

## PWPA USA: Africa At The Crossroads - Role Of Spiritual And Religious Leaders

Frank Kaufmann  
July 24, 2023



On July 20, 2023, Professors World Peace Academy President Dr. Frank Kaufmann spoke to the IAPD webinar titled Africa at the Crossroads: The Role of Spiritual and Religious Leaders.

His assignment and presentation was on how to overcome the divisive tendencies that may emerge within religion, and work to promote dialogue, mutual respect, and cooperation so that we may more effectively work to solve the critical challenges of our time, atheism, secularism, and religious persecution, including poverty, hunger, injustice, environmental degradation, family breakdown, immorality, corruption, conflict, and violence?

Here are the Speakers of the event:



This is the presentation given by Dr Frank Kafumann.

### Presentation 3: Family Breakdown and Various Faith Traditions

The concerns, premise, and proposition below are from the conference organizers and expressed in the conference invitation and backgrounder

#### Concerns:

Poverty, hunger, injustice, environmental degradation, family breakdown, immorality, corruption, conflict, and violence,

#### Premise:

Religion should be a solution

## **Proposition:**

Instead of being a solution religion, too often, has given rise to conflict and immorality.

From here on is the writing and account offered by Dr. Kaufmann

## **Observation:**

Religion is rarely accused of giving rise to immorality.

On the other hand the idea that religion gives rise to conflict is widespread.

## **Immorality**

Does Religion give rise to immorality?

No it does not.

I would say rather, "religion is rife with immorality."

Two forms of immorality.

Sexual immorality, and

Social immorality.

Sexual immorality is the highest, most demonic, and most egregious of all wrongdoing. It attacks the most fragile, tender, elevated, sacred part of people, namely their love. It attacks our deepest point that makes life meaningful. Sexual immorality attacks in other people, their very source of hope, trust, and every basis for noble and dignified life.

Social immorality on the hand attacks life. It arises from a demonic addiction to wealth, power, and the sick obsession to control people and exploit the fruits of their lives. For even a small bit of personal gain people are willing to impoverish the lives of others. To deprive them and their children of their basic needs, their dignity, education, and opportunity. This is immoral.

Religion does not give rise to these. Religion unilaterally and unequivocally opposes both these sins and evils that people inflict on others, and tries to provide insights and means to avoid both. .

Are religions rife with these? Yes. The reasons would have to be discussed another time due to time constraints.

## **Conflict and Division**

The second concern cited about religion is that it gives rise to divisive tendencies.

This is not true. All people are plagued by divisive tendencies. It is a human problem not a religious one.

The issue with religion and conflict is that religion concerns are so deeply deeply important to our lives that it is more difficult than with other things to find ways past differences and disagreements.

[Example] I could probably, eventually get past the fact that someone stole my car. I may never get past **rage and hatred, if somebody stole my child. My point:** When things are extremely important, it is harder to rise above difference.

The people who cannot understand religious conflict are those who do not understand that religion is important.

## **Religion and Conflict**

The problem is that all religions have the resources to help their believers overcome conflict. This is the job of religion. This is why people look on religious conflict with derision and find it hypocritical.

Here is the PowerPoint presentation

[Family Breakdown and Variou...](#) by [Frank Kaufmann](#)

## **Family Breakdown**

### **Family Love**

The family is the touchpoint between heaven and earth. It is the place meant to translate the dream of God into reality on earth.

The family gives every human being a magical gift. That is the love and the bonds that mysteriously arise in family.

[Example] A completely bad man or woman.

Even such a person wells up with love for their child. How on earth did that happen? This person is the opposite of loving. They are cruel, evil, hateful, destructive. Yet with their child is born, and suddenly there is love in them!

What about the child? Why are they bound in infinite love for their parents? Where does this come from? Why doesn't a child be bound to this lady or that? Again, the child has something in it that comes into her mysteriously. Where does this come from?

If this breaks down, the very secret of life gets deformed and broken.

If on the other hand we treasure these loves, nurture them, grow them, and put them at our center, then all else in life will reflect that and become similarly mysterious and magical.

### **Family and Conflict**

The family is also the place that teaches us how to reconcile differences and conflict.

### **Family Breakdown and Faith Traditions**

The issue of family breakdown is not a question related to different faith traditions.

So far as this question is concerned, this is all that is needed: Sit with a Christian, a Muslim, Yoruba, or any believer from any faith.. Ask them, "Does your religion want to make people good, and society peaceful, free, and prosperous?" If they answer yes, respond in this way, "Turn every last penny and every last breath in your religion to raise your believers to cherish, nurture, and grow God's free gift of love that is given through family.

This will fix our troubles.



# **FAMILY BREAKDOWN AND VARIOUS FAITH TRADITIONS**

**PREPARED FOR IAPD**

**BY  
FRANK KAUFMANN  
JULY 20 2023**

# INTRODUCTION

Concerns:

Poverty, hunger, injustice,  
environmental degradation, conflict,  
and violence,

Premise:

Religion should be a solution

Proposition:

Instead of being a solution, religion,  
too often, has given rise to conflict  
and immorality.



## OBSERVATION

Religion is rarely accused of giving rise to immorality.

On the other hand the idea that religion gives rise to conflict is widespread.





# IMMORALITY

Does Religion give rise to  
immorality?  
No it does not.

I would say rather, “religion is rife  
with immorality.”



## TWO TYPES OF IMMORALITY

Sexual immorality,

Social immorality.



# SEXUAL IMMORALITY

The most demonic, most evil of all wrongdoing.

It attacks the most fragile, tender, elevated, sacred part of people, namely love.

It attacks our deepest point that makes life meaningful.

Attacks hope, trust, and every basis for noble and dignified life.



# SOCIAL IMMORALITY

Attacks life.

Addiction to wealth, power  
Obsession to control people and  
exploit the fruits of their lives.

Willing to impoverish others for even  
a small bit of personal gain

Deprive people and their children of  
basic needs, dignity, education, and  
opportunity. This is immoral.





## RELIGION AND IMMORALITY

Religion does not give rise to these.

- Religion opposes both these sins and evils
- Religion tries to provide insights and means to avoid these

Are religions rife with these? Yes.

# RELIGION AND CONFLICT

Does Religion give rise to conflict?

No

- Humans are plagued with the propensity to conflict.
- People fight over anything and everything

The issue with religion is it's importance



# RELIGION AND CONFLICT

All religions have the resources to help their believers overcome conflict.

This is the job of religion.

This is why people look on religious conflict with derision and find it hypocritical



## FAMILY'S MYSTERIOUS GIFT

The Family itself magically gives love

One minute it is not there. The next  
minute it arises

Even bad human beings are  
magically given love

This must be developed and nurtured



# FAMILY AND CONFLICT

The family provides the natural school  
of overcoming conflict

If family breaks down, every basis  
needed for social happiness and  
prosperity are lost

Human being lose the gifts of family  
and go on to harm society



# FAMILY BREAKDOWN AND FAITH TRADITIONS

This matter is simple

Does your religion want to make  
people good?

Dedicate your religion solely to  
helping your believers grow in their  
families





# THE FAMILY HAS 8 PARTS

Daughters

Sisters

Wives

Mothers

Sons

Brothers

Husbands

Fathers



# THANK YOU

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Twelve Gates Foundation  
<https://12gf.org>



# IAPD WEBINAR

## AFRICA AT THE CROSSROADS: THE ROLE OF SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

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July 20, 2023

# Theme: Africa at the Crossroads: The Role of Spiritual and Religious Leaders

Throughout the ages faith in the Creator has served as a guide to humanity, leading us from darkness to the light, establishing the foundations of morality, and providing a vision of the good society. The teachings and scriptures of the great spiritual and religious traditions are humanity's greatest treasures. We dishonor them at our peril.

We also recognize that persons within each of our faith traditions have fallen short and failed to embody those universal ideals that are espoused within our traditions. Religion, too often, has given rise to conflict and immorality.

How to overcome the divisive tendencies that may emerge within religion, and work to promote dialogue, mutual respect, and cooperation so that we may more effectively work to solve the critical challenges of our time, atheism, secularism, and religious persecution, including poverty, hunger, injustice, environmental degradation, family breakdown, immorality, corruption, conflict, and violence?



# Keynote Speeches

1. Threat of Atheism, Secularism and Religious Persecution
2. Universal Values Held by Various Faith Traditions
3. Family Breakdown and Various Faith Traditions
4. How to Prevent Interreligious Conflicts?
5. Environmental Degradation: What Response from Faith Leaders?

# Speakers

Speaker 1: Threat of Atheism, Secularism and Religious Persecution (Mr. Michael Swain)

Speaker 2: Universal Values Held by Various Faith Traditions (Dr. Tageldin Hamad)

Speaker 3: Family Breakdown and Various Faith Traditions (Dr. Frank Kaufmann)

Speaker 4: How to Prevent Interreligious Conflicts? (Father Louison Emerick Bissila Mbila)

Speaker 5: Environmental Degradation: What Response from Faith Leaders? (Dr. Paterne  
Zinsou)

**Note:** 7 mn for each speaker

# SPEAKERS



Dr. Tageldin Hamad  
International Coordinator  
IAPD



Imboni Dr. uZwi-Lezwe  
Radebe  
Chairman IAPD Africa



Dr. Frank Kaufmann  
President PWPA



Fr. Louison Emerick B.  
Mbila  
Chaplain at AU



Mr. Michael Swain  
Executive Director FORSA



Dr. Paterne L. Zinsou  
Vice-President UPF Africa



Rev. George Ogurie  
Regional Coordinator IAPD  
Africa





# Program Summary

Interfaith Invocation

Welcoming Remarks

Report

Keynote Speeches

Questions & Answers

Closing Remarks

Interfaith Invocation



# Program

**MC:** Rev. George Ogurie, IAPD-Africa Coordinator

**Opening Invocation:** TRSH /Christian Representatives

**Welcoming Remarks:** Imboni Dr. uZwi-Lezwe Radebe

**Report on IAPD-Africa Activities:** Rev. George Ogurie, IAPD-Africa Coordinator

**IAPD Featured Video** (updated – Mozambique/ASDs/Korea by TRSH Team) (maxi 10 mn)

**Speakers' Interventions** (1-5)

**Questions and Answers Session**

**Closing Remarks:** Imboni Dr. uZwi-Lezwe Radebe

**Closing Invocation:** Muslim / Buddhist Representatives

**Family Photo**



Thank you



INTERRELIGIOUS  
ASSOCIATION FOR PEACE  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
(IAPD) AFRICA