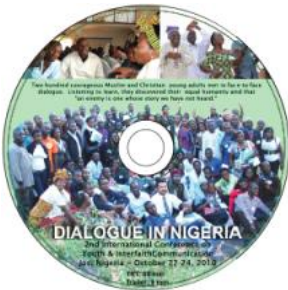


DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA ~ Models of engagement replicated in Ivory Coast

Step #5: Albino ~ Non-Albino Reconciliation in Cote d'Ivoire

Part 3

Beginning January, 2012, inspired by a powerful 2010 model of face-to-face communication by Nigerian "enemies" and the 2012 documentary film about it, [DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA: Muslims & Christians Creating Their Future](#), a small team in Cote d'Ivoire duplicated among diverse women, men, and youth [similarly successful meetings](#) (1) near home in Abidjan, (2) among conflicted Akuedo Ebrie adversaries, then (3) among distant Duekoue's aggrieved villagers. Again in Duekoue was (4) a historic Dozos-Guerre Tribal Reconciliation. All were facilitated by Offuh James OFFUH, president and founder of the NGO -- [ONG United for Peace Against Conflict International \(UFPACI\)](#) in Abidjan.



In Spring, 2013, the Cote d'Ivoire team became aware of prejudice, violence, isolation, and medical hardships endured by Albino citizens. The women and men of UFPACI were also inspired by the earlier April [Albino ~ Non-Albino face-to-face meeting, education, and healing in Kinshasa, DR Congo](#).

September and October, 2013, required **Part 1** to meet and learn among Albino leadership then **Part 2** to listen even more deeply to them and plan together, fully described in [an earlier document online](#).



Part 3: The First All-Day Albino ~ Non-Albino Dialogue Conference in Cote d'Ivoire, was planned for Friday, 01 November 2013, in Abidjan. It is part of the larger story in photos and text found online at <http://traubman.igc.org/vidnigeriaivorycoast.htm>

Part 3: First All-Day Albino ~ Non-Albino Dialogue Conference



The Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix (CERAP) in Cocody, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.



Early arrivals



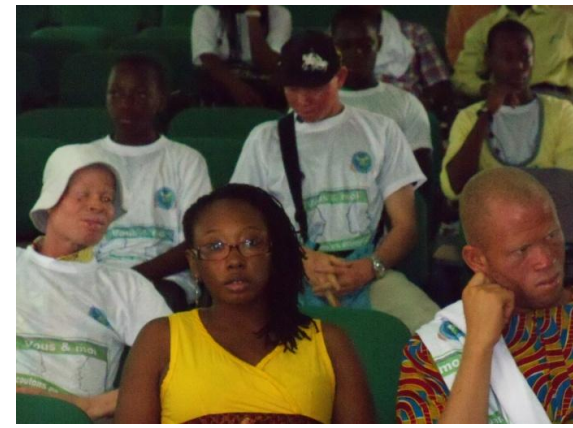
Albino participants arrive by bus from different parts of Abidjan.



Albinos accompanied into the conference hall by GNAMIEN Louis Patrice, secretary executive of UFPACI.



Participants enter the hall in mixed groups.



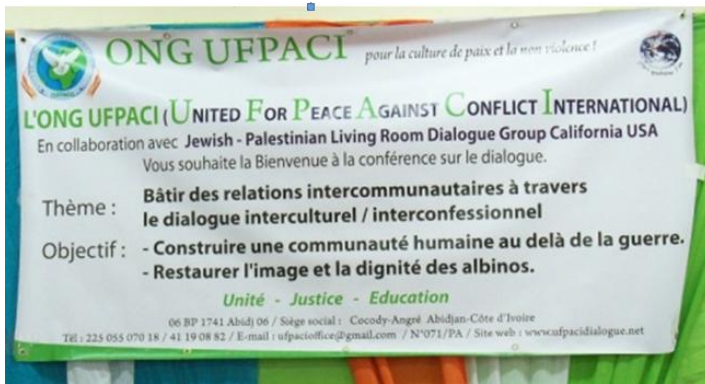


Arrival of Offuh James OFFUH,
president and founder of UFPACI.



Mr. Pacom, the encounter moderator.





Welcome and opening ceremony by Offuh James Offuh.



The adolescents present the Bridge Song – We are one people, one humanity, one spirit, living in one earth, our one and home. We say no to discrimination, no to stigmatizing. We are one people, the beloved of one God. We are humankind.



Offuh James OFFUH develops the sub-theme Dynamic of Dialogue in Conflict Transformation with the graphic illustrating intercultural civic communication with its new quality of listening-to-learn.

Communication Habituelle

100% Attentif Se Préparer à Réagir 100% Réagir



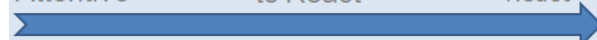
Dialogue

100% Attentif Ecouter pour Apprendre 100% Se Renseigner



Usual Communication

100% Attentive Preparing to React 100% React



Dialogue

100% Attentive Listening to Learn 100% Inquire

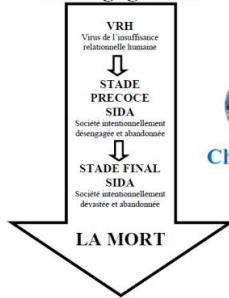


Participants with a copy of the Dialogue communication chart.





Désengagement

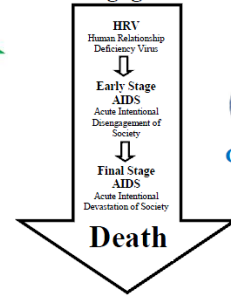


Choisissez!

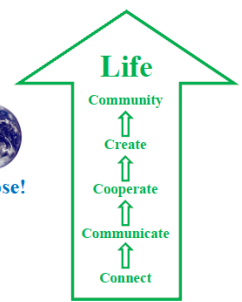


Dialogue Durable

Disengagement



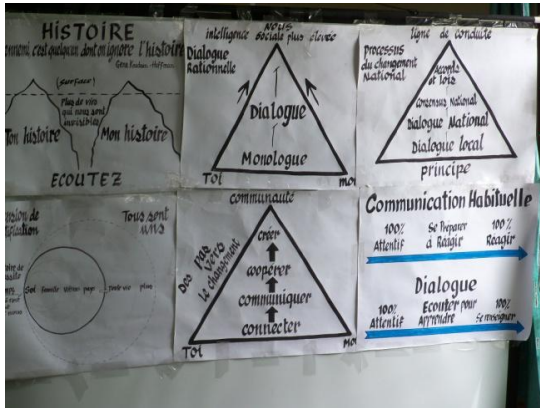
Choose!



Sustained Dialogue

6

Offuh James OFFUH James illustrates the deadly Human Relationship-deficiency Virus (HRV), its root cause poverty of relationships, and cure of Sustainable Dialogue first described by Nigerian Emmanuel Ande Ivorgba.



A representative of the Celestial Church of Cote D'Ivoire expresses his joy in participating and being opened up to new, constructive ways of communicating. He wishes that such experiences of Dialogue be taught in schools, churches and mosques.





Mamidou Coulibaly, President of Albinos Federation of Cote d'Ivoire, educating the participants about Albinism.



7



Miss TOMETY RITA ESTELLE told her own stories of how she faces continual rejection from society, even from her Albinos friends, family, and other groups in all her life activities. Rita is assisted by Miss KOUAME N'GUESSAN Zita, UFPACI treasurer.



Mr. Fofana Aboubakar representing the Governor of Abidjan District expresses his feelings of empathy about discrimination that confronts Albinos, after listening Mr. Coulibaly Mamidou and Miss Rita.



A musical artist sang a peace song in favor of children: "Let's build a world where every child feels safe, loved, and celebrated."



Mr. BAWA representing the Ministry of Culture and Francophone responded: We need such lessons and awareness throughout the community. Upon my return from here I will write a report in favor of UFPACI initiative, so that our Ministry can partnership with UFPACI in popularizing this creative initiative in dialogue communication for the benefit all."

Dr. ADOU. an ophthalmologist, spoke about poor vision that challenges Albinos. He described what helps, including sunglasses. Hats and sun block creams also help protect from sun rays.





Mr. GUIAKO OBIN HERVE, Chief of Akouédo - Attié village, was awarded AMBASSADOR OF PEACE on 15th November 2012 by ONG UFPACI. He represented the traditional rulers of Cote d'Ivoire in this dialogue encounter. "I am glad to participate once again in such dialogue conference. During the visit of UFPACI in my village, we were confronted with diverse community conflicts. But we discovered how to address most of this conflict after the teachings of ONG UFPACI. After the testimonies of the Miss Rita and Mr. Coulibaly Mamidou, I was shocked to hear the degree of discrimination and marginalization Albinos are confronted with in the society. I encourage all participants in this hall today to continue to carry this message we are receiving here back to our respective communities, so this maltreatment against Albinos will stop. It is most be a collective struggle. I believe we can collectively make a difference to stop these acts only by education and sensitizing the public. I encourage the efforts of ONG UFPACI."



Miss MANDAH Sephora Wodie is a UNESCO Programs Specialist Assistant in the UNESCO Abidjan office. "We are impressed by the initiative of ONG UFPACI, which we have seen figures in the UNESCO program actions. In view of that, we shall be entering in partnership with ONG UFPACI. We already had meetings with UFPACI on Wednesday, 30th October 2013, about future projects related to the activities of UFPACI and the UNESCO mission in Cote d'Ivoire.



Mr. OUSMANE DIALLO, Inspector of Primary School Education in Cote d'Ivoire, described the Five Stages of the Public Peace Project.



(1) Dramatic portrayal of Albinist victims of ritual acts. (2) The ritualist man sacrifices Albinist parts. The two women kidnap Albinists and carry them to the ritualist to sacrifice for gaining occult powers and wealth. (3) The Albinist victim on the ground is to be sacrificed.



(4) Before the act could be carried out, police arrive to save the Albinist child and arrest the ritualist.



Gift-giving of sunglasses and hats began at 12:30 pm, with continued participation of the traditional rulers, administrative authorities, and religious leaders.



Food and beverages were shared as a community at 13.00 (1:00 pm) in the afternoon.





"Icebreaker" personal introductions allowed people to become newly acquainted in a safe atmosphere.



The "Perspective Squares workshop, illustrated that diverse people view and perceive life differently. One girl saw sixteen squares. The other girl saw just one.



Teaching Dialogue's "listening-to-learn" by illustrating the two icebergs that suggest exploring the story of the "other" (the enemy) with sensitivity, confidence, and communication excellence that creates a new heart connection and dignifies both people while discovering that "an enemy is one whose story we have not heard."



"Hand Outlines" was the third exercise, tracing each other's hands to allow people to increase awareness of their uniqueness and also similarities, overcome judgment and stereotypes, and become closer.

11



The "Mask and Culture" activity facilitated by Miss Zita and Mr. Patrice helped participants to experience how one's culture, community and social expectations influence and shape personal responses to daily life. This increases self-awareness and closeness to one another by opening a window to oneself and this common challenge universally faced in all cultures.





Teenagers raised spirits in the room with choreographed dancing before the next practical workshop exercise began.

"An Experience of Dialogue" was the fourth workshop exercise. **Face-to-face in dyads (pairs)** each person shared her or his life's narrative with a new quality of listening-to-learn as well as being heard, while discovering that "an enemy is one whose story we have not heard."



"This exercise will last only 30 minutes. The first 10 minutes the story teller will narrate, while the listener only listens without interruption or critique. After the first 10 minutes, the listener will ask questions for the next 5 minutes. Explore the storyteller: 'You said something that interested me. Can you say more about that?' For the second 15 minutes, the first storyteller becomes the listener, and the listener becomes the storyteller. I promise you the time will move fast, and I will signal about time; don't worry about that."



"I am glad to express my feeling to the other we have considered as enemies."

"I am deeply touched to hear her very pathetic stories."



"This my first time to talk or sit with an Albino. I am glad to make friends with them. Her stories touched me. In fact, when I return to my school I will say good things about the Albinos. They are intelligent like us. We also need them in the community."



"I am glad for this opportunity given to us for the first time to express our pains and suffering to the others, I am happy."



"I have never talked with an Albino. This my first time. I am so pleased."



"This type of exercise needs to be experienced in schools, villages, churches, mosques, everywhere, because the Albinos are marginalized and discriminated against. Today through this exercise I discovered they are humans like us and we need to love them."



The Candle Lighting Ceremony was to share the light of hope, connection, understanding, and peace to all humanity. Each person can chooses to be a carrier of light.



"one humanity-one-spirit-one earth"

*Cooperating together with all cultures, races, nations and religions for the benefit of all life,
what we as authentic humans significantly achieve is
what we continually invest of ourselves for the well-being of others—everyone.*

*Seek compassion, and love all humanity
as we unite communities in peace
to avoid destruction and
save humankind and Earth for all generations.*



This November 2013 experience was sponsored by
United for Peace Against Conflict International (ONG UFPACI) - Cote d'Ivoire
in partnership with the
Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue - California USA

Facilitator Guidelines for exercises seen above are at
<http://traubman.igc.org/campacts.pdf>

This document and the larger Cote d'Ivoire story are on the Web at
<http://traubman.igc.org/vidnigeriaivorycoast.htm>

L'Intelligent d'Abidjan

Du Samedi 9 au Dimanche 10 Novembre 2013

Action sociale / Pour briser la différence _____ **O. Dama**

Ufpaci offre du matériel solaire aux albinos



Les Albinos reçoivent le matériel solaire (Photo : Ogou Dama)

LES ALBINOS DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE ont été soulagés par l'ONG UFPACI (Union pour la paix pour résoudre les conflits internationaux), le vendredi 1 novembre 2013 au CERAP (Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour la Paix). L'action de cette ONG fait suite au thème du séminaire qu'elle a organisé ce même jour au sein du CERAP : "bâtir des relations intercommunautaires à travers le dialogue interculturel et interconfessionnel". Pour les organisateurs, il faut briser les barrières de la différence entre les communautés, à tous les niveaux relationnels. « Il est difficile de détester quelqu'un dont on connaît l'histoire. Un ennemi, c'est quelqu'un dont on ignore l'his-

toire », a précisé James Offuh, président de l'UFPACI. Pour lui, il ne devrait pas y avoir de différence entre les albinos et les non albinos. Ce sont des personnes, dit-il, qui ont seulement un déficit de mélanine dans leur peau, des yeux et qui ont des cheveux singuliers. « Il faut les associer dans la gestion communautaire, les aimer, les traiter comme des personnes ordinaires », a-t-il souhaité. Le président et les membres de son ONG, ont offert du matériel scolaire aux albinos. Ce matériel était composé de chapeaux et de lunettes solaire. « Le seul problème des albinos, c'est le soleil et l'insolation (brûlures de la peau). Si l'on trouve un moyen de les protéger contre le soleil,

rien ne pourrait les empêcher de travailler comme tout le monde », a soutenu N'Goran K, dermatologue au CHU de Treichville. Créée le 17 Janvier 2012, l'ONG UFPACI est une organisation apolitique, à but non lucratif dont la mission est: trouver un terrain d'entente entre des groupes en conflits, la promotion de la culture du dialogue et de la non violence et la participation à la consolidation de la Paix. L'ONG UFPACI porte assistance à toutes les communautés en encourageant le dialogue interculturel et la coopération entre les communautés. Son approche fondamentale se résume à l'utilisation du dialogue pour régler et prévenir les conflits.