



**REPORT OF THE ALBINO ~ NON-ALBINO MINI-CONCERT  
& LARGE FACE-TO-FACE MOMENT**

**SATURDAY, MAY, 2018**

**FROM 10HOO AM TO 13HOO PM**

**LONZO AVENUE NUMBER 1**

**DISTRICT OF LEMBA**

**KINSHASA TOWN**

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

**FACILITATORS:**

**ELESSE AND VIRGINIA BAFANDJO**

## **TODAY'S EXPERIENCES**

- I. THE REASONS FOR ORGANIZING THE CONCERT
- II. SPECIAL THANKS
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- IV. WORDS OF THE ALBINO LEADER OR REPRESENTATIVE
- X. TIME OF PHOTOS UNDER SOFT MUSIC
- XI. RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROJECTS IN NEED OF SPONSORSHIP

## I. THE REASONS FOR ORGANIZING THE CONCERT

For a long time, we have wanted to host concerts to bring together needful families, institutions, and nations, especially after receiving DVDs of the documentary film, ***DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA: Muslims & Christians Creating Their Future***, with the facilitation guidelines. We needed to create opportunities to spread the contents and face-to-face activities of the film that we have called “the medicine of the relationships.”

This is exactly the foundation of our concert idea.

Also, according to our research, we are very convinced that the albino ~ non-albino relationship needs more and more of our intervention and attention for it be better, inclusive, harmonious, peaceful living together.

Before the event, we met and exchanged with many non-albino citizens, learning about their fears of people with albinism -- touching, sharing a meal table, embracing. They could not imagine cutting from the long history of superstition, marginalizing, stigmatizing, and discriminating.

And at the other side, many albinos continue to live in self-condemnation and withdraw, even ready to poison themselves.

These reasons inspired us to organize this historical mini-concert, a moment of great emotion, light, rejoicing, celebrating, and relationship healing the impact of which we had not imagined.

Words alone cannot describe the tears and emotional outpouring that comes from the peak experience of discovering our common humanity and harnessing the advantage of sustained dialogue learned!

## II. SPECIAL THANKS

We have some persons to receive our special thanks for our albino ~ non-albino mini-concert and a large face-to-face experience:

### 1. LIBBY AND LEN TRAUBMAN

Our mentors, initiators to the sustained dialogue, our partners and sponsors, we are very grateful to you for your contribution to our life by means of the sustained dialogue, to our destiny on Earth!

You are wonderful people!

### 2. JANESSA GANS WILDER

Your personal history has a particular impact in our life. Your vision of turning an “other” in a brother is just fantastic with the orientation of the Euphrates Institute.

The Euphrates institute helped with 300 dollars for us to be able, to host the event. Thanks a lot to all the kind teams of the Euphrates Institute, and to Moriah Early-Manchester and Emily Osborne.

As you can imagine, often we have ideas and inspiration but unfortunately no means! You changed that.

### 3. GLOIRE MANDEFU

An intelligent, forward-thinking woman with albinism, you deserve our deep thanks for your contribution of the presence of many albinos. Thank you very much GLOIRE, and God bless you!

## III. THE MINI-CONCERT

The mini-concert was animated by the musical group CAR OF FIRE – eight vocal, keyboard, drum and other artists. They received instructions to lead the audience to a high level of shared music, singing, and dance that encouraged connection among the people. They really succeeded in their mission. Their presence was a great blessing. In addition, as there was not electricity everywhere, with our generator all the community was influenced. The music and shouts could arrive a half kilometer in the distance. This was really an event!

Thanks to this powerful musical group!

#### **IV. THE FACE –TO-FACE MOMENT**

This was a personal and emotional time! It fulfilled the formula of which we had always imagined!

For us this was an accomplishment of a vision, and our pleasure was GREAT and NOT TO BE DESCRIBED!

**WE FELT LIKE SOMEWHERE IN THE HEAVEN!**

In a background of soft, classical music, more than 12 albino ~ non-albino pairs, face-face, heart –to-heart for each other, hands –in-hands exchanged deeply in dialogue during exactly 25 minutes.

NB: At the end of this stage, all the couples said that the time was too short, and realized there was so much more they wished to speak about together.

To tell the truth, it was a particular, special, wonderful, empathic, historical moment!

#### **V. FACE-TO-FACE MOMENT REPORTS**

This sequence is a thermometer for us to realize the widespread relationship-deficiency disease between albino and non-albino, and to multiply ways of healing.

We choose 5 couples to give their reports to everyone present:

1. GRACIA LUSAKWENO and DOUX BELONDAY  
-GRACIA LUSAKWENO( Albino):

“I’m happy to know and discover Doux. I asked him this question: ‘If your son brings to you an albino for the marriage, what would be your reaction?’ Doux told me that this albino is welcome!”

“This event is extraordinary and handsome! A very blessed idea! An opportunity to exchange and rejoice for the best of everyone! I’m very joyful and congratulate the facilitator!”

NB: Grace works in a bank and speaks English very well. She comes from very far (30 KM) in order to participate. She was appreciated!

-DOUX BELONDAY(non-albino):

“I encouraged Gracia with these words: Generally, people see in the white hairs the wisdom and the intelligence. That is to say that an albino is born with intelligence and wisdom! That is then wonderful! I would then need to be born albino because of that!”

NB: All the audience clapped their hands in hearing such wise words which are a solace for the albino!

“For me he said, we can go until evening. I discovered something new and rich. God bless the facilitator!”

## 2. MR JESON BOTANGO & MADAM LORAINE LOZI

-MR JESON BOTANGO (Albino):

“I always felt discriminated against and rejected by the non-albino, but the words of Loraine during our talk have strengthened me and encouraged me. I would like all the non-albinos to reach this level of thinking and we will all have a good world.”

-MADAM LAURINE LOZI (a non-albino):

“During all my life, I never wanted to see or touch an albino. What has happened today is for me a miracle. And I think it is the beginning of another story between me and the albinos. I understand that they are humankind like me, with all the possible needs .This event is a healing for me, and thanks a lot to the facilitator!”

NB: Madam Loraine excelled with expressive dances during the event!

## 3.MADAM TANIA NDAYA & MR PAPY KANDOLO

-Madam Tania Ndaya (albino):

“I’m generally shy because of my state and more also because of much condemnations from non-albino and from myself. I’m really affected and wounded in the heart, and some

moments I feel no need to continue living. I'm happy because this kind of idea is a way to help us. I appreciate my exchange with Mr Papy, who showed a great kindness very different with some non-albinos."

God bless the facilitator!

-MR PAPY KANDOLO (non-albino):

"I'm very happy that this meeting has helped me have an exchange with an albino, to talk with her, eat with her. This is fantastic and a great step with me in contrast with what I was thinking about albinos. The facilitator's idea is simply outstanding!"

#### 4. MR GUYTON ITINGI & MADAME CARROLINE MBOYO

-Mr. Guyton Itingi (albino):

"Carroline told me that I'm beautiful, I have beautiful eyes despite my albinism. These words of Carro have restored me!"

"I'm very happy to participate to this mini-concert where I have discovered more than a concert. The idea is fantastic and ORIGINAL. I understand with the words of Carro that we are all equal despite of the difference, and we need to be together. May these sorts of rare initiatives be multiplied!"

"Bless the facilitators!"

NB: This couple created a feeling with their attitude like a married couple. You can see them in the video hands-in-hands.

What a couple!

#### 5. MR CLEMENT BOONE & MADAM CLEMENTINE WOMBO

MR CLEMENT BOONE (non albino):

"We are homonyms! What a surprise! I told her not to be complexed, never pay attention to what people say!

You are a beautiful wife with much abilities and able to help the society!”

## **VI. THE EATING TIME**

A special service presented food to everyone. The instruction was that an albino and non-albino must eat together! Under soft classical music, all the audience ate and received strength.

## **VII. WORDS OF THE DOCTOR CONCERNING THE ALBINISM**

Doctor Clement BOONE honored us with his presence. He explained scientifically about albinism’s source, causes, and effects.

The objective was to clarify incorrect notions and surrender old superstitions about albinism incorrectly related to curses, witchcraft, or sin.

His intervention was very clear and humanizing!

In addition, he exhorted the albinos to do their best excel in all spheres of life and be able to defend their cause instead of continuing to live in self-condemnation. They need to be organized too .He suggested to discover much means to support may more, lareg albino~non-albino face-to-face gatherings like our mini-concert. He aimed for more partners and sponsors.

Thanks a lot to the doctor!

## **VIII. WORDS OF THE FACILITATOR**

The facilitator was full of emotion and as you can imagine, and too joyful to feel the success of the event!

He explained how to create an inclusive world in using sustained dialog to turn to the “other” in a brother or sister, refusing to be enemies, practicing the new learning tool of communication for listening to others with love, compassion, and all



to discover the humanity of others, today our sisters and brothers with albinism.

The facilitator, in this precious opportunity, explained briefly the contents of the DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA DVDS, Inviting all the audience to the more personal engagements that that bring people closer.

## **IX. WORDS OF THE ALBINO LEADER**

GLOIRE MANDEFU is a fantastic woman and a key to the success of our event.

She thanked the facilitator for the method and the will to bring people together.

Furthermore, she said that knowing the facilitator personally has clarified that he has not the financial means but is skillfully able to host this kind of event. She hoped that people who have fiscal means would help him multiply these kinds of activities! She said “really the facilitator is a great blessing for me, for all of us!”

## **X. TIME OF PHOTOS UNDER MUSIC**

We allowed this time for different photos when the orchestra continued to play music with superb dances.

## **XI. RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROJECTS IN NEED OF SPONSORS**

### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The majority of people asked to:

- multiply these kinds of activities
- organize great concerts with a very large number of albinos and non-albinos
- discover sponsorship by more partners
- extend the time of each activity

## 2. PROJECTS IN NEED OF SPONSORS

As requested by the participants, we announce our heartfelt request to everyone – individuals, families, institutions, and organizations – to consider sponsorship assistance for our projects that continue dignifying women, men, and youth with albinism.

- **JUNE 30, 2018:** Albino~Non-albino Female Football Fan Meeting with face-to-face engagement

- **JULY, 30, 2018:** Albino~Non-albino Male Football Fan Meeting with a face-to-face engagement

- **SEPTEMBER 9, 2018:** Albino~Non-albino NZANGO Meeting with a mega face-to-face dialogue

NB: Nzango is a traditional game for women in Congo with dance, singing, gymnastics, and choreography performed energetically.

- **DECEMBER 1st, 2018:** Albino~Non-albino MEGA-CONCERT with a very large face-to-face dialogue.

**We suggest advertising and hopefully fundraising for the continued success of this program.** We hope that many peacebuilders worldwide will be interested!

We conclude with a special request. Just when most needed for our new activities, our one laptop computer has been damaged by a power surge from our unstable Kinshasa electricity. We would be eternally grateful for anyone who could help us with obtain a new computer.

Thank you for your attention to our people, and God bless everyone who is going to read about us!

All event photos, videos, and reports are at  
<https://traubman.igc.org/vidnigeriadrcongo.htm#15>

### CONTACT

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