



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI) AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

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62nd CSW Report

By Joan Goldstein

In 1946, soon after the founding of the United Nations, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was established to promote the advancement of women throughout the world. In 2010, the UN General Assembly created UN Women, to accelerate the Organization's goals.

International Women's Day, 8 March, has been celebrated by the UN since 1975. Diverse programs sponsored by UN agencies and NGOs about the Status of Women were offered during the CSW days 8-23 March. This 62nd year's theme, "Time is Now: Rural and Urban Activists Transforming Women's Lives," was represented both at the UN and in venues throughout New York City.



One such event moderated by TV host, Joan Lunden, "The Role of Media to Empower Women," spoke to the influence of the print industry, movies, TV, and social media on women across the globe. South African Broadcasting Corporation has more female executives than men. Sherwin Bryce-Pease attributed this to the role women played in their struggle against apartheid and their modern constitution. Actress Edie Falco saw a positive change in movie and TV roles women play and advocated for more female executives, network producers and directors. Ms. Lunden suggested that gender equality is also a men's issue. Both she and Mr. Guterres stated that men need to actively participate in this endeavor.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in his opening remarks on March 8, said women and girls around the world are calling out the abusive behavior and discriminating attitudes that they face everywhere and all the time. They are insisting on lasting change. Determined to achieve gender equality at the UN, Guterres announced that women now have parity in the organization's senior management committee, the top level of the UN. He concluded that we need to listen to women and girls who are rightly proclaiming their rights and make gender equality a reality for all.

To learn more and "virtually" attend one of these activities, go to www.webtv.un.org.





Be Happy!

Happiness Measured and Celebrated

by Lochie Musso

The 2018 UN *World Happiness Report* was unveiled at a meeting with its co-authors John Helliwell, Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia; Richard Layard, London School of Economics and Political Science and Jeffrey Sachs, Director, Global Happiness Council (GHC) and Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Columbia University, New York, all eminent authorities on economic, health and social well-being.

This year's volume focused on Happiness and Migration. Ambassador Frantisek Ruzicka (Slovakia), Chef de Cabinet to the President of the General assembly, questioned whether migrants and happiness are "even compatible." The UN is examining "migration in a holistic way" and concludes that conditions can be created to promote happiness. "Happiness policies can affect everyone" not just migrants.

Rebecca Finlay, Vice-President of Engagement and Public Policy, and John Helliwell, Report author, spoke of research in the UK and Latin American countries noting that migrant happiness is dependent on the general happiness of the new country, the happiness footprint from where they came (including those left behind) and the welcoming of their new location. Relationships prove to be paramount in migration movements - not the richness of the country moved to.

The Global Happiness Council Director, Jeffrey Sachs, shared the Council's first edition *Global Happiness Policy Report 2018* based on six thematic groups: education, workplace, personal happiness, public health, city design and management. Round table discussions for each topic followed. I sat at one of the education tables where lively conversation ensued with college graduates majoring in education, practicing private and public teachers, professors in medicine and global studies.

The Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) has been researching across disciplines and borders working on global challenges "to improve human health, transform technology, build strong societies and sustain the Earth." Based in part on their studies and thousands of surveys, countries around the world (156) were ranked according to economic prosperity, physical and mental health of the citizens, freedom of individuals to make key life decisions, strong and vibrant social support networks, shared public values of generosity and social trust including confidence in the honesty of business and government.

Which country is ranked #1? Finland! And the next 3 are Norway, Denmark and Iceland. The Netherlands is 6, Canada is 7, Sweden 9, Costa Rica 13, Germany 15, USA 18 (down 3 from last year), UK 19, Mexico 24, Panama 27, Guatemala 30, El Salvador 40, Japan 54, Estonia 63, Puerto Rico was included with the USA. DKG member countries were all in the top 40% of the 156 countries surveyed.

Using Happiness criteria instead of relying on only Gross National Product or Gross Domestic Product or power to evaluate a nation's success "is the world's best and perhaps only hope to avoid global catastrophe." (From the *Global Happiness Policy Report 2018*, p.5.)

To read more from these two UN documents go to www.happinesscouncil.org; <http://worldhappiness.report/> and/or #happiness2018

Interesting News!

“Did you know that a recent report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office found that it is eight times more cost effective for the U.S. to financially support a UN Peacekeeping mission than to deploy U.S. military forces? That’s a pretty significant savings . . .” and no large numbers of American troops were ever deployed. The United Nations Mission in Liberia (strongly supported by the USA) began in 2003 and is now closing its doors as the mandate for peaceful transition of power was accomplished this year when President George Weah was elected to office without strife.

2017 REGIONAL CONFERENCE BREAKOUTS: “16 + 1 = 7!” Continued

by Representatives

Below are the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) #7- #12 that were addressed at the DKG Regional conferences held in the USA last summer. (“16 + 1 = 7”) Breakout attendees developed actions to promote the 17 Global Goals in their local chapters, schools, communities, and daily living. Some of these proved to be challenging (or we ran out of time!) and were not completed. We welcome and encourage you to suggest ideas in this global cause of the 17 SDGs and let us know what you are doing. Learn more at support@sdgactioncampaign.org
Goals #13- #17 will follow in the next issue.

SDGs	CHAPTER	CLASSROOM	COMMUNITY	DAILY LIFE
7/Affordable and Clean Energy	Invite speakers well-informed on the topic and learn	Have students do research projects on the topic.	Promote installation of wind farms, solar panels.	Turn off lights not needed, turn down heat/AC
8/Decent Work and Economic Growth	Donate professional clothing to women in need.		Volunteer to mentor; provide a non-threatening environment or job training.	Teach community classes, including GED speak out against illiteracy: knowledge is power.
9/ Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Learn more with knowledgeable speakers.			Follow the news pertaining to these topics.
10/Reduced Inequalities	Raise money to assist disadvantaged	Familiarize students with the inequalities occurring within countries	Support community efforts.	Become aware, reduce bias, volunteer time and/or money.

11/ Sustainable Cities and Communities	Provide programs directed at sustainable living; lobby for adequate housing, transportation, etc.	Provide adequate resources to serve disabled and special needs students	Provide green areas; safe, affordable housing for all, totally integrate.	Reduce waste and Recycle
12/Responsible Consumption and Production	Use electronic means, rather than paper for communication; do online newsletters; recycle	Reuse back sides of papers, create gardens for school food programs, reduce and recycle, show students how to compost; eliminate straws with school lunches.	Support local recycling, encourage restaurant and grocery stores to donate extras to the needy; promote use of environmentally friendly lighting for public/private area.	Recycle. Use cloth instead of paper, take shorter showers, only do full loads in the dishwasher and laundry. "eat less pretty fruit." Use reusable shopping bags; carpool; compost food;

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YOUR UN REPRESENTATIVES

The members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International listed below are your official representatives at the United Nations Department of Public Information and the Economic and Social Council. Most of them also work with CTAUN. You can email us for further information.

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