

## Reservations at CPD55

After each document is negotiated, supposedly to reach a consensus, you get an agreed document. You would think this means everyone agrees, but this is not so. I have witnessed negotiations where 24 countries objected to wording and it still got in the document and it was claimed to be consensus. These people are liars. If this current document was really consensus there would be no reservations. The rich and powerful countries always apply pressure to poorer countries.

### **Abortion wording or SRH & RR.**

The following countries made reservations on this wording by quoting the national context, meaning no abortion: Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Hungary, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, and of course the Holy See. Nicaragua and Guatemala mentioned they protect life from conception.

France speaking for the EU claimed S & RH services were human rights when they are not. Never trust the French (please forgive my Britishness). Israel sadly was pushing for more SRH, as was the UK.

### **Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)**

This term did not get into the document, much work has been done to explain this term to pro-life delegations for many years. The following countries lamented the exclusion of this term from the final document : the EU, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico and Israel. Next year's theme is on education so there will be a big push for CSE (lessons in depravity )

*“It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause on of these little ones to sin.” Lk17.2*

On an up note the governor of Florida had just passes a bill to ban promotion of SOGI in primary schools.

The UNFPA made a specific point of lamenting the lack of sexual rights wording. There have been unsuccessful attempts to get this wording in a document for 28 years .

## **The family**

Russia made a good intervention on the family saying it is the basic unit of society. I remember an African delegate saying to me once, the Europeans seems to hate their parents. I guess it is hard for many countries to understand why family is ignored. In many countries you need a son to care for you in old age, or you starve, no social services.

## **The unhappy countries**

The following terms did not get into the document, “multiple and intersecting form of discrimination”, women in all their diversity”, SOGI, etc. The EU ,UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the EU and Mexico all lamented the “ lack of progress” and claimed it was regressive to not include these concepts. So that is good news in a sense.

## **The Holy See**

As usual the Holy See made an excellent reservation. SRH& RR does not include abortion nor abortifacients. The only licit sex is between a husband and his wife . Gender is biology means male or female only. The representative of the catholic Church, in these areas is the moral voice for the world.