

Webinar : Overcoming Family Conflict and Domestic Abuse in Asia

Survey Findings on Family Conflict and Domestic Abuse in Indonesia, Philippines, Nepal and Mongolia



Nepal and Mongolia" last March 1, 2021 via Zoom and YouTube. There were a total of 10 Asian Countries engaged in this survey. At the time of the webinar only 4 countries had completed the data collection and analysis. We do hope the remaining 6 countries will soon complete the data collection and analysis as well.

One of the major recommendations that came out of the webinar "Biblical Understanding Domestic Violence in the Family " spearheaded by the Asia Evangelical Alliance (AEA) Women Commission last September 3, 2021, was the request to conduct a research on Domestic Abuse in Asia. There is an overwhelming lack of awareness among churches about the issue of domestic abuse and something has to be done.

Six months later, after more than 200 hours of combined work between AEA, Bilangan Research Center (BRC) and Family First Global, the results of the research were presented during the Webinar "Overcoming Family Conflict and Domestic Abuse in Asia – Survey Findings on Family Conflict and Domestic Abuse in Indonesia, Philippines,

This highly anticipated event was attended by 1529 participants from 29 countries. Dr. Richard Howell, Ambassador at Large of Asia Evangelical Alliance, opened the webinar with prayer, while Mr. Handi Irawan, Project Leader of the survey, gave the Opening Remarks providing the audience with the rationale and objectives of the webinar highlighting that aside from the information that will be shared, it is the goal of the event to provide the pastors, church leaders and organizations with concrete steps on how to overcome domestic abuse that is happening even among Christian families.

Dr. Bambang Budijanto then presented the key interesting findings from the online survey which was conducted in October-December 2021, with 1,150 respondents representing the four countries. The survey looked at five types



or dimensions of domestic abuse: physical, emotional, financial, spiritual and sexual. (Please refer to the main article of this newsletter for major findings of this research)

Prof. Gregory Slayton, Founder and Chairman of Family First Global, followed with a presentation sharing the key strategies that churches and families can do so that domestic abuse will be prevented. He encouraged all church leaders to stand firm against any kind of domestic abuse (physical, financial, spiritual, emotional and sexual) and to do whatever it takes so that it will not happen to the next generations. He emphasized the need for churches to declare that any form of abuse has no place in the church and to commit as a family of believers to together identifying, reducing, preventing and finally eliminating domestic abuse.

Sister Grace Hee, Executive Director of Women Commission in Asia Evangelical Alliance, then moderated a panel

discussion with the speakers asking the hard questions from the participants. There were findings that created more questions and Dr. Bambang emphasized that this research is just a start and it should be the common goal of all involved to dig deeper and know more so that we could understand and respond to the issue of domestic abuse. Sister Bolortuya Damdinjav, member of the Executive Council of Asia Evangelical Alliance and Brother Glenn Yu, President of Pamilya Muna Pilipinas, closed the 2 hour webinar with their remarks, encouraging churches and Christian organizations to work together to overcome family conflict and domestic abuse.

Everyone agrees that there is more to be uncovered and a lot more to be done about this issue. As more data are being collected and analyzed from the participating countries and beyond, a follow up Webinar is being planned in the near future that will further raise awareness of churches in Asia about this hidden pandemic. ■

