



COMMUNIQUE

**MEN ALONE
INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT
BUILDING A
VALUE-
ORIENTED
FAMILY**

A WEBINAR BY

**AWLO HEFORSHE
COMMUNITY**

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DR. ELISHA ATTAI
FOUNDER, AWLO





A LETTER FROM THE HOST

To have a sane society is a subject that calls for the integration of systematic and enviable characterized individuals. Building a Value-Oriented Family is by conscious socio-modeling content against disparity on functional values and societal disruptions.

Men Alone International Summit (MAIS) is AwloHeForShe Global Community's intentional program on family issues with the mindset to abridge the lacuna on gender parity and non-violence domestic interests. The table involves practical capsules for family municipal bond towards community and national development.

The communique, therefore, captures exponential proportional family inclusion and its responsibility towards purpose-driven value and systematic exemplary culture by know-how AwloHeForShe Ambassadors across the globe.

O. Favour Ayodeke

AMB. DR. O. FAVOUR AYODELE

DEAN, AWLO HeForShe Global Community.



SPEAKERS



MODERATOR
MR. MUNGAI NFI
Leadership and Strategic
Management, Cameroon.



DEJI ADENUGA
Consultant, DY Relationship Clinic
Dublin, Ireland.



ARC EZEKIEL NYAE-ETOK
DG, Nigeria First Project.



KEORAPETSE CARL KALAOTE
Entrepreneur/Speaker/Consultant
South Africa.



MR BREN INYANG
CEO, Ekidio Press
Nigeria.



GUY MURRAY-BRUCE
President
Silverbird Group, Nigeria



COACH OSCAR EMETUEI
Executive Director,
Billion House Consulting
South Africa.



LIGHT BULB MOMENT



The stability of a person, neither comes from the society, or government. Rather, it comes from the home.

**-Arc Ezekiel Nya-Etok
DG, Nigeria First Project.**



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A father's roles inside and outside the family influences children's conception of gender roles.



THEMATIC AREAS

THE FAMILY AS THE BASIS OF THE SOCIETY

- Life is based and shaped by the family system. The family is where the society and nation originates from.
- The stability of a person neither comes from the society, or government. Rather, it comes from the home. A firm family structure is therefore imperative to interact meaningfully in other circles of the society.
- People who misbehave in the society can, often times be traced back to a dysfunctional family. Hence, the need to build a strong and value-oriented family can never be overemphasized, especially in the delicate time we now live in. This is the basis for strong values, and culture for positive gender norms.

BUILDING A VALUE-ORIENTED FAMILY

- Values are transferred to children by their parents. Different things influence our values, such as religion, politics, culture, etc. A man is the sum of his principles and values, and these two will be reflected by a man's children when they interact in the society. If parents do not imbibe values into their children, it will impact the society negatively. Thus, the regressive impact of negative norms on gender equality.
- A child when born is like an empty box that needs to be filled. Men should not leave the responsibility of filling up a child's empty box to the women alone. Deliberate inputs in this regard, should be made by men into the lives of their children and wards.
- While money is important to run a stable home, it is not the ultimate in instilling values in children.
- The ability to balance one's family financially, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and environmentally, makes one a responsible father. This will shape the the right values in children from a young age.



THEMATIC AREAS

TRANS-GENERATIONAL VALUES

- The behavioral patterns of humans is trans-generational. And this directly means that parenting, and fatherhood especially, is a bigger picture than most African men realize at present.
- Fatherhood is a generational element. Most of the attitudes displayed by a grandson can be traced to his grandfather. And this shows that values do not die with a person. It passes on from generation to generation.
- For as long as Africa has existed, the family system has always been a legacy handed down from one generation to the next. And the men have always been the one to protect this legacy. Therefore, African men should be at the forefront of transferring values to the next generation.

THE ROLE OF FAMILY IN SHAPING CULTURE AND GENDER SOCIALIZATION

- Gender socialization is the process through which children learn about the social expectations, attitudes and behaviors associated with one's gender. As children attain a sense of their own gender identity, they pay heightened attention to information related to gender, and especially to same-gender models. Parents provide children with their first lessons about gender.
- Although gender-egalitarian attitudes have increased in many cultures over the past decades, parents and especially fathers, typically have different expectations for their sons and daughters with regard to personality traits, abilities and activities.
- A father's roles inside and outside the family also influences children's conception of gender roles. In addition, a father's active involvement in the home life in no small way, dictates the beliefs about gender stereotypes that his children unconsciously adopt. In this regard, fathers are highly encouraged to pay attention to the stereotypical beliefs children express regarding each gender, as some may foster negative behaviors and attitudes against the other gender.



THEMATIC AREAS

A RIGHT MINDSET

- Most African men today still view their wives and children as their properties. This is a warped mindset that needs to be reconfigured. Men who see their family as their properties would treat them accordingly, that is, without the attendant respect due to each member of the family.
- Many men's attitudes and behaviors will need to change in order for gender equality to be achieved. Stereotypes about women should be discarded, and a right mindset and attitude should be embraced in order to build a value-oriented family.

PHYSICAL PRESENCE

- Nowadays, a lot of families are run on auto-pilot, without being mindful of the attendant implications.
- Recognition of the importance of building a value-oriented family will make a man be willing to allocate the needed time to achieve this. The task of child care, discipline and value-development has been, sadly, left mostly to the mothers and nannies, with the fathers concerned mainly with the duty of providing for the financial needs of the home.
- The system of men migrating to other cities in search of livelihood to fend for their families, has the negative implication of making money the only connection between a man, and his family. This leaves the mother and children to live on their own, and thus creates a kind of deconstruct within the family structure.
- The father needs to be present in the home physically, to run it, except in the incidence of death.
- Children with absentee fathers most times live their lives on the basis of trial and error. This is because they have no father to blaze the trail for them. And thus, they end up making several mistakes in life in the bid to get it right. The presence of a father in the live of his children is a seed of peace that is sown towards his old age.



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-Keorapetse Carl Kalaote.

**Entrepreneur/Speaker/Consultant
South Africa.**



SOLUTIONS

- **Coaching and Mentoring via AWLO HeForShe Platform**

The AWLO HeForShe platform should be utilized to build up the boys to become responsible men. Men must be allies against all forms of discrimination and abuse, by speaking against it, and also becoming positive role models for other men, and the younger generation.

- **Build a character-centered family, by living what you teach.**

Teaching children the right values to live by isn't enough on its own. To be an excellent leader in the family, a father must practice consciously and consistently, the values he teaches.

- **The carrot and stick approach.**

A practical way of instilling values in children is by rewarding good behavior, and punishing bad behavior. Children should not be allowed to get away with whatever thing they do. They should be made to understand and experience the consequences of their actions. This will build them up to be responsible adults and members of the society.

- **Create time and opportunities to have family discussions.**

A good leader is one who carries others along. Decisions regarding the family, especially weighty ones, should not be made in isolation. Ample time for regular family discussions should be created.



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- **Values are Trans-Generational.
They don't die with a person.**
- **Mr Bren Inyang
CEO, Ekidio press.**



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- Mr. Bren Inyang
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- Guy Murray-Bruce
- Coach Oscar Emetuei
- Mr. Mungai Nfi

AUTHOR

- Adeyemo Oreoluwa Temitope

