

WORLD TRIBUNE MAILBOX

Young Fathers

Over the past 30 years the SGI-USA organization has gone through many changes. The most recent and liberating one took place in February 1990 when SGI President Ikeda came to the United States....

Yet with all the changes and equality in this new organization there is still a very disturbing phenomena in the youth division. As it is now, when a young women's division member becomes pregnant or there is a new "younger" [female] member with children, they are required to become a part of the women's division. But a young men's division member, regardless of his parental status or responsibilities in the home, may remain a young men's division member until he becomes the right age for men's division (which is pretty unclear as to which is the right age)....

Our organization reflects our society. Women are no longer the sole caretakers of the children. There are women who balance a successful career and take care of the home. Because of this change in our society, fathers are taking more responsibility in raising the children, and it is common sense that the SGI division they are in reflects this change as well....

There are numerous advantages to creating this change. Imagine how the men's division would be revitalized if all the young men's division members with children were to become part of the men's division. There would be a great new youthful energy present within the men's division. This can only be a positive influence for the growth of our organization.

Perhaps this change will require that the entire structure of the divisions be re-evaluated so that it will honestly reflect the conditions and values of our society. The years in youth division are very short and precious; we should cherish the time we have as a young women's division or young men's division member.

— GEORGANN MULLER, Salinas, Calif.

Boldy Entrust Young Men and Women

Given the challenge society at large continues to face in this respect, it may take an increased awareness on the part of district members to ensure that the newly introduced (and great) idea of entrusting the youth with responsibility is not taken simply to mean entrusting the young men. Sometimes, in society as well as organizations, the situation continues to hark back to more primitive times. Persistence of this problem in the Gakkai, however, conflicts with the creed of our successive presidents, who night and day fought to spread this philosophy of objectivity and fairness.

Both women and men can contribute to the perpetuation of sex bias, and in turn, the solution needs the support of both sexes.

— AUDREY MARXER, Los Angeles

Title: Mailbox:

Subject: World Tribune 01/31/97 n.3124 p.3 WT970131p03

Author:

Keywords: Letters Mailbox Opinion Organization Publications