

The International “Sexual Rights” Agenda

“Sexual rights” advocates have been making rapid gains in their efforts to imbed such rights in laws and policies around the world. They know if their radical ideas are repeated often enough, in enough venues, and over a sufficiently long enough period of time, and are not adequately refuted, they will take root no matter how crazy or farfetched they are.

A dangerous document recently produced by a group of “sexual rights” activists may prove to be very threatening to the family. It is called “The Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in Relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.”

The Yogyakarta Principles were created by a group of 30 activists who arrogantly call themselves “The International Commission of Jurists and the International Service for Human Rights.” They define themselves as “experts” on sexuality and human rights. Their goals are (1) to gather and interpret all “existing international human rights law”; (2) to dictate to countries what their obligations are under those laws; and (3) to seek to promote and protect the “human rights” of gender-confused individuals.

All Forms of Sexual Expression Declared a “Human Right”

The Yogyakarta Principles claim to “affirm binding international legal standards,” which require all nations to accept, protect, endorse and promote sexual promiscuity and homosexuality. However, the sexual rights they are claiming already have been at the center of many heated UN debates (several which we have personally witnessed), and each time they have been flatly rejected. We (the UN pro-life, pro-family coalition) fortunately have been successful every time in keeping broad “sexual rights,” or protections based on “sexual orientation,” out of binding UN documents.

When studied carefully, it is easy to see that the Yogyakarta Principles are just a poorly disguised wish list for homosexuals and those seeking legal and societal endorsement of their promiscuous lifestyles. I will show you why the document could be very dangerous if it got traction.

The Broad Reach of The Yogyakarta Principles

The Principles declare that “human sexual orientation and gender identity are integral to every person’s dignity and humanity and must not be the basis for discrimination or abuse.” They then create their own definitions of the following terms:

Sexual Orientation – Sexual orientation is understood to refer to each person’s capacity for profound emotional, affectional and sexual attraction to, and intimate and sexual relations with, individuals of a different gender or the same gender or more than one gender.

Gender Identity – Gender identity is understood to refer to each person’s deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond with the sex assigned at birth, including the personal sense of the body (which may involve, if freely chosen, modification of bodily appearance or function by medical, surgical or other means) and other expressions of gender, including dress, speech and mannerisms.

According to these Yogyakarta Principles, a government would violate a person’s “human rights” if it limited in any way, one’s sexual expression or sexual preferences. Furthermore, the Yogyakarta Principles allege that this expression, which can include sex-change operations, is integral to a person’s “dignity and humanity.”

So sodomy and other expressions of one’s “sexual orientation” or “gender identity” or sex addictions are integral to a person’s dignity?

“Sexual Orientation” – The Trojan Horse for Sexual Anarchy

It is essential to understand that the term “sexual orientation” does not just connote a homosexual orientation. The term is actually a Trojan Horse to sneak in all sorts of deviant sexual orientations that would never be accepted individually. As mentioned earlier, the American Psychiatric Association recognizes 23 different sexual orientations including pedophilia, transgenderism, transsexuality, voyeurism, sexual masochism, sexual sadism, and many other “orientations” too perverse to mention here. (The list of 23 sexual orientations recognized by the APA can be found in the Policy Resource Center on our website at www.familywatchinternational.org.)

Try this quick exercise to see exactly what the authors of the Yogyakarta Principles are demanding and how the term “sexual orientation” is being used as a Trojan Horse to promote sexual anarchy. Try taking the statement below from the Yogyakarta Principles and replace the term “sexual orientation” with the specific sexual orientation of “pedophilia” (or any one of the known 23 orientations as recognized by the American Psychiatric Association). Here is how it would read:

Pedophiles are entitled to enjoy all human rights without discrimination on the basis of their ‘pedophilia’ or gender identity. Pedophiles are entitled to equality before the law and the equal protection of the law without any such discrimination whether or not the enjoyment of another human right is also affected.

Sounds pretty shocking, doesn’t it? If we took a poll, I am sure that the overwhelming majority of people in the world would absolutely reject a movement to consider pedophilia a human right. What happens to the right of a child not to be molested? Because the drafters of the Principles do not exclude any deviant sexual orientations from their definition of sexual orientation, they are virtually claiming that the expression of all sexual orientations (not just homosexuality) is a human right that is protected by

international law.

By the way, liberal social scientists and groups like the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) promote pedophilia and advocate for legalizing sex between children and adults. They have been using the same successful strategy that homosexual advocates followed three decades ago to the public to get them to accept pedophilia one day as not only normal, but maybe even a good thing for children who can be taught how to have sex from an experienced adult.

To achieve their agenda, they are working to (1) lower the age of sexual consent in some countries (meaning the age at which a child could consent to have sex with someone else, including adults) or (2) to resist raising the age of consent, such as in Canada, as difficult as that may be to believe.

Are you concerned yet? Read on.

Eliminating Sexual Norms and Redefining Gender Roles

The drafters of the Yogyakarta Principles seek to change our culture by mandating that nations “eliminate prejudices and customs based on the idea of ... stereotyped roles for men and women.”

Translation: Nations must eliminate not just laws, but also traditions like Mother’s Day and Father’s Day?

As noted in the chapter on motherhood, a UN panel has already criticized countries for recognizing Mother’s Day because it perpetuates one of these dreaded “negative stereotypes.”

Freedom of Thought, Opinion or Belief Trampled

Consider this mandate from the Yogyakarta Principles: “Ensure that the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression does not violate the rights and freedoms of persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.”

So it would be against the law to express a negative opinion or belief about a specific sexual orientation. If this ever becomes law, it would require censorship of religious texts, speech or even scientific research that says anything negative about any sexual orientation. Indeed, if that were to happen, I could be prosecuted for publishing the information in this chapter.

Governments Must Promote Sexually Confused People??

The Yogyakarta group instructs nations to “secure adequate advancement of persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities” through measures that “shall not be

deemed to be discriminatory.”

At least in the U.S., complying with such a mandate in the private sphere would probably require a constitutional amendment since the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale* that the scout organization can in fact prohibit openly homosexual men from serving as scoutmasters. Thank goodness for good judges!

Government Mandated Indoctrination and Thought Control

The members of the Yogyakarta Group also seek to control our thoughts on sexual orientation when they call upon governments to:

Take appropriate action, including programmes of education and training, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudicial or discriminatory attitudes or behaviours which are related to the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of any sexual orientation or gender identity or gender expression.

In other words, our children could be taught in public schools that all 23 sexual orientations recognized by the APA are equal in value to the individual and society.

A Right to Change One's Gender

The Principles demand that all nations ensure that “identity papers ... reflect the person’s profound self-defined gender identity.” In other words, if you wake up today feeling like a man and you are physically a woman, you should have the right to change your driver’s license and passport to reflect your “new” gender.

And should a person desire to alter their sexual appearance? In such cases, governments should facilitate “access by those seeking body modifications related to gender reassignment to competent, non-discriminatory treatment, care and support” and “undertake targeted programmes to provide social support for all persons experiencing gender transitioning or reassignment.” Every time I read this, I feel like I am in the Twilight Zone. But I am not making this stuff up.

Reparative Therapy Prohibited

According to the The Yogyakarta group, a “person’s sexual orientation and gender identity ... are not to be treated, cured or suppressed.”

So no one can be treated for sexual addiction? What does that say about the man who has a sexual orientation toward children or any of the other 22 sexual orientations or fetishes recognized by the APA?

And what about those who have unwanted same-sex attraction, something that many people in the U.S. have overcome with therapy? The Yogyakarta Group is demanding that these people be denied help. And they want to “ensure that any medical or

psychological treatment or counseling does not, explicitly or implicitly, treat sexual orientation and gender identity as medical conditions to be treated, cured or suppressed.”

Going After Our Children

The Yogyakarta group wants to liberalize the sexual expression of children, declaring that “a child who is capable of forming personal views has the right to express those views freely.” Sounds innocent.

But then they demand that in all actions concerning children “the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration” and “that the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child or of any family member or other person may not be considered incompatible with such best interests.” (Emphasis added.) This is a sneaky way of promoting homosexual adoption.

They also require governments to ensure that education “responds to the needs of students of all sexual orientations and gender identities,” and promotes “respect” for “diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.”

They are even attempting to eliminate dress codes, demanding that children have the “right to express identity or personhood, including through speech, deportment, dress, bodily characteristics, choice of name or any other means.” (Emphasis added.)

I have never met a teen yet that couldn’t benefit from some parental guidance regarding their speech, deportment, dress or bodily characteristics.

Adoption of Yogyakarta Principles

The Yogyakarta Principles conclude by calling upon the following to accept, endorse and implement their demands: The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Human Rights Council, the United Nations Economic and Social Council, regional human rights courts, nongovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions, professional organizations, commercial organizations, the mass media, and governmental and private funding entities.

Did they leave anyone out? I don’t think so.

I predict that the sexual rights activists will attempt to sneak this Yogyakarta document into a list of documents to be recognized by the UN General Assembly. (Just like they tried to do with the HIV/AIDS Guidelines mentioned in chapter one.) Most of the voting delegates will not even know what it is, and they won’t take the time to research or understand it. It will be recognized or possibly even adopted, unless good people are there to expose its contents and gather support to stop it.

Sexual Rights Activists Fill the Halls of the UN

In recent years, the UN, under great pressure from homosexual activists, granted consultative status to some homosexual rights groups, despite the protest of several countries.

This development was the result of an aggressive campaign launched by the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) urging all 550 of their affiliates to apply for consultative status with the UN. Unfortunately, their persistence and pressure tactics paid off. With these new NGOs, the battles at the UN over “sexual rights” are going to become even more blatant and difficult to win.

Shortly after the Yogyakarta Principles were released, Beto de Jesus, a member of the Board of the Brazilian LGBT Federation (ABGLT) that is one of the homosexual groups granted consultative status, delivered a speech at the UN Human Rights Council in which he encouraged the Council to “use the Yogyakarta Principles to frame a future debate on sexual orientation and gender identity.” So the formal promotion of the Yogyakarta Principles at the UN already has begun.

The “Friday Fax,” a pro-family publication by the Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (C-FAM) also reported that Yvan Lapointe, a leader of another homosexual group that was recently granted UN consultative status, publicly announced his group’s plans to use the UN as a platform for spreading “homosexual rights” to many of the countries that voted against them receiving consultative status.

Remember what I said earlier: If radical ideas are repeated often, in enough venues, and over a sufficiently long enough period of time without being adequately refuted, they may eventually take hold. This occurs no matter how crazy or farfetched they are. In fact, as we have already learned, radical ideas can become “customary international law” when they are continually repeated at the UN and in other international forums.

In summary, what the Yogyakarta folks are after is nothing less than total governmental and societal recognition, respect, endorsement and promotion of any kind of sexual behavior, no matter how bizarre, unhealthy, or perverse.

The Yogyakarta Principles make up one of the most dangerous assaults on the family to date. You can bet that sexual rights advocates will use them in whole or in part to promote anti-family policies and sexual anarchy at the international, national, state and local levels. We as citizens and parents must be ever vigilant to insure that these principles do not take root.

The assault on gender strikes at the roots of the traditional family. Individuals that are confused about their gender, will likely be unable to form a stable relationship with a person of the opposite sex, marry and form a family. Indeed, those seeking to destroy the concept of “sex” (i.e. our genetic characteristic of being male or female), and replace it with the amorphous concept of “gender” (which can be changed at will) must be stopped,

whether it be at the UN, our national or state legislatures, or even in our own schools.