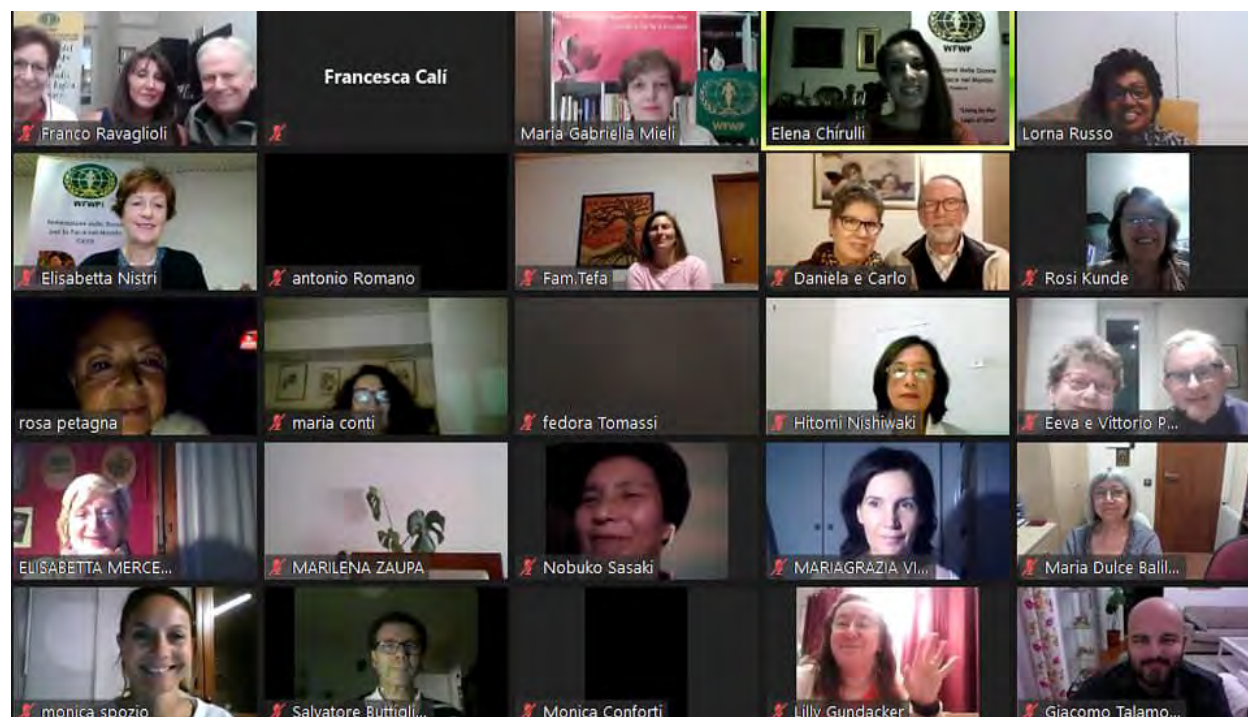


WFWP Italy: Women and Dignity - What is Their Relationship Today?

Elisabetta Nistri
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On October 9th 2020, the online meeting of Women's Federation for World Peace Italy took place: "Women and Dignity: What is Their Relationship Today?" sponsored by WFWP International, and moderated by Elena Chirulli, head of the WFWP Italy youth section.

After the initial greetings, the meeting opened with the speech of the Vice-President WFWP Italy, Maria Gabriella Mieli, who after analyzing the meaning of the term dignity, explained how this theme was addressed by WFWP Europe over time, starting from the year 2000 when it built an educational path centered on the Unesco's program (decade of a culture of peace and non-violence for children of the world).

The reason for this interest on the Federation's part lies precisely in not recognizing themselves in the media representations of women, in their stereotypical images, because they represent them only on the surface and not in essence. WFWP has committed itself to trying to change the situation through many activities that, thanks to the contribution of Japanese volunteers, have been realized all over the world. Our original value, Dr. Mieli reminds us, derives from the Supreme Source, God, and it is our responsibility to seek within us this precious gift.

The Mission of WFWP, founded by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, is in fact precisely to restore to full human awareness the original value of women, rediscovering their dignity, since only in partnership and equality with men can we solve the great and small problems that our world is facing.

The rapporteur, Onorina Gibi, Psychotherapist and Therapist of the Family, brought to attention how the awareness of being worthy is created in the individual: from the parents' affection. It is during childhood that, through the relationship of listening and support the individual establishes with his parents, we are born with the awareness of being people who are able to do, to behave, to deserve. In fact, the experiences and self-knowledge are connected, so even as adults the emotions of our childhood come back powerfully.

Dignity is also supported by self-esteem, and it becomes our protection; it ensures that the world doesn't devour us, it allows us to establish balanced relationships; it teaches us not to fight aggressively and not to allow the other to become aggressive with us. Dignity means that we are able to recognize what our responsibilities are, and what are others' responsibilities and fault, and this allows us to reject the unreasonable demands of others that we are not prepared to meet. It consists therefore in being convinced of one's own morality and in not giving weight to the adverse and critical opinion of others.



Dr. Gibi also gave 3 tips to all women to ensure that dignity can grow hand in hand with respect and independence:

- 1) Earning a living independently of another person, preserves one's freedom and autonomy.
- 2) Be able to solve your problems by being aware of your own resources.
- 3) Establish joyful and harmonious relationships and maintain them over time.

The rapporteur then ended her speech with the story of a symbolic figure in the path of women's quest for equality:

Ipazia, a woman who lived in Alexandria in 360 AD, who, unlike the other women of that time, had the permission and support of her father to learn and study mathematics. He believed that teaching people to look at the stars would also teach them to look inside themselves. She was a progressive woman, who believed in equality of men and women and freedom of thought, and for this very reason she was murdered in 415 AD.

After a series of questions to the rapporteurs, Dr. Gibi guided the participants to a Tibetan-wide session, which according to tradition allows you to free yourself from frustration, anger and resentment.