

Members' Parents Thrilled by Barrytown's Divine Principle Seminar

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Inspiration by Joe Tully brings joy to parents at weekend seminar

On January 17th and 18th, Barrytown International Training Center opened its doors to a group of interested parents. These parents were guests of the International Family Association at a two-day seminar geared to answer the questions concerning the values, purpose and programs of the Unification Church. The seminar developed from a deep need of parents to understand what their children were doing -- the many ways they offer their education and talents to realize a united world in a deep relationship with God and their fellow man. Barrytown is now the center of education for all our young missionaries doing fieldwork as "pioneers" in small towns across the country and in 120 nations. Parents were free to walk around the entire grounds, visit all the various offices, and talk to any of the students.

Parents attending the seminar made these observations: Mrs. Rosenbaum said to Dr. Danby: "I really came to see if my son was 'duped' but I found out quite the opposite. In fact, I felt free to walk anywhere, look at anything and speak to many young people at random. This I hope many other anxious parents will do."

In a letter to the International Family Association, Mrs. Rosenbaum also added: "My visit to Barrytown was very valuable as a parent of a member of the Unification Church. Contrary to feelings I had before going, I felt reassured that his experience was strengthening, not weakening him as a human being. My eyes told me more than the words of the speakers and I came away convinced that his mind and spirit were working freely and he was there of his own free will. My thinking was clarified -- it does not matter if the Unification Church is right for me -- it isn't; what matters is that he feels it gives his life purpose and he is genuinely happy living as a member.

"I would encourage other parents to take a trip to Barrytown. I hope it will bring them closer to their children as my visit did for me."



Mrs. Gifford: "My recent weekend at the Barrytown Training Center filled me with a deep sense of gratitude that my young daughter has chosen to be associated with this outstanding movement. The usual pain and sorrow of life's disillusionment can be dealt with early in life because of her wise choice in her high school years to seek the highest ideals and her determination to live up to the challenge daily. At the Parents' Seminar last weekend, I learned why the Unification Church is able to attract and hold the idealistic youth of today. If you are a parent, desiring to see faith rekindled in the hope of our young people, come and join us at a Barrytown Parents' Seminar."