held on May 14 to celebrate the "International Day of the Family" proclaimed by the UN in 1994, which falls each year on the 15th of the same month. The event was organized by the "International Federation for World Peace" (UPF-Italy) and the "Women Federation for World Peace" (WFWP-Italy). President Zonato then explained how "within the UPF's vision of peace, the family represents the fundamental cornerstone and for this reason every year, on the occasion of this day, we dedicate significant reflections to the value of the family".

Francesca Baldini, moderator of the meeting, took the floor. The journalist recalled the words of Pope Francis at the States General of Birth, who urged to consider children as a gift and the need to enter into this logic of gift. The Pope also called on all those who believe in life and the future to go forward not to give up because "it is

good to dream, to dream good and to build the future, because without a birthrate there is no future." She then quoted Reverend Moon: "The family is the school, where love for humanity is taught and learned. When children raised in the love of their parents go out into the world, they care about people in need, as they learned in their home." The moderator added how the family is "the central core of society, a gymnasium where we learn not only to walk and talk, but also to learn the values that then delineate us as human persons."

The event continued with **Elisabetta Nistri**, President of WFWP-Italy, who stated that "without family and without children there is no development, no renewal, no economy and no future". She recalled how it is urgent that this institution "be supported through appropriate economic policies and facilities, especially with regard to women's work". She then spoke of the importance of motherhood as an opportunity for enrichment and growth and that equal to paternity, allows you to develop a sense of responsibility towards others, an aspect that also benefits the world of work upon return. She then placed the emphasis on the value of emotional relationships for the formation of the character of young people and 'quality time' to devote to children. And how "a mature character

on the part of young people is also the best way to prevent the phenomenon of violence against women." She concluded by emphasizing how the bonds within the couple, in the family and in society must be based on selfless love, to create harmonious and happy relationships.

Professor Donatella Bramanti, professor of Sociology of the Family at the Catholic University of Milan, took the floor. With the help of slides and graphs, she showed how "for Italians, the most important aspect of their lives is the family, even for younger people, but how marriage is in free fall". She then pointed out "the overtaking of civil marriages over religious ones and the emerging phenomenon of free unions, as an alternative to the formalization of the marriage bond. Witness how the younger generations do not understand the meaning of the marriage bond and its public and social value". She explained how "the majority of people would like to have two or more children, but then in fact they hardly get there". The hope is that "this gap can be bridged by the measures we are talking about, an overall commitment of society, which could bring help to the youngest, who wish to form a family and have children".

Professor Luciano Sesta, professor of Moral Philosophy and Bioethics at the

University of Palermo said: "if conflict and competition prevail in the public sphere, in the family sphere there continues to be a dimension of collaboration and gratuitous welcome." He then compared the family as "water which is among the simplest and most vital things" and how we realize its importance when it is no longer there than when it is there." Speaking of family conflicts, he noted how "they are the ones that hurt the most and would not be so painful if the value they affect were not sublime." "The family is the heart of society, it is the last refuge and the crisis that lacerates affective and family ties affects society at its most intimate core." He ended by stating how "the bond of filiation, the

desire to become a parent, the solidity of the bond that keeps mothers and fathers united to their children is the point of the traditional family on which to relaunch a possible reconstruction."

"There is a situation that might seem difficult and disastrous, but I believe in parents and in this new form of contemporary family, if it is based on values, but with awareness and able to share them." With these words **Doctor Annalisa Ronchi**, Family and Teen coach opened her speech. She then recalled the importance that parents have a clear understanding of what is behind their "no" and their "yes" and how their inner strength is marked by this awareness. She then quoted Rudolf

Steiner: "In the first seven-year period we must nourish children with goodness; in the second seven-year period with beauty, so that in the third seven-year period they can see the truth through the eyes of goodness and beauty". "The family and the education of children should be based on the understanding that there is always something good and beautiful in people and situations." Concluding, "the family has changed, but in the heart it must always remain firm in values."

The meeting ended with a long question and answer session received from many participants who attended.