



**The Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP)**

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**2018 Teachers College Columbia University Human Dignity and Humiliation**

**Studies Conference**

**Theme: Transforming Humiliation and Violent Conflict**

**“What is the Language of Dignity?”**

6-7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Teachers College Columbia University held its 32nd Annual Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies (HumanDHS) Conference, as usual the first week of December. Dr. Linda Margaret Hartling, PhD, *Director of the HumanDHS* and Dr. Evelin Gerda Lindner, *the Founding President of HumanDHS* invited ATOP Meaningfulworld to be a part of the transformative HumanDHS Workshop.

The workshop convened in collaboration with the Morton Deutsch International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution (MD-ICCCR) at Columbia University in New York City, as part of the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity (AC4) at Columbia University, on behalf of the HumanDHS network and the World Dignity University initiative. It was the 15th Workshop on Transforming Humiliation and Violent Conflict, and represented the 32nd Annual Conference of the HumanDHS network.

Its program included a gathering of a community of close to a 100 Careholders and Dignity aficionados to participate and share their contributions and work on transforming dignity and humiliation with the HumanDHS community. It involved four pre-planned Digniloques, which were Dignity Dialogues/presentations on how humiliation and human dignity are relevant to the destructive world we live in cultivating dignity and creating Dignivideos.

1. Dr. Linda Hartling and Dr. Danielle Coon, the Director and Associate Director of MD-ICCCR opened the conference by welcoming the attendees, followed by Dr. Hartling's digniloque on "Building a World of Dignifying Dialogue: Introducing the Appreciative Frame of our Dignity Approach." Then Dr. Phillip Brown, the Director of the New Jersey Center for Character Education and member of the HumanDHS community facilitated the introductions between attendees through five groups of identification i.e. i) Spiritual development, ii) Reading/Writing, iii) Physical Activity (sports, dancing, gardening), iv) Visual/performing Arts and v) Family. Subsequently, various digniloques were presented throughout the event such as "Turning Ideas into Action," co-facilitated by Dr. Linda Hartling and Dr. Phillip Brown, "Forgiveness as a path to dignity," co-facilitated by Dr. Eileen Barker and Dr. Russell Wilkie, "Untouchables Love, Labour and Live" co-facilitated by Mr. Rambabu Talluri and "Empathy, or why humanity cannot see itself as one group" co-facilitated by Ms. Gabriella Saab. The event ended with an invitation to

create group dignity videos and a closing ceremony with Louis Armstrong's song "What a Wonderful World."



Meaningfulworld has been part of this conference since its inception. Graduate Fellow at the United Nations, Ms. Sowmya Kshtriya, actively participated in the enriching panels and shared the work of Meaningfulworld, while extending mindful connections with potential collaborators. The attendees received Meaningfulworld's brochures, the 7 Step Integrative Healing Model, and an invitation to our Annual Pamper

Yourself Holiday Gratitude Healing Party. Meaningfulworld also participated in creating a Dignivideo on Forgiveness and Unconditional Self and Other Acceptance along with - Dr. Debbie Ellis, a Licensed Psychologist and wife of the late and respectable Dr. Albert Ellis, the Founder of Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy (REBT), and Lyndon and Marie Harris, Forgiveness coaches. It was a fruitful and informative conference, filled with warmth, love and unconditional positive regard that enriched us all with abundant positive energy.

Meaningfulworld would like to share their gratitude and warmest appreciation to Dr. Evelin Gerda Lindner for extending her warm invitation to us on behalf of the Human DHS Network. We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to the attendees of this event for their warmth and kindness. This was a truly inspiring and fulfilling event.

Founded in 1990, the Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP) Meaningfulworld, charitable organization affiliated with the United Nations Dept. of Public Information, has achieved international recognition as a leader in training humanitarian outreach professionals as well as responding to two and a half decades of global and local disasters. ATOP is committed to health, justice, peace, transformation and global education promoting state-of-the-art scientific theory on peace, forgiveness, consciousness research, internship, and the development of technical skills to train mental health professionals, teachers, psychologists, art therapists, nutritionists, alternative medicine practitioners, clergy, nurses, mediators, interfaith ministers, and lay persons committed to service the self and humanity. Meaningfulworld Humanitarian Outreach Teams have helped rehabilitate survivors from over 46 countries and 25 states in USA, making a daily difference in people's lives, helping to transform tragedy and trauma into healing and meaning-making through post-trauma growth, resilience, emotional intelligence, mindfulness, mind-body-eco-spirit health, visionary leadership, empowerment, artful collaborations, establishing Peace & Forgiveness Gardens, and creating a new and Meaningfulworld view. We work locally and globally in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, the Caucasus, Europe, and South and North America.

**Our Motto: When one helps another BOTH become stronger**