Supplement to Edition Three

The Five Respects section and the indexes have been updated to include paragraphs from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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Five Respects:
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This supplement does not include the Rio+20 document, as most of the issues are represented in the 2030 Agenda. The Rio+20 and the new Habitat III documents will be included in Edition Four, to be released in 2017. However, Rio+20 references are included in the index.

United Families International
& World Congress of Families
How to Use this Guide Effectively

1. **Become familiar with the section on the Five Respects**, presenting consensus language from UN treaties and conference documents within the categories of:
   - Family (page 1)
   - Human Life (page 7)
   - Parents (page 13)
   - Religious Values (page 19)
   - Sovereignty (page 27)

2. **Review the first page of each section**, which provides several sentences of helpful consensus language. The sentences are generally grouped into:
   1. Words or phrases which **support** the subject
   2. Words or phrases which **oppose** the subject, and
   3. Modifying words or phrases which can be inserted to make the sentence, or paragraph more family friendly.

3. **Consider specific examples of the words and phrases, as used in previous international treaties and conference documents, under the various topics related to the subject.**

   *For example:* See page 2 for paragraphs from treaties and conference documents that specifically use the words, “The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society.” For easy reference to the organization of topics within each section, see the list on the contents page (page v).

4. **Read the full text of the paragraph in the official document.** (This Supplement only includes the full text for the 2030 Agenda. Other treaties and conference documents can be found in the Third Edition of the UN Negotiating Guide. The Fourth Edition will be available in 2017, which will also include the Rio +20 and Habitat III documents.)

5. **Check references to other paragraphs on the same topic in the General Index.** (Note: This index is limited to words or phrases directly related to the five areas of focus, using words and phrases as stated in the Five Respects section.)

6. **Refer to the Family Index** (page 592) for a complete listing of all paragraphs using the word “family” or “families.” This might help you consider an appropriate group of words that would be family-friendly.

In addition to the above reference guidelines, **the key words are in bold** in the Five Respects section, and these same words and phrases have also been **bolded in the actual treaties and conference documents**. This makes it easy to find the information you are seeking, whether it is referenced in the Five Respects section or the General Index, and will save you time locating the specific words or phrases mentioned in the index.

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I. Respect for the Family

The stability and peace of the family, the fundamental unit of society, will ultimately determine the stability and peace of the world. When forming public policies, government leaders should carefully consider the impact on, and ability to strengthen, the individual family units – recognizing marriage between a man and a woman as the beginning of the legal family unit.

Language recognizing the importance of the family unit (see examples on the following pages):

– “the family is the basic unit of society”
– “the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society”
– “the family is . . . entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support”
– “the family is . . . a strong force of social cohesion”
– “constructive role of the family”
– “primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children”
– “the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members”
– “stable, supportive and nurturing family relationships”

Language recognizing governments consideration of the family:

– “promote family friendly policies and services”
– “the family . . . should be strengthened”
– “governments should . . . create an environment supportive of the family”
– “helping the family in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles”
– “assess their impact on family well-being”
– “contributing to the welfare of the family”
– “role of parents and legal guardians in the family”
– “strengthen policies to support family security”
– “impact on families”
– “grant particular assistance to families in difficult life situations”

Language related to problems in the family:

– “causes and consequences of family disintegration”
– “displacement compounded by . . . family disintegration and separation”
– “eliminate all obstacles to human dignity and equality in family”
– “physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family”
– “facilitate family reunification of documented migrants”
– “insufficient protection and support to their respective families”
– “millions of children and youths are left to their own devices”
– “one-person households”
– “child abuse and domestic violence”
Respect for the Family

**FUNDAMENTAL GROUP UNIT OF SOCIETY**

Universal Declaration, Article 16-3 ..........................42
“The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.”

ICESCR, Article 10-1................................................46
“The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.”

ICCPR, Article 23-1 ..................................................52
“The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.”

CRC, Preamble (sixth paragraph) .........................57
“Convinced that the family, as the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members and particularly children, should be afforded the necessary protection and assistance so that it can fully assume its responsibilities within the community,”

Children’s Summit 1990, 14 ..............................71
“. . . The family, as the fundamental group and natural environment for the growth and well-being of children, should be given all necessary protection and assistance.”

Disabilities, Preamble-x ..............................541
“Convinced that the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State, and that persons with disabilities and their family members should receive the necessary protection and assistance to enable families to contribute towards the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities,”

Doha Declaration, Preamble ..............................517
“Taking into consideration the academic, scientific and social findings collected for the Doha International Conference, which collectively demonstrate that the family is not only the fundamental group unit of society but is also the fundamental agent for sustainable social, economic and cultural development;”

**BASIC UNIT OF SOCIETY**

ICPD, Principle 9 ..............................................130
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support.”

Social Summit, 80 ..............................................206
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support . . . .”

Beijing Plan of Action, 29 .................................218
“. . . The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support . . . ”

Habitat Agenda, 31 ........................................278
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support . . . .”

Social Summit +5, 25 .......................................363
“There has been continued recognition that the family is the basic unit of society and that it plays a key role in social development and is a strong force of social cohesion and integration. In different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist.”

Social Summit +5, 56 .......................................370
“Recognize that the family is the basic unit of society and that it plays a key role in social development and is a strong force of social cohesion and integration. . . .”

Beijing +5, 60 ........................................388
“. . . The family is the basic unit of society and is a strong force for social cohesion and integration and as such should be strengthened. . . .”

Istanbul +5, 30 ........................................403
“Reaffirm that the family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support . . . .”

Children’s Summit +10, 15 .............................472
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support.”
**FAMILY POLICY**

ICPD, 5.2-a ..............................................................136
“**To develop policies and laws that better support the family,** contribute to its stability and take into account its plurality of forms, particularly the growing number of single-parent households;”

ICPD, 5.9 .................................................................137
“Governments should formulate **family-sensitive policies** in the field of housing, work, health, social security and education in order to create an environment supportive of the family, . . .”

Social Summit, 27-a ........................ ..........................191
“Analysing policies and programmes,. . . assessing **their impact on family well-being** . . .”

Social Summit, 81-a ................................................206
“. . . Encouraging social and economic **policies that are designed to meet the needs of families and their individual members**, especially the most disadvantaged and vulnerable members, with particular attention to the care of children;”

Beijing, 58-b ............................................................221
“. . . Analyse . . . policies and programmes . . . assess **their impact on family well-being** . . .”

Beijing, 285-a ..........................................................264
“. . . **Formulate policies and programmes to help the family**, . . . its supporting, educating and nurturing roles . . .”

Habitat Agenda, 40-k ..............................................280
“. . . **encouraging social and economic policies** that are designed to meet the housing needs of families and their individual members . . .”

Beijing +5: 72-q ...........................................................392
“Promote or improve information programmes and measures including treatment for the elimination of the increasing substance abuse among women and adolescent girls, including information campaigns about the risks to health and other consequences and its **impact on families** . . .”

Beijing +5: 82-d ...........................................................394
“Design, implement and **promote family friendly policies** and services, . . .”

**ROLE OF THE FAMILY**

Children Summit, 18 ..................................................74
The family has the primary responsibility for the **nurturing and protection of children** from infancy to adolescence.

CRC, Article 18-1 ......................................................59
“. . . Parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the **upbringing and development of the child.**”

Children Summit Decl., 20-5 ....................................72
“We will work for **respect for the role of the family in providing for children** and will support the efforts of parents, other care-givers and communities to nurture and care for children, from the earliest stages of childhood through adolescence. ”

Social Summit Decl., 29, Commitment 4-k ............180
“Strengthen institutions that enhance social integration, recognizing the **central role of the family** and providing it with an environment that assures its protection and support. . . .”

Social Summit, 74-e ..................................................203
“Encouraging . . . institutions that tend to strengthen social integration, **paying particular attention to policies** that assist families in their support, educational, socializing and nurturing roles;”

Beijing Plan of Action, 285-a ..................................264
“**Formulate policies and programmes to help the family,** as defined in paragraph 29 above, in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles . . .”

Habitat Agenda, 40-k ..............................................280
“**Helping the family,** in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles, . . . with particular attention to the care of children;”

Information Summit, 57 ..........................................515
“. . . The widest possible protection should be accorded to the family and to enable it to play its crucial role in society.”

Social Summit +5, III, 56 ..........................................370
“. . . Greater attention should be paid to helping the family in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles, . . .”
**Respect for the Family**

**Support (Strengthen) the Family**

ICPD, 5.2-a..........................................................136
“\[...\]”

ICPD, 5.8 ..............................................................137
“The objective is to ensure that all social and economic development policies are fully responsive to the diverse and changing needs and to the rights of families and their individual members, and provide necessary support and protection, particularly to the most vulnerable families and the most vulnerable family members.”

Social Summit, 39-a ...........................................196
“\[...\] Particular efforts should be made to protect children and youth by: Promoting family stability and supporting families in providing mutual support, including in their role as nurturers and educators of children;”

Social Summit, 40 ................................................196
“\[...\] Particular efforts should be made to protect older persons, including those with disabilities, by: Strengthening family support systems;”

Habitat, 182-m.....................................................308
“\[...\] Promoting the representation of intergenerational interests, including those of children and future generations in decision-making processes, while strengthening families;”

Cairo +5, 18-e......................................................347
“\[...\] Develop innovative ways to provide more effective assistance to strengthen families in extreme poverty, such as providing micro-credit for poor families and individuals;”

Ageing, 105-h.......................................................466
“\[...\] Develop social support systems, both formal and informal, with a view to enhancing the ability of families to take care of older persons within the family...”

Information Summit, 57 ......................................515
“\[...\] The widest possible protection should be accorded to the family and to enable it to play its crucial role in society.”

**Marriage**

Universal Declaration, Article 16-1 and 2 ..................42
“Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.
“Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.”

ICCPR, Article 23-2 and 4 .....................................52
“The right of men and women of marriageable age to marry and to found a family shall be recognized. . . take appropriate steps to ensure equality of rights and responsibilities of spouses as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution. . .”

Social Summit, 80 ................................................206
ICPD, Principle 9 .................................................130
Habitat Agenda, 31 ..............................................278
Habitat +5: 30....................................................403
“\[...\] Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses, and husband and wife should be equal partners.”

Beijing Declaration, 15 ......................................213
“\[...\] equal sharing of responsibilities for the family by men and women, and a harmonious partnership between them are critical to their well-being and that of their families . . .”

Beijing +5, 26......................................................384
“Legal reforms have been undertaken to prohibit all forms of discrimination and discriminatory provisions have been eliminated in civil, penal and personal status law governing marriage and family relations, . . .”

Disabilities, 23-a.................................................546
“The right of all persons with disabilities who are of marriageable age to marry and to found a family on the basis of free and full consent of the intending spouses is recognized;”

Doha Declaration,..............................................518
“Uphold, preserve and defend the institution of marriage;
“Take effective measures to strengthen the stability of marriage by, among other things, encouraging the full and equal partnership of husband and wife within a committed and enduring marital relationship;”
**Nurturing Family Relationships**

2030 Agenda, 25 .......................................................... 578

“. . . We will strive to **provide children and youth with a nurturing environment** for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the demographic dividend including through safe schools and cohesive communities and **families.**”

CRC, Preamble .......................................................... 57

“Recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an **atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.**”

Children Summit, 18 .................................................. 74

“The family has the **primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children from infancy to adolescence.** Introduction of children to the culture, values and norms of their society begins in the family. For the full and harmonious development of their personality, children should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. Accordingly, all institutions of society should respect and support the efforts of parents and other care-givers to **nurture and care for children in a family environment.**”

Social Summit +5, 72 .................................................... 371

“Recognize that stable, supportive and **nurturing family relationships,** supported by communities and, where available, professional services, can provide a vital shield against substance abuse, particularly among minors . . .”

Ageing, 105-h ............................................................ 466

“Develop social support systems, both formal and informal, with a view to **enhancing the ability of families to take care of older persons** within the family, including in particular the provision of long-term support and services for the growing number of frail older persons;”

Children Summit +10, 6 ........................................... 470

“We recognize and support parents and families or, as the case may be, legal guardians as the primary caretakers of children, and we will strengthen their capacity to provide the optimum care, nurturing and protection.”

**Reunification of the Family Unit**

ICPD, 4.28 .............................................................. 136

“. . . Such laws and policies should also encourage maintenance or **reconstitution of the family unit. . . .”**

ICPD, 10.12 ............................................................. 155

“. . . recognize the **vital importance of family reunification** . . . in order to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants. . .”

ICPD, 10.13 ............................................................. 155

“. . . Governments are urged to promote, through family reunification, the normalization of the family life of legal migrants who have the right to long-term residence.”

Social Summit, 77-b ................................................. 205

“. . . recognize the **vital importance of family reunification** and promote its integration . . . to ensure protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants. . .”

Beijing, 147-k .......................................................... 241

“. . . ensure that the **vital importance of family reunification** is recognized;”

Cairo +5, 24-a .......................................................... 348

“To intensify efforts to . . . **facilitate family reunification** of documented migrants; . . .”

Social Summit +5, 68 .................................................. 371

“Intensify efforts to ensure the . . . facilitation of family reunification of documented migrants and their equal treatment under the law.”

Social Summit +5, 75 .................................................. 371

“. . . Greater attention should be given to children, including unaccompanied refugee minors, displaced children, **children separated from their families,** those acting as soldiers and those involved in armed conflicts.”

Children Summit +10, 44-29 .................................. 479

“Give priority to programmes for **family tracing and reunification, . . .”**

Racism, 49 ............................................................. 488

“We highlight the importance of creating conditions conducive to greater harmony, tolerance and respect between migrants. . . **family reunification has a positive effect on integration and emphasize the need for States to facilitate family reunion;**”
**Extended Families**

Children Summit, 19 .................................................75
“Every effort should be made to prevent the separation of children from their families. . . . Extended families, relatives and community institutions should be given support to help to meet the special needs of orphaned, displaced and abandoned children. . . .”

ICPD, 5.11 ...............................................................137
“Governments should support and develop the appropriate mechanisms to assist families caring for children, the dependent elderly and family members with disabilities, . . . and support the viability of multigenerational families.”

ICPD, 6.18...............................................................139
“. . . provide support to elderly people through the encouragement of multigenerational families, and the provision of long-term support and services for growing numbers of frail older people.”

Social Summit, 40-a ................................................196
“Particular efforts should be made to protect older persons, including those with disabilities, by . . . strengthening family support systems;”

Cairo +5, 21-c..........................................................347
“. . . support systems to enhance the ability of families and communities to care for older family members; the ability of the elderly to care for family members and community victims of HIV/AIDS; and generational solidarity with the goal of maintaining and improving social cohesion.”

Ageing, 31 ...............................................................456
“. . . sustaining the traditional extended family network and reciprocity system . . . ”

Ageing, 96 ...............................................................465
“. . . traditional environment of an extended family.”

ICPD, 5.2-a..............................................................136
“To develop policies and laws that better support the family, . . . particularly the growing number of single-parent households;”

ICPD, 5.6.................................................................137
“Governments should maintain and further develop mechanisms to document changes and undertake studies on family composition and structure, especially on the prevalence of one-person households, and single-parent and multigenerational families.”

**Family Instability**

ICPD, 5.7...............................................................137
“Families are sensitive to strains induced by social and economic changes. It is essential to grant particular assistance to families in difficult life situations. . . . Increased labour migrations and refugee movements are an additional source of family tension and disintegration and are contributing to increased responsibilities for women. In many urban environments, millions of children and youths are left to their own devices as family ties break down, and hence are increasingly exposed to risks such as dropping out of school, labour exploitation, sexual exploitation, unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.”

Beijing, 22 ...............................................................217
“. . . family disintegration, population movements between urban and rural areas within countries, international migration, war and internal displacements are factors contributing to the rise of female-headed households.”

Habitat Declaration, 4...............................................273
“. . . we must combat the deterioration of conditions that . . . have reached crisis proportions. To this end, we must address comprehensively . . . family instability . . .”

Social Summit +5, 56..............................................370
“. . . Greater attention should be paid to helping the family in its supporting, educating and nurturing roles, to the causes and consequences of family disintegration, . . .”

Beijing +5, 19..........................................................382
“. . . Displacement compounded by loss of home and property, poverty, family disintegration and separation and other consequences of armed conflict is severely affecting population, especially women and children. . . .”

HIV/AIDS, 63 ..........................................................447
“By 2003, develop and/or strengthen strategies, policies and programmes, which recognize the importance of the family in reducing vulnerability, inter alia, in educating and guiding children and take account of cultural, religious and ethical factors, to reduce the vulnerability of children and young people. . . and involving families and young people in planning, implementing and evaluating HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes, to the extent possible;”
II – Respect for Human Life

When each human life is valued, there is greater peace in the world. All actions by international national, and local governments, and their various health and education agencies, should be centered on a recognition and respect for the dignity of all human life – before as well as after birth.

Words which generally refer to the protection of human life:
- “inherent dignity of all human beings”
- “dignity and worth of the human person”
- “prenatal care”
- “postnatal care”
- “right to life”

Words which could be interpreted to include abortion:
- “reproductive health services”
- “sexual and reproductive health rights”
- “primary health care” (see Cairo +5, 57-d which states: “in the context of primary health care, ensuring the availability of and access to reproductive health services”)
- “terminating an unwanted pregnancy” (see Beijing footnote 16 which defines “unsafe abortion” as a procedure for terminating an unwanted pregnancy)
- “safe motherhood” (see footnote 21 in ICPD and footnote 16 in Beijing which defines “safe motherhood” to include the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity, and see ICPD, 8.26 which states that “reproductive health services” should be used to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality)
- “regulation of fertility” (see Beijing 94 which defines “reproductive health” as including “methods of family planning of their choice, as well as other methods of their choice for regulation of fertility which are not against the law.” The methods “other” than family planning could include abortion.)
- “emergency obstetric care” (see Beijing 97, which states: “effective family planning methods and emergency obstetric care”)
- “prenatal sex selection” (see ICPD 4.15)

Modifying Words – to exclude abortion:
- “in no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning”
- “enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth”
- “provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant”
- “with respect for cultural, religious and social aspects, in keeping with freedom, dignity and personally held values and taking into account ethical and cultural considerations”
- “fully respects various religions, ethical values and cultural backgrounds”
- “respecting their cultural values and religious beliefs”

Language which respects the right of individual nations to make decisions regarding abortion (see Cairo +5: 63-i and Beijing +5: 72-o):
- “determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process”
**RIGHT TO LIFE**

Universal Declaration, Article 3 ......................... 41
“Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

ICCPR, Article 6-1 ............................................. 50
“Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life.”

CRC, Article 6-1 ............................................. 58
“States Parties recognize that every child has the inherent right to life.”

CRC, Article 6-2 ............................................. 58
“States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child.”

ICPD, Chapter II, Principle 1 ............................ 129
“. . . Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

Ageing, 21-h ............................................. 455
“Take account of the needs of older persons and respect the right to live in dignity at all stages of life;”

Ageing, Article 5 ........................................... 451
“. . . We are determined to enhance the recognition of the dignity of older persons and to eliminate all forms of neglect, abuse and violence.”

Ageing, 10 ................................................... 453
“. . . ensure that persons everywhere are able to age with security and dignity. . .”

2030 Agenda, target 16.9 .................................. 586
“By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration”

**LEGAL PROTECTION – BEFORE BIRTH**

CRC, Preamble, 9th paragraph ......................... 57
“Bearing in mind that, as indicated in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, ‘the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth’,”

**DIGNITY AND WORTH**

Charter of the United Nations, Preamble ............ 31
“. . . to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,”

2030 Agenda, 4 ............................................. 575
“. . . Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society.”

Information Summit, 57 ................................. 515
“We acknowledge the importance of ethics for the Information Society, which should foster justice, and the dignity and worth of the human person. . .”

Universal Declaration, Preamble, 5th paragraph .... 41
“. . . Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person . . .”

ICESCR, Preamble, 2nd paragraph ................... 45
“Recognizing that these rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person,”

CEDAW, Preamble, 1st paragraph .................... 65
“Noting that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person . . .”

Beijing, 33 .................................................. 218
“. . . by respecting the dignity and worth of the human person.”

Cairo +5, 21-c ............................................... 347
“. . . paying special attention to the economic and social security of older persons, in particular older women; affordable, accessible and appropriate health-care services; the human rights and dignity of older persons and the productive and useful roles that they can play in society, . . .”

Ageing, 13 .................................................. 454
“. . . Combating discrimination based on age and promoting the dignity of older persons is fundamental to ensuring the respect older persons deserve . . .”


**A HEALTHY INFANT**

Agenda 21, 6.21..........................................................90
"... Particular attention should be given to the provision of pre-natal care to ensure healthy babies."

ICPD, 7.2 .................................................................141
"... the right of access to appropriate health-care services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant. . . ."

Beijing, 94 and 97 ....................................................228
"... the right of access to appropriate health-care services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant. . . ."

2030 Agenda, target 3.2...........................................582
"By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, . . ."

ICPD, 8.22 ................................................................149
"... expand the provision of maternal health services in the context of primary health care... prenatal care that is focused and effective, maternal nutrition programmes, adequate delivery assistance that avoids excessive recourse to caesarean sections and provides for obstetric emergencies; referral services for pregnancy, childbirth and abortion complications; post-natal care and family planning. All births should be assisted by trained persons, preferably nurses and midwives, but at least by trained birth attendants. . . ."

ICESCR, Article 10-2.................................................46
"Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. . . ."

Cairo +5: 62(b)..........................................................353
"Ensure that the reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality is a health sector priority and that women have ready access to essential obstetric care, well-equipped and adequately staffed maternal health-care services, skilled attendance at delivery, emergency obstetric care, effective referral and transport to higher levels of care when necessary. . . ."

**SPECIAL CARE FOR MOTHERS**

Universal Declaration, Article 25-2.........................43
"Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection."

2030 Agenda, target 2.2 ..............................581
"By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving... and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons"

ICPD, 13.14-b..........................................................149
"In the basic reproductive health services component – information and routine services for prenatal, normal and safe delivery and post-natal care; . . ."

ICESCR, Article 12-2.................................................46
"The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;"

Children Summit Decl., 20-2......................................72
"We will work for a solid effort of national and international action to enhance children's health, to promote prenatal care and to lower infant and child mortality in all countries and among all peoples. . . ."

Children Summit, 17 ..................................................74
"... Pre-natal care, clean delivery, access to referral facilities in complicated cases, tetanus toxoid vaccination and prevention of anemia and other nutritional deficiencies during pregnancy are other important interventions to ensure safe motherhood and a healthy start in life for the newborn. . . ."

Children Summit +10: 37-1.................................475
"Ensure that the reduction of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality is a health sector priority and that women, in particular adolescent expectant mothers, have ready and affordable access to essential obstetric care, well-equipped and adequately staffed maternal health-care services, skilled attendance at delivery, emergency obstetric care, effective referral and transport to higher levels of care when necessary, . . ."
**Abortion Should NOT be Promoted as a Method of Family Planning**

ICPD, 8.25 ..........................................................149
“In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning. All Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are urged to strengthen their commitment to women's health . . .”

Beijing, 106-k.......................................................230
“In the light of paragraph 8.25 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, which states: ‘In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning.’ . . .”

Beijing +5, 72-o........................................................392
“In the light of paragraph 8.25 of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, which states: ‘In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning.’ . . .”

ICPD, 7.24 ..........................................................144
“Governments should take appropriate steps to help women avoid abortion, which in no case should be promoted as a method of family planning, and in all cases provide for the humane treatment and counselling . . .”

Cairo +5: 63-i ..........................................................353
“In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning . . . . Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. . . .”

Cairo +5: 63-ii ..........................................................353
“Governments should take appropriate steps to help women avoid abortion, which in no case should be promoted as a method of family planning . . . .”

ICPD, 7.6 ............................................................142
“. . . Reproductive health care in the context of primary health care should, inter alia, include: . . . prevention of abortion and the management of the consequences of abortion; . . .”

**Unsafe Abortion**

Opposition to “unsafe abortion” is often used as a catalyst to promote “safe” abortion. However, no abortion is “safe” for the unborn child. The following paragraph, in both the ICPD and Beijing documents, provides a definition for “unsafe abortion.”

ICPD, footnote 20.....................................................174
20/ Unsafe abortion is defined as a procedure for terminating an unwanted pregnancy either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment lacking the minimal medical standards or both (based on World Health Organization, The Prevention and Management of Unsafe Abortion, Report of a Technical Working Group, Geneva, April 1992 (WHO/MSM/92.5)).

Beijing, footnote 16..............................................272
16/ Unsafe abortion is defined as a procedure for terminating an unwanted pregnancy either by persons lacking the necessary skills or in an environment lacking the minimal medical standards or both (based on World Health Organization Report of a Technical Working Group, Geneva, April 1992 (WHO/MSM/92.5)).

ICPD, 7.44 (a) ..........................................................144
“To address adolescent sexual and reproductive health issues, including unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion 20/ and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, through the promotion of responsible and healthy reproductive and sexual behaviour, including voluntary abstinence, and the provision of appropriate services and counselling specifically suitable for that age group;

ICPD, 8.20.............................................................149
“. . . On the basis of a commitment to women's health and well-being, to reduce greatly the number of deaths and morbidity from unsafe abortion;”

ICPD, 8.25 .............................................................149
“. . . deal with the health impact of unsafe abortion as a major public health concern and to reduce the recourse to abortion through expanded and improved family-planning services. . . .”

Beijing +5, 12.......................................................381
“. . .the health impact of unsafe abortion and the need to reduce the recourse to abortion have not been fully implemented. . . .”
SAFE MOTHERHOOD AND ABORTION

The term “safe motherhood” is often intended to include “safe” abortion. The following paragraphs are given as information on the use of this term in conference documents. It would be better to NOT use this term, and simply describe the practices for safeguarding the health of mother and baby.

2030 Agenda, Target 3.1 .............................................. 581
“By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births”

ICPD, 7.6 ............................................................... 142
“All countries should strive to make accessible through the primary health-care system, . . . education and services for prenatal care, safe delivery and post-natal care, especially breast-feeding and infant and women’s health care; . . .”

ICPD, 8.19 ............................................................... 149
“ . . . At present, approximately 90 per cent of the countries of the world, representing 96 per cent of the world population, have policies that permit abortion under varying legal conditions to save the life of a woman. However, a significant proportion of the abortions carried out are self-induced or otherwise unsafe, leading to a large fraction of maternal deaths or to permanent injury to the women involved. Maternal deaths have very serious consequences within the family, given the crucial role of the mother for her children’s health and welfare. The death of the mother increases the risk to the survival of her young children, especially if the family is not able to provide a substitute for the maternal role. Greater attention to the reproductive health needs of female adolescents and young women could prevent the major share of maternal morbidity and mortality through prevention of unwanted pregnancies and any subsequent poorly managed abortion. Safe motherhood has been accepted in many countries as a strategy to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality.”

Beijing, footnote 16 .................................................. 272
ICPD, footnote 21 .................................................... 174
“Safe motherhood aims at attaining optimal maternal and newborn health. It implies reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity and enhancement of the health of newborn infants through equitable access to primary health care, including family planning, prenatal, delivery and post-natal care for the mother and infant, and access to essential obstetric and neonatal care (World Health Organization, Health Population and Development, WHO Position Paper, Geneva, 1994 (WHO/FHE/94.1)).”

Social Summit +5, 85 ............................................... 372
“Ensure that the reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality is a health sector priority and that women have ready access to essential obstetric care, well-equipped and adequately staffed maternal health-care services, skilled attendants at delivery, emergency obstetric care, effective referral and transport to higher levels of care when necessary, to, inter alia, promote safe motherhood . . .”

ICPD, 8.22 ............................................................... 149
“ . . . expand the provision of maternal health services in the context of primary health care. These services, based on the concept of informed choice, should include education on safe motherhood, prenatal care that is focused and effective, maternal nutrition programmes, adequate delivery assistance that avoids excessive recourse to caesarean sections and provides for obstetric emergencies; referral services for pregnancy, childbirth and abortion complications; post-natal care and family planning. All births should be assisted by trained persons, preferably nurses and midwives, but at least by trained birth attendants. . . .”

ICPD, 8.26 .............................................................. 150
“Programmes to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality should include information and reproductive health services, including family-planning services. In order to reduce high-risk pregnancies, maternal health and safe motherhood programmes should include counselling and family-planning information.”

Social Summit, 37-e ............................................... 195
“ . . . improving reproductive health care and child health-care services. . .”
Respect for Human Life

**Abortion of Females**

ICPD, 4.15 ................................................................. 135
“Since in all societies discrimination on the basis of sex often starts at the earliest stages of life, . . . This is often compounded by the increasing use of technologies to determine foetal sex, resulting in abortion of female foetuses. Investments made in the girl child's health, nutrition and education, from infancy through adolescence, are critical.”

ICPD, 4.16-a ................................................................. 135
“To eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child and the root causes of son preference, which results in harmful and unethical practices regarding female infanticide and prenatal sex selection;”

ICPD, 4.23 ................................................................. 135
“Governments are urged to take the necessary measures to prevent infanticide, prenatal sex selection, trafficking in girl children and use of girls in prostitution and pornography.”

Beijing, 115 ............................................................. 234
“Acts of violence against women also include forced sterilization and forced abortion, coercive/forced use of contraceptives, female infanticide and prenatal sex selection.”

Beijing, 124-i ........................................................... 235
“Enact and enforce legislation against the perpetrators of practices and acts of violence against women, such as female genital mutilation, female infanticide, prenatal sex selection and dowry-related violence, . . .”

Rome ICC, Article 7 (h) and 3 ........................................ 408
“Crimes against humanity . . .

(h) Persecution against any identifiable group or collectivity on political, racial, national, ethnic, cultural, religious, gender as defined in paragraph 3, or other grounds that are universally recognized as impermissible under international law, in connection with any act referred to in this paragraph or any crime within the jurisdiction of the Court; . . .”

“3. For the purpose of this Statute, it is understood that the term "gender" refers to the two sexes, male and female, within the context of society. The term "gender" does not indicate any meaning different from the above.”

**Abortion as a Means of Genocide**

Rome ICC, Article 6(d) ............................................. 408
“Genocide
For the purpose of this Statute, "genocide" means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

(a) Killing members of the group;
(b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
(c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
(d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
(e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.”

**Female Infanticide**

Vienna, 48 ............................................................... 122
“. . . Effective measures are required against female infanticide, harmful child labour, sale of children and organs, child prostitution, child pornography, as well as other forms of sexual abuse.”

ICPD, 4.16-a ............................................................. 135
“To eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child and the root causes of son preference, which results in harmful and unethical practices regarding female infanticide and prenatal sex selection;”

Beijing, 107-a ........................................................... 231
“. . . emphasize the elimination of harmful attitudes and practices, including female genital mutilation, son preference (which results in female infanticide and prenatal sex selection), . . .”

Beijing +5, 96-a ...................................................... 397
“Increase . . . protective and preventive measures aimed at the elimination of violence against women and girls, especially all forms of commercial sexual exploitation, as well as economic exploitation, including inter alia, trafficking in women and children, female infanticide, crimes committed in the name of honour, crimes committed in the name of passion, racially motivated crimes, abduction and sale of children, dowry related violence and deaths, acid attacks and harmful traditional or customary practices such as FGM, early and forced marriages;”
The nurturing care of a loving mother and father can be the most significant contribution toward building a world of peace. It is primarily the responsibility of the parents to mold the character of the future citizens of the world. It is the parents who have the greatest interest in the long-term well-being of their children. All levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions should respect and support the vital role of parents.

III – Respect for Parents

Words which define and respect the parental role:

– “parents have a prior right”
– “the child’s right to know and be cared for by his or her parents”
– “that responsibility lies in the first place with the parents”
– “respect for the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents”
– “respecting their cultural values and religious beliefs, . . . particularly parents”
– “the role of parents and legal guardians in the upbringing of children”
– “acknowledge and promote the central role of families, parents and other legal guardians”
– “respect for the liberty of parents”
– “The child has the right to be cared for, guided and supported by parents”

Words suggesting that “others” can usurp the role of the parent:

– “in cooperation with relevant interested parties” (which could include anyone)
– “efforts of parents, other care-givers and communities to nurture and care for children” (?)
– “in full partnership with youth, parents, families, educators and health-care providers” (?)
– “unless it is considered not to be in the best interest of the child” (who decides?)

Words suggesting child rights that could exclude parents (ignoring the parents “prior right”):

– “rights of the child to access to information, privacy, confidentiality, respect and informed consent”
– “in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child”
– “the child’s right to confidentiality and privacy”
– “in the exercise by the child of the rights recognized in the present Convention”
– “youth should be involved in the design and implementation of such information and services”
– “the adolescent, and their right to reproductive health education, information and care”

Consensus words used to modify paragraphs – to insure involvement of parents:

– “with proper regard for parental guidance and responsibilities”
– “recognizing the rights and duties of parents to provide appropriate direction and guidance”
– “with the guidance and support of their parents”
– “with appropriate direction and guidance of parents”
– “including parents with respect to their children's education”
– “taking into account the rights and duties of parents”
– “should involve the active participation of parents and families”
Children’s Summit, 18 ........................................... 74
“The family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children from infancy to adolescence. Introduction of children to the culture, values and norms of their society begins in the family. For the full and harmonious development of their personality, children should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. Accordingly, all institutions of society should respect and support the efforts of parents and other caregivers to nurture and care for children in a family environment.”

Children Summit +10, 15 ............................................. 472
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support. The primary responsibility for the protection, upbringing and development of children rests with the family.”

Universal Declaration, Article 26-3 ........................................ 43
“Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.”

CRC, Article 7-1 ........................................................... 58
“The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.”

CRC, Article 18-1 ........................................................... 59
“... Parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child. The best interests of the child will be their basic concern.”

CRC, Article 27-2 ........................................................... 60
“The parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, within their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development.”

Children Summit +10, 15 ............................................. 472
“The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support. The primary responsibility for the protection, upbringing and development of children rests with the family. All institutions of society should respect children's rights and secure their well-being and render appropriate assistance to parents, ...”

Children Summit +10, 6 ........................................... 471
“We recognize and support parents and families or, as the case may be, legal guardians as the primary caretakers of children, and we will strengthen their capacity to provide the optimum care, nurturing and protection.”

Cairo +5: 73-d ............................................................. 354
“Acknowledge and promote the central role of families, parents and other legal guardians in educating their children and shaping their attitudes ...”

Children Summit, 20-5 ........................................... 72
“We will work for respect for the role of the family in providing for children and will support the efforts of parents, other caregivers and communities to nurture and care for children, from the earliest stages of childhood through adolescence.”

Beijing, 29 .......................................................... 218
“... the role of parents in the family and in the upbringing of children should be acknowledged.”

CEDAW, (introduction, paragraph 13) .......................... 65
“Bearing in mind the ... role of both parents in the family and in the upbringing of children ... requires a sharing of responsibility between men and women ...”

Cairo +5: 48 ........................................................... 350
“... The role of family members, especially parents and other legal guardians, in strengthening the self-image, self-esteem and status and in protecting the health and well-being of girls should be enhanced and supported.”

Beijing +5: 82-c ........................................................... 394
“... acknowledge the social significance of maternity and motherhood, parenting, the role of parents and legal guardians in the upbringing of children and caring for other family members.”

2030 Agenda, 25 ....................................................... 578
“We will strive to provide children and youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the demographic dividend including through safe schools and cohesive communities and families.”

Children Summit +10, 32-2 ........................................... 474
“Parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers have the primary role and responsibility for the well-being of children, and must be supported in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities.”
R I G H T S  a n d  R E S P O N S I B I L I T I E S  o f  P a r e n t s

CRC, Article 5 ...............................................................58
“States Parties shall respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, . . .”

CRC, Article 14-2 ...........................................................59
“States Parties shall respect the rights and duties of the parents and, when applicable, legal guardians, to provide direction to the child . . .”

ICPD, 7.45 .........................................................................146
“Recognizing the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents and other persons legally responsible for adolescents to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the adolescent, appropriate direction and guidance in sexual and reproductive matters, . . .”

ICPD, 13.22 .................................................................166
“ . . . emphasis must be put on meeting the needs of underserved population groups, including adolescents, taking into account the rights and responsibilities of parents . . .”

Social Summit, 35-c .........................................................194
“Ensuring full and equal access to social services, especially education, legal services and health-care services for women of all ages and children, recognizing the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents and other persons legally responsible for children, consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child;”

Social Summit Decl., Commitment 6-1...............181
“Establish or strengthen both school-based and community-based health education programmes for children . . . recognizing the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents and other persons legally responsible for children.”

Beijing, 107-e ...............................................................231
“Prepare and disseminate accessible information . . . taking into account the rights of the child to access to information, privacy, confidentiality, respect and informed consent, as well as the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents and legal guardians to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance . . .”

Beijing, 107-g ................................................................231
“Recognize the specific needs of adolescents and implement specific appropriate programmes, such as education and information on sexual and reproductive health issues and on sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, taking into account the rights of the child and the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents as stated in paragraph 107 (e) above;”

Beijing, 262 .................................................................261
“ . . . taking into account the rights of the child and the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents as stated in paragraph 267 below.”

Beijing, 267 .................................................................261
“ . . . taking into account the rights of the child to access to information, privacy, confidentiality, respect and informed consent, as well as the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents and legal guardians to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights . . .”

Habitat, 13 .........................................................................276
“The needs of children and youth, particularly with regard to their living environment, have to be taken fully into account. . . . Parents and other persons legally responsible for children have responsibilities, rights and duties, consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to address these needs.”

Beijing +5, 79-f .............................................................393
“Design and implement programmes . . . taking into account their right to privacy, confidentiality, respect and informed consent and the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents and legal guardians to provide in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child appropriate direction and guidance . . .”

Children Summit +10, 37-10 ........................................476
“Strengthen early childhood development by providing appropriate services and support to parents, . . . to ensure children's physical, psychological, social, spiritual and cognitive development.”

ICPD, 11.24 ....................................................................159
“Age-appropriate education, especially for adolescents, . . . taking into account the rights and responsibilities of parents and the needs of adolescents. . . . should involve the active participation of parents and families . . .”


**Respect for Parents**

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### Child’s Right to Parental Guidance

**CRC, Article 7-1** .........................................................58

“The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.”

**ICPD, Chapter II, Principle 11** .................................130

“. . . The child has the right to standards of living adequate for its well-being and the right to the highest attainable standards of health, and the right to education. The child has the right to be cared for, guided and supported by parents, . . .”

**Disabilities, Article 18-2** ...........................................545

“Children with disabilities shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by their parents.”

**CRC, Article 5** ............................................................58

“States Parties shall respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents . . . to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance . . .”

**ICPD, Chapter II, Principle 10** .................................130

“. . . The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his or her education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with the parents.”

**ICPD, 6.15** ..............................................................139

“. . . Access to, as well as confidentiality and privacy of, these services must be ensured with the support and guidance of their parents . . .”

**Cairo +5, 73-c** ..........................................................354

“. . . Adolescents and youth themselves should be fully involved in the design and implementation of such information and services, with proper regard for parental guidance and responsibilities . . .”

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### Parents and Education

**Universal Declaration, Article 26-3** .........................43

“Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.”

**ICESCR, Article 13-3** .................................................47

“The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents . . . to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.”

**ICCPR, Article 18-3** ...................................................51

“. . . respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to choose for their children schools, . . . and to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.”

**ICPD, Chapter II, Principle 10** .................................130

“. . . The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his or her education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with the parents.”

**Social Summit Decl., Commitment 6-l** .....................182

“Establish or strengthen both school-based and community-based health education programmes for children, . . . recognizing the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents and other persons legally responsible for children . . .”

**ICPD, 11.9** ..............................................................158

“To be most effective, education about population issues must begin in primary school and continue through all levels of formal and non-formal education, taking into account the rights and responsibilities of parents . . . population education projects should emphasize consultation with parents . . .”

**ICPD, 11.24** ..............................................................159

“Age-appropriate education, especially for adolescents, . . . taking into account the rights and responsibilities of parents and the needs of adolescents . . . should involve the active participation of parents and families . . .”

**CRC, Article 29-1-c** ....................................................61

“States Parties agree that the education of the child shall be directed to: . . . The development of respect for the child’s parents, his or her own cultural identity, language and values, . . .”
**Father Responsibility**

Children Summit +10, 24 ................................. 473
“We will further promote the shared responsibility of both parents in education and in the raising of children, and will make every effort to ensure that fathers have opportunities to participate in their children's lives.”

Beijing +5, 60 .................................................. 388
“Motherhood and fatherhood and the role of parents and legal guardians in the family and in the upbringing of children and the importance of all family members to the family's well-being . . . In order to achieve full partnership, both in public and private spheres, both women and men must be enabled to reconcile and share equally work responsibilities and family responsibilities.”

ICPD, 4.27 ...................................................... 136
“Special efforts should be made to emphasize men's shared responsibility and promote their active involvement . . . shared control and contribution to family income, children's education, health and nutrition; and recognition and promotion of the equal value of children of both sexes. Male responsibilities in family life must be included in the education of children from the earliest ages. . . .”

2030 Agenda, target 5.4 ................................. 582
“. . . promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate”

Children Summit +10, 24 ................................. 473
“We also recognize the need to address the changing role of men in society . . . We will further promote the shared responsibility of both parents in education and in the raising of children, and will make every effort to ensure that fathers have opportunities to participate in their children's lives.”

ICPD, 4.28 ...................................................... 136
“. . . Governments should consider changes in law and policy to ensure men's responsibility to and financial support for their children and families . . . .”

ICPD, 5.4 ...................................................... 137
“. . . special consideration should be given to increasing the earning power of all adult members . . . and stronger legal enforcement of male parental financial responsibilities.”

**Single-Parent Families**

ICPD, 5.3 .......................................................... 136
“Governments, in cooperation with employers, should provide and promote means to facilitate compatibility between labour force participation and parental responsibilities, especially for single-parent households with young children. Such means could include health insurance and social security, day-care centres and facilities for breast-feeding mothers within the work premises, kindergartens, part-time jobs, paid parental leave, paid maternity leave, flexible work schedules, and reproductive and child health services.”

Social Summit, 39-h ........................................ 196
“Improving the condition of the single parent in society and ensuring that single-parent families and female-headed or female-maintained households receive the social support they need, including support for adequate housing and child care.”

ICPD, 5.4 .......................................................... 137
“. . . Particular attention should be paid to needy single parents, especially those who are responsible wholly or in part for the support of children and other dependents, . . .”

Social Summit +5, 49-c ................................. 369
“Assisting women and men in reconciling employment and family responsibilities, inter alia, by flexible working arrangements, including parental voluntary part-time employment and work-sharing, as well as accessible and affordable quality child-care and dependant-care facilities, paying particular attention to the needs of single-parent households.”

ICPD, 5.6 .......................................................... 137
“Governments should maintain and further develop mechanisms to document changes and undertake studies on family composition and structure, especially on the prevalence of one-person households, and single-parent and multigenerational families.”

ICPD, 5.7 .......................................................... 137
“Families are sensitive to strains induced by social and economic changes. It is essential to grant particular assistance to families in difficult life situations. Conditions have worsened for many families in recent years, . . . There are increasing numbers of vulnerable families, including single-parent families headed by women, poor families with elderly members or those with disabilities, refugee and displaced families, and families with members affected by AIDS . . . .”
WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

Children Summit +10, 46-c ........................................480
“... build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans ... to protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance.”

HIV/AIDS, 65 ...........................................................447
“... build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans ...”

Millennium Declaration, 19 .............................................441
“To provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.”

ICPD, 5.13 ................................................................137
“Governments should assist single-parent families, and pay special attention to the needs of widows and orphans. All efforts should be made to assist the building of family-like ties in especially difficult circumstances, for example, those involving street children.”

Ageing, 103 ..............................................................466
“In many parts of the world, especially Africa, the HIV/AIDS pandemic has forced older women, already living in difficult circumstances, to take on the added burden of caring for children and grandchildren with HIV/AIDS and for grandchildren orphaned by AIDS. At a time when it is more normal for adult children to look after their ageing parents, many older persons find themselves with the unexpected responsibility of caring for frail children or with the task of becoming sole parents to grandchildren.”

Social Summit +5, 97-f ..............................................373
“... Providing social and educational support to communities, households, orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS.”

Children Summit Declaration, 20-5 .........................72
“We will work for respect for the role of the family in providing for children and will support the efforts of parents, other care-givers and communities to nurture and care for children, from the earliest stages of childhood through adolescence. We also recognize the special needs of children who are separated from their families.”

REUNITE CHILDREN WITH PARENTS

Children Summit +10, 44-29 ........................................479
“Give priority to programmes for family tracing and reunification, and continue to monitor the care arrangements for unaccompanied and/or separated refugee and internally displaced children.”

Racism, 49 ................................................................488
“We highlight the importance of creating conditions conducive to greater harmony, tolerance and respect between migrants ... We underline that family reunification has a positive effect on integration and emphasize the need for States to facilitate family reunion;”

CRC, Article 10-1 .......................................................58
“In accordance with the obligation of States Parties ... applications by a child or his or her parents to enter or leave a State Party for the purpose of family reunification shall be dealt with by States Parties in a positive, humane and expeditious manner ...”

ICPD, 10.9 ................................................................154
“... The family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration. It is also important to protect documented migrants and their families from racism, ethnocentrism and xenophobia, and to respect their physical integrity, dignity, religious beliefs and cultural values.”

ICPD, 10.12 ..............................................................155
“... all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its integration into their national legislation in order to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants ...”

Social Summit, 39-e .................................................196
“Improving the situation and protecting the rights of children in especially difficult circumstances, ... as well as provided with the necessary social and psychological assistance for their healthy reintegration into society and for family reunification consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and substituting education for child work;”

Beijing, 147-k .........................................................241
“Ensure that the human rights of refugee and displaced women are protected and that refugee and displaced women are made aware of these rights; ensure that the vital importance of family reunification is recognized;”
IV – Respect for Religious Values

Kindness and consideration are the roots of world peace. Most religious institutions play a major role toward teaching and training the people of the world to respect one another. Government institutions should respect the religious values of parents and children in their home, their school, and their community.

Religious values which contribute toward world peace:
– “practice tolerance and live together in peace”
– “love and understanding”
– “honest, just and equitable”
– “moral well-being”

Words which express respect for religion and safeguard religious beliefs:
– “fully respects various religions and ethical values”
– “respecting their cultural values and religious beliefs”
– “within a framework of ethical values”
– “recognize the central role that religion, spirituality and belief play”
– “abstinence”
– “fidelity”
– “ensure the religious and moral education of their children”
– “freedom of thought, conscience and religion and belief”
– “the right to profess and practise their own religion”
– “moral, ethical, spiritual”
– “in harmony with spiritual and cultural values”

Words which could be interpreted as opposing religious values:
– “abortion”
– “pornography” (when only “child pornography” is used, it implies that “pornography” is OK)
– “prostitution” (all prostitution – not limited to “forced prostitution”)
– “substance abuse”
– “sexual responsibility” (population control and condom use for HIV/AIDS)
– “safe sex” (referring to the use of condoms as being “safe”)
– “obscene materials”
– “incitement to violence”
– “trafficking in women and children”
– “sexual exploitation”
– “domestic violence”

The following paragraph includes most of the ills of an immoral society:

“. . . Gender based violence, such as battering and other domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual slavery and exploitation, and international trafficking in women and children, forced prostitution and sexual harassment, as well as violence against women, resulting from cultural prejudice, racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia, pornography, ethnic cleansing, armed conflict, foreign occupation, religious and anti-religious extremism and terrorism are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be combated and eliminated.” (Beijing +5, 59 – page 388)


**Freedom of Religion**

U.N. Charter, Article 1-3 ..................................................31
U.N. Charter, Article 13. 1-b ........................................32
U.N. Charter, Article 76-e ........................................37
“...fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion;”

Universal Declaration, Article 2..................................41
“Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. . . .”

Universal Declaration, Article 18.................................42
“Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”

ICCPR, Article 18-1 ..................................................51
“Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching.”

ICCPR, Article 27..........................................................52
“In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right . . . to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practise their own religion, or to use their own language.”

2030 Agenda, target 10.2........................................584
“By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status”

CRC, Article 14 ..........................................................59
“States Parties shall respect the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.”

Beijing, 24 ..........................................................217
“The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion is inalienable and must be universally enjoyed.”

**Religious and Ethical Values**

World Summit 2005, 130 ...........................................531
“... promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society.”

Agenda 21, 6.3 ........................................................87
“...with respect for cultural, religious and social aspects, in keeping with freedom, dignity and personally held values and taking into account ethical and cultural considerations . . .”

ICPD, 1.11 ..............................................................128
“... with full respect for the various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds and philosophical convictions of its people, . . .”

ICPD, 1.15 ..............................................................129
ICPD, Chapter II, Principles ...................................129
“... The Programme of Action will require the establishment of common ground, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds.”

ICPD, 14.3-f ..........................................................167
ICPD, 15.13 ..........................................................169
“... with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of each country’s people, . . .”

Social Summit Declaration, 25.................................177
“... full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of people. . . .”

Social Summit, 3 ..................................................185
“... with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people . . .”

Beijing, 9 ..........................................................215
“... in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the significance of and full respect for various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds and philosophical convictions of individuals and their communities . . .”

Habitat, 24 ...........................................................277
“Implementation of the Habitat Agenda, . . . with full respect for various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds, and philosophical convictions of individuals and their communities . . .”
Respect for Religious Values

Cairo +5: 5 ................................................................. 343
“ . . . with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people . . .”

Social Summit +5: III-2 ............................................... 365
“ . . . should take into account the diverse economic, social and environmental conditions in each country, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds and philosophical convictions of its people . . .”

Beijing +5: 3 ............................................................. 379
“ . . . full respect for various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds and philosophical convictions of individuals and their communities.”

Ageing, 115 ............................................................... 468
“ . . . political, economic, ethical and spiritual vision for social development of older persons based on human dignity, human rights, equality, respect, peace, democracy, mutual responsibility and cooperation and full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of people.”

Children Summit +10, 37, 59 ......................... 475 and 482
“ . . . consistent with national laws, religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of the people . . .”

Racism, 34 .................................................................. 487
“We recognize that people of African descent have for centuries been victims of racism, . . . Recognition should therefore be given to their rights to . . . traditions and religious expressions;”

PEACE, LOVE, HONESTY

U.N. Charter, Preamble ............................................... 31
“ . . . to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors,”

CRC, Preamble, 6th paragraph ................................. 57
Recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.”

Social Summit, 71-f .................................................... 203
“Requiring accountability for the honest, just and equitable delivery of public services to the people from all public officials;”

ABSTINENCE AND FIDELITY

HIV/AIDS, 52 ........................................................... 446
“By 2005, ensure: that a wide range of prevention programmes which take account of local circumstances, . . . aimed at reducing risk-taking behaviour and encouraging responsible sexual behaviour, including abstinence and fidelity; . . .”

HIV/AIDS 2006, 22 .................................................... 538
“Reaffirm that the prevention of HIV infection must be the mainstay of national, regional and international responses to the pandemic, . . . aimed at reducing risk taking behaviours and encouraging responsible sexual behaviour, including abstinence and fidelity; . . .”

ICPD, 7.44-a ............................................................ 146
“To address adolescent sexual and reproductive health issues, . . . promotion of responsible and healthy reproductive and sexual behaviour, including voluntary abstinence, and the provision of appropriate services and counselling specifically suitable for that age group;”

ICPD, 8.31 ............................................................... 150
“ . . . Health providers, including family-planning providers, need training in . . . the promotion of safe and responsible sexual behaviour, including voluntary abstinence, . . .”

ICPD, 8.35 ............................................................... 151
“Responsible sexual behaviour, including voluntary sexual abstinence, for the prevention of HIV infection should be promoted and included in education and information programmes. . . .”

ICPD, 13.14-c ........................................................... 165
“ . . . In the sexually transmitted diseases / HIV/AIDS prevention programme component – mass media and in-school education programmes, promotion of voluntary abstinence and responsible sexual behaviour . . .”

Beijing, 108-l ............................................................ 232
“Design specific programmes for men of all ages and male adolescents, recognizing the parental roles referred to in paragraph 107 (e) above . . . through, inter alia, abstinence and condom use;”

Beijing +5, 103-b ........................................................ 400
“ . . . the promotion of responsible sexual behaviour, including abstinence and condom use; development of vaccines, simple low-cost diagnosis and single dose treatments for sexually transmitted infections;”
Religious Beliefs of Parents

ICESCR, Article 13-3 ........................................47
“The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to choose for their children schools, other than those established by the public authorities, which conform to such minimum educational standards as may be laid down or approved by the State and to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.”

ICCPR, Article 18-4 ........................................51
“The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.”

CRC, Article 14-1 and 2 ....................................59
“1. States Parties shall respect the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
2. States Parties shall respect the rights and duties of the parents and, when applicable, legal guardians, to provide direction to the child in the exercise of his or her right in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child.”

Cairo +5, 73-e ...........................................355
“With due respect for the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents . . . and respecting their cultural values and religious beliefs, ensure that adolescents, both in and out of school, receive the necessary information, including information on prevention, education, counselling and health services . . .”

HIV/AIDS, 63 ...........................................447
“. . . develop and/or strengthen strategies, policies and programmes, which recognize the importance of the family in reducing vulnerability, inter alia, in educating and guiding children and take account of cultural, religious and ethical factors . . . and involving families and young people in planning, implementing and evaluating HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes, to the extent possible;”

ICPD, 10.9 ..................................................154
“. . . It is also important to protect documented migrants and their families from racism, ethnocentrism and xenophobia, and to respect their physical integrity, dignity, religious beliefs and cultural values.”

Morality

Universal Declaration, 29-2 ................................43
“In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.”

Racism, 8 ..................................................485
“. . . Religion, spirituality and belief may and can contribute to the promotion of the inherent dignity and worth of the human person and to the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;”

CRC, Article 17 ............................................59
“States Parties recognize the important function performed by the mass media . . . especially those aimed at the promotion of his or her social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health.”

Beijing, 282-a ...........................................264
“. . . protect children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be . . . harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development;”

Habitat, 190 .............................................310
“. . . This improved information technology should be appropriately and optimally utilized to preserve and share cultural and moral values . . .”

Information Summit, 57 ..................................515
“We acknowledge the importance of ethics for the Information Society, which should foster justice, and the dignity and worth of the human person . . .”

ICCP, Article 14-1 ........................................51
“. . . The press and the public may be excluded from all or part of a trial for reasons of morals, public order (ordre public) or national security in a democratic society . . .”

Information Summit, 5 ..................................511
“. . . due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society . . .”
**Spirituality**

Social Summit Declaration, 25 ..........................................177
“We heads of State and Government are committed to a political, economic, ethical and spiritual vision for social development that is based on human dignity, human rights, equality, respect, peace, democracy, mutual responsibility and cooperation, and full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of people . . .”

Beijing, 24 .................................................................217
“Religion, spirituality and belief play a central role in the lives of millions of women and men, in the way they live and in the aspirations they have for the future. . . . Religion, thought, conscience and belief may, and can, contribute to fulfilling women's and men's moral, ethical and spiritual needs and to realizing their full potential in society . . .”

Racism, 8 .................................................................485
“We recognize that . . . Religion, spirituality and belief may and can contribute to the promotion of the inherent dignity and worth of the human person and to the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;”

Children Summit +10: 32-7 ...........................................474
“Religious, spiritual, cultural and indigenous leaders, with their tremendous outreach, have a key role . . .”

CRC, Article 23-3 ..........................................................60
“Recognizing the special needs of a disabled child, . . . including his or her cultural and spiritual development”

Agenda 21, 6.3 ..............................................................87
“Health ultimately depends on the ability to manage successfully the interaction between the physical, spiritual, biological and economic/social environment . . .”

Social Summit Declaration, 3 ...........................................175
“We acknowledge that our societies must respond more effectively to the material and spiritual needs of individuals, their families and the communities in which they live throughout our diverse countries and regions . . .”

Beijing +5, 98-c ..........................................................398
“Promote respect for the right of women and men to the freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Recognize the central role that religion, spirituality and belief play in the lives of millions of women and men;”

Social Summit, 4 ..........................................................185
“Social development is inseparable from the cultural, ecological, economic, political and spiritual environment in which it takes place . . .”

Beijing Declaration, 12 .................................................213
“. . . right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, thus contributing to the moral, ethical, spiritual and intellectual needs of women and men, individually or in community with others and thereby guaranteeing them the possibility of realizing their full potential in society and shaping their lives in accordance with their own aspirations.”

Beijing, 39 .................................................................219
“. . . For the girl child to develop her full potential she needs to be nurtured in an enabling environment, where her spiritual, intellectual and material needs for survival, protection and development are met and her equal rights safeguarded . . .”

Habitat, 4 .................................................................275
“. . . respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and offers a means of achieving a world of greater stability and peace, built on ethical and spiritual vision . . .”

Habitat Agenda, 25 .......................................................277
“We . . . are committed to a political, economic, environmental, ethical and spiritual vision of human settlements based on the principles of equality, solidarity, partnership, human dignity, respect and cooperation . . . ”

Habitat, 152 ..............................................................302
“Historical places, objects and manifestations of cultural, scientific, symbolic, spiritual and religious value are important expressions of the culture, identity and religious beliefs of societies . . .”

Beijing +5, 95-c ..........................................................397
“. . . develop and implement educational and training programmes that respect their history, culture, spirituality, languages and aspirations . . .”

Children Summit +10: 14 .............................................472
“. . . We will promote the physical, psychological, spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive and cultural development of children as a matter of national and global priority.”
**Pornography, Prostitution and Sexual Exploitation**

2030 Agenda, target 5.2 ............................................. 582

“Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation”

Social Summit +5: 58 ................................................. 370

“While recognizing the positive role of the media and information technology, including the Internet, identify and take measures to counter the increasing dissemination of child pornography and other obscene materials, intolerance, including religious intolerance, hatred, racism, discrimination based on sex and age and the incitement to violence through the media and information technology, including the Internet.”

Beijing +5: 14 .................................................................... 382

“. . . in some countries problems have arisen from the use of new information and communication technologies for trafficking in women and children and for the purposes of all forms of economic and sexual exploitation.”

Beijing +5: 29 ..................................................................... 384

“Obstacles: Negative, violent and/or degrading images of women, including pornography, stereotyped portrayals, have increased in different forms using new communication technologies in some instances, and bias against women remains in the media. . . .”

Beijing +5: 59 .................................................................... 388

“. . . Gender based violence, such as battering and other domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexual slavery and exploitation, and international trafficking in women and children, forced prostitution and sexual harassment, as well as violence against women, resulting from cultural prejudice, racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia, pornography, ethnic cleansing, armed conflict, foreign occupation, religious and anti-religious extremism and terrorism, are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be combated and eliminated.”

Children Summit +10: 44-40 .............................................. 479

“Take concerted national and international action as a matter of urgency to end the sale of children and their organs, sexual exploitation and abuse, including the use of children for pornography, prostitution and paedophilia, and to combat existing markets.”

Children Summit +10: 44-45 .............................................. 480

“Take necessary action, at all levels, as appropriate, to criminalize and penalize effectively, in conformity with all relevant and applicable international instruments, all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child prostitution, paedophilia, child pornography, child sex tourism, trafficking . . .”

Children Summit +10: 44-47 .............................................. 480

“. . . to combat the criminal use of information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of the sale of children, for child prostitution, child pornography, child sex tourism, paedophilia and other forms of violence and abuse against children and adolescents.”

Information Summit: 59 ................................................... 515

“All actors in the Information Society should take appropriate actions and preventive measures, as determined by law, against abusive uses of ICTs, such as illegal and other acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, hatred, violence, all forms of child abuse, including paedophilia and child pornography, and trafficking in, and exploitation of, human beings.”

ICPD: 4.9 .................................................................... 134

“Countries should take full measures to eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse, harassment and violence against women, adolescents and children. This implies both preventive actions and rehabilitation of victims. . . .”

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**Note:** In lists of immoral behavior, including pornography, when the word “child” is put in front of pornography it implies that pornography is OK, as long as it isn’t “child” pornography. **All pornography is potentially harmful to families – especially children – not just child pornography.**
GENDER WORDS IN UN DOCUMENTS

Throughout the United Nations treaties and conference outcome documents the word “gender” is used in many different contexts. There has been considerable discussion of the definition of the word. Some of the usages of the word in UN documents include:

- gender access to education
- gender analysis
- gender awareness
- gender based barriers
- gender-based discrimination
- gender-based division of parental functions
- gender-based methodologies
- gender-based stereotypes
- gender-based violence
- gender bias
- gender biased curricula
- gender biased teaching
- gender concerns
- gender considerations
- gender differences
- gender differentials
- gender dimensions
- gender disparities
- gender division of labor
- gender equality
- gender equity
- gender gap
- gender goals
- gender impact
- gender implications
- gender inequality
- gender inequities
- gender insensitive laws
- gender paradigm
- gender perspectives
- gender related persecution
- gender relations
- gender-relevant knowledge
- gender research planning
- gender roles
- gender sensitive databases
- gender-specific
- gender-specific abuses
- gender specific information
- gender studies
- negative gender implications
- respect between genders
- statistics disaggregated by gender

GENDER DEFINITION: MALE AND FEMALE

Rome ICC, Article 7 (3) .......................................408
“For the purposes of this Statute, it is understood that the term "gender" refers to the two sexes, male and female, within the context of society. The term ‘gender’ does not indicate any meaning different from the above.”

Racism: Notes-1 .......................................................510
“For the purpose of this Declaration and Programme of Action, it was understood that the term "gender" refers to the two sexes, male and female, within the context of society. The term ‘gender’ does not indicate any meaning different from the above.”

Beijing: 5 ..................................................................215
“... For the commonly understood meaning of the term ‘gender’, see annex IV to the present report.”

Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women
Annex IV

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD MEANING OF THE TERM “GENDER”*

“1. During the 19th meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women, an issue arose concerning the meaning of the word "gender" in the context of the Platform for Action of the Conference. In order to examine the matter, the Commission decided to form a contact group in New York, with the Commission’s Rapporteur, Ms. Selma Ashipala (Namimibia), as Chairperson. The Commission mandated the informal contact group to seek agreement on the commonly understood meaning of "gender" in the context of the Platform for Action and to report directly to the Conference in Beijing.

“2. Having considered the issue thoroughly, the contact group noted that: (1) the word "gender" had been commonly used and understood in its ordinary, generally accepted usage in numerous other United Nations forums and conferences; (2) there was no indication that any new meaning or connotation of the term, different from accepted prior usage, was intended in the Platform for Action.

“3. Accordingly, the contact group reaffirmed that the word "gender" as used in the Platform for Action was intended to be interpreted and understood as it was
in ordinary, generally accepted usage. The contact group also agreed that the present report should be read by the President of the Conference as a president's statement and that the statement should be part of the final report of the Conference.

"* The statement was presented at the Fourth World Conference on Women by the President of the Conference."

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**Annex V**

**STATEMENT ON THE COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD MEANING OF THE TERM “GENDER”**

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"6. Accordingly, the contact group reaffirmed that the word "gender" as used in the Platform for Action was intended to be interpreted and understood as it was in ordinary, generally accepted usage. The contact group also agreed that the present report should be read by the President of the Conference as a president's statement and that the statement should be part of the final report of the Conference.

"* The statement was presented at the Fourth World Conference on Women by the President of the Conference.

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**Author’s Notes:**

**GENDER IMBALANCE**

There is a considerable gender imbalance in the UN treaties and documents that are listed in the Third Edition of the Negotiating Guide. The number of times the words “woman” and “women” appear in the documents, compared to the number of times the words “man” or “men” appear, is considerably different. Consider the following:

The totals are:
- woman or women: 2,642 times
- man or men: 267 times

As you can see, women are considered ten times more than men. A similar imbalance is shown in the numbers for “girl” and “boy”:
- girl: 423 times
- boy: 76 times

These numbers clearly show a gender imbalance – favoring women and girls.

Some feminists will claim the “imbalance” is necessary – to overcome the male domination of the past. But it could bode trouble in the future, as boys and men are given less consideration.

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**SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

The words “sexual orientation” do not appear in any of the treaties or conference documents contained in this book. While there have been repeated attempts by special interest groups – at almost every conference – to insert these words, and confer new “rights” on people who choose this lifestyle, this has been repeatedly defeated by the official country delegates, and these words are not in the consensus language contained in the treaties and conference outcome documents in this book.
V – Respect for National Sovereignty

As individual nations join together, through the United Nations and/or other international institutions, their sovereignty should continue to be respected. Just as individual people can become united through working toward common goals and showing respect for one another, the nations of the world can become united through working toward common goals, while continuing to respect the sovereign rights of each nation.

A global government, with mandatory requirements, would eliminate the sovereign rights of individual countries to consider their unique conditions – to consider the cultural and religious values of the country.

Words which indicate respect for national sovereignty, and the individual circumstances of a country:

- encourage
- request
- recommend
- facilitate
- access to
- helping
- support
- contribute to

promote
appropriate
cooperate
enable
increasing
assist
enabling
flexible

“implementation through national laws and development priorities”
“while recognizing the existence of different national laws”
“consistent with national laws”
“respect for national laws and priorities”
“agreement by the sovereign States concerned”

Mandatory words, which do not allow for national flexibility:

- Must
- Establish
- Every effort
- Necessary
- Ensure
- Imperative

Require
Should
Create
Entitled
Eradicate
Monitor

Modifying words, which can be added to the mandatory words, to allow for consideration of special circumstances within a specific country:

- as appropriate
- taking into account
- while recognizing
- considering
- subject to agreement by the sovereign States concerned
Respect for National Sovereignty

**PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGN EQUALITY**

U.N. Charter, Article 2-1 .............................................31
“The Organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members.”

U.N. Charter, Article 78 .............................................38
“The trusteeship system shall not apply to territories which have become Members of the United Nations, relationship among which shall be based on respect for the principle of sovereign equality.”

2030 Agenda, 18 .......................................................577
“. . . We reaffirm that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity. . . .”

World Summit 2005, 22 .............................................520
“. . . We also recognize that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty. . . .”

World Summit 2005, 135 ..........................................532
“We . . . reaffirm the necessity of due respect for sovereignty and the right of self-determination. We stress that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.”

Habitat, 24 ...............................................................277
“Implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including implementation through national laws and development priorities, programmes and policies, is the sovereign right and responsibility of each State in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and taking into account the significance of and with full respect for various religious and ethical values, cultural backgrounds, and philosophical convictions of individuals and their communities, . . .”

Information Summit, 6 .............................................511
“In keeping with the spirit of this declaration, we rededicate ourselves to upholding the principle of the sovereign equality of all States.”

Information Summit, 49 .............................................514
“. . . Policy authority for Internet related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet related public policy issues;”

Racism, 23 ..............................................................486
“We fully recognize the rights of indigenous peoples consistent with the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, . . .”

Agenda 21, 8.22 ........................................................107
“. . . Contracting parties to international agreements could undertake sample surveys of domestic follow-up action subject to agreement by the sovereign States concerned.”

Vienna Declaration, 2 ..............................................114
“. . . this shall not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States . . .”

ICPD, Chapter II, Principles ......................................129
“The implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action is the sovereign right of each country, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights.”

Social Summit, Declaration, 29 .............................178
“. . . with full respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as policy objectives, development priorities and religious and cultural diversity . . .”

Cairo +5, 5 ..............................................................345
“. . . the sovereign right of each country, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights.”

Beijing +5, 89 ........................................................396
“. . . with the respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence . . .”
Legal Framework of Each Country

Racism, Declaration, 47 ...........................................487
"We reaffirm the sovereign right of each State to formulate and apply its own legal framework and policies for migration, . . ."

Habitat, 35 ................................................................279
". . . The formulation and implementation of strategies for human settlements development are primarily the responsibility of each State at the national and local levels within the legal framework of each country, . . . and should take into account the economic, social and environmental diversity of conditions in each country. . . ."

Istanbul +5, 7 ............................................................401
". . . in conformity with the legal framework and national policies of each country."

Istanbul +5, 39 ..........................................................403
". . . within the legal framework and according to the conditions of each country . . ."

Agenda 21, 3.8-j ..........................................................80
". . . in accordance with country-specific conditions and legal systems . . ."

Vienna, 22 ..................................................................120
". . . with due regard to their respective legal systems . . ."

Racism, 13 ..................................................................493
"Urges States, in accordance with international human rights standards and their respective domestic legal framework, to resolve problems of ownership of ancestral lands . . . to promote the productive utilization of land and the comprehensive development of these communities, respecting their culture and their specific forms of decision-making;"

Disabilities, Article 33-2 ...........................................549
"States Parties shall, in accordance with their legal and administrative systems, maintain, strengthen, designate or establish within the State Party, a framework, including one or more independent mechanisms, as appropriate, to promote, protect and monitor implementation of the present Convention. . . . States Parties shall take into account the principles relating to the status and functioning of national institutions for protection and promotion of human rights."

National Laws

CRC, Article 7-2 ..........................................................58
Agenda 21, 7.20 ..........................................................96
Social Summit, 55-c ..................................................200
Beijing, 232-k .........................................................255
". . . in accordance with national laws . . ."

ICPD, Chapter II, Principles ......................................129
Social Summit, 3 .....................................................185
". . . consistent with national laws and development priorities . . ."

Children Summit +10, 59 .........................................482
"To facilitate the implementation of actions committed to in this document, we will develop . . . specific time-bound and measurable goals and targets based on this Plan of Action, taking into account the best interests of the child, consistent with national laws, religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people and in conformity with all human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Children Summit +10, 37 .........................................475
"To achieve these goals and targets, taking into account the best interests of the child, consistent with national laws, religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, . . ."

Ageing, 34-f ..............................................................457
"Develop policies and programmes that facilitate, as appropriate, and as consistent with national laws, the integration of older migrants into the social, cultural, political and economic life of countries of destination and encourage respect for those migrants;"

Racism, 166 .............................................................506
"Urges States to adopt the necessary measures, as provided by national law, to ensure the right of victims . . ."

2030 Agenda, target 5-a ...........................................582
"Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws"
ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

ICPD, 8.25 .................................................................150
“... Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. . . .”

Beijing, 106-k ...........................................................230
“... Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. . . .”

Cairo +5: 63-i ...........................................................353
“... Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. . . .”

Beijing +5: 72-o ........................................................392
“... Any measures or changes related to abortion within the health system can only be determined at the national or local level according to the national legislative process. . . .”

Social Summit, 12-e .................................................188
“Encouraging transnational and national corporations to operate in a framework of respect for the environment while complying with national laws and legislation . . . .”

2030 Agenda, 79 .......................................................589
“We also encourage Member States to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels which are country-led and country-driven . . . in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities. National parliaments as well as other institutions can also support these processes.”

AS APPROPRIATE

Racism, Declaration, 112 ........................................492
“... We encourage States, as appropriate, to establish such institutions and call upon the authorities and society in general in those countries where they are performing their tasks of promotion, protection and prevention to cooperate to the maximum extent possible with these institutions, while respecting their independence;”

UPON REQUEST

(from the country)

World Summit 2005, 115 ........................................530
“We resolve to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandates, to provide assistance to Member States in those tasks upon request.”

Children Summit +10, 37 ........................................479
“Promote international cooperation to assist developing countries upon request in addressing child labour and its root causes, . . . .”

Ageing, 128 ..............................................................469
“The United Nations regional commissions have responsibility for translating the International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, into their regional action plans. They should also assist, upon request, national institutions in implementation and monitoring of their actions on ageing. . . .”

Habitat, 208-f ...........................................................315
“Facilitate the provision of technical, legal and institutional assistance to Governments at the appropriate levels, upon request, . . . .”

ICPD, 7.10 .................................................................142
“... the international community should, upon request, give consideration to... the needs of the countries in transition . . . .”

Social Summit +5, 124 .............................................375
“Invite the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to support countries most affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, upon request, in their efforts:”

Social Summit +5, 138 .............................................376
“With the assistance of the international community, upon request, strengthen national information systems”

Social Summit +5, 146 .............................................377
“... The relevant bodies of the United Nations and other relevant institutions should support, upon request, these national efforts.”

Beijing +5, 86-a ....................................................395
“Assist Governments, upon request, in developing gender-sensitive strategies for the delivery of assistance and, where appropriate, responses to humanitarian crises resulting from armed conflict and natural disasters;”