



Update . . .

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Knesset Member Moshe Feiglin (2nd from right) listens to Pr. Sarah Ben-David's report.

Our Holiest Work

The founding principle of the Love for Israel Relief Fund has been that advocating for orphans and at-risk kids to our leaders is our holiest work.

Today, 1 May 2013, the Love for Israel Relief Fund was proud to participate in the founding conference for the Knesset Caucus to Strengthen the Family & Community. The founding chairman is KM Moshe Feiglin (Likud). This is the first and (currently) only Knesset caucus dedicated to the preservation of family values.

The Knesset's Committee on Women & Children is fundamentally different in that it focuses almost exclusively on women's rights and violence against women. In that committee, children are a subset of women's rights; and are neither a stand-

alone issue nor linked to preservation of the traditional family. The Knesset had been lacking a body that focuses on children's rights as a stand-alone issue or family rights – that is until today.

The Love for Israel Relief Fund has known about the link between the break-up of the Israeli family and Israel's Youth Crisis for years. This conference, however, sheds light on the fact that the Ministry of Welfare has been using false data on domestic violence which has unfortunately led to Israel's poor child welfare performance in the 34-state Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD).

Professor Sarah Ben-David of Ariel University shared her findings on domestic violence statistics with the caucus. According to Professor Ben-David, the data

shows the best interest of at-risk children is to evaluate families on a case-by-case basis and not the current method based almost exclusively on gender.

Gil Ronen, founder of the Familists Lobby, is optimistic about this new Knesset Caucus. "This new caucus seeks ways to preserve the traditional Israeli family as a replacement for the current system that cuts children off from their fathers," he says. Ronen estimates thousands of Israeli children have been unnecessarily cut off from their biological parents as a result of such a misguided agenda.

A Knesset caucus like this may be the turning point our children have needed. By legislating changes that promote family values, the caucus intends to improve Israel's child welfare ranking in the OECD.

The caucus' chairman, KM Moshe Feiglin, says "radical women's groups" have already called for a boycott against this conference. "The conference is in support of the family, that does not make it a conference against women," states Feiglin. Conference organizers say these radical groups get their support from well-meaning Americans who do not have access to child welfare statistics by the OECD or the Knesset link to the break-up of the Israeli family.

The Love for Israel Relief Fund has always held the philosophy that our children deserve the most natural and least restrictive environment. Call us biased, but we believe Israeli parents are the best in the world and our OECD ranking needs to reflect that reality.

After years of hard work advocating for our children as our holiest work, the Love for Israel Relief Fund welcomes this new Knesset caucus as an important first step towards meaningful change. It is our hope that Knesset Members across the socio-political spectrum will take this most holy cause and pass legislation that will be in the best interest of Israel's most vulnerable children.

Special events, like weddings and bar mitzvahs, happen year round for hundreds of at-risk kids and needy young adults in Israel. Donations designated "special events" will be set aside for such use.

You can donate online at:
<http://love4israel.org/donate.html>

On behalf of the Israelis you help - Todah Robah!

Send checks to:
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