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Promoting a Christian Agenda for the End Times

CA! visits Institute for Creation Research, Dallas!

I [Joshua Ojo] had the wonderful privilege of being received at the Institute for Creation Research, Dallas on Tuesday 25th June, 2013, on my return trip from a scientific conference in nearby state of Georgia. Early evidence of divinely-ordered steps included my arriving at the front door just as Dr John D. Morris was stepping in. I simply could not restrain my excitement at the pleasure of meeting him and having a warm handshake! →

Now, “Mainstream Moslems” abducting Christian girls in Nigeria

Last edition, we told the painful story of how so-called Boko Haram militants, supposedly Moslem extremists, were abducting Christian ladies and threatening to convert them to housewives in lieu of their wives arrested by the Nigerian military. Now, it is supposedly mainstream moslems that are abducting Christian ladies, locking them away from society, on the ground that these ladies have freely chosen to



Etsu Nupe's Palace, Bida

become moslems.

As we write this, a 24 year old daughter of a pastor has been living in the palace of the Etsu Nupe of Bida, Alhaji Yahaya Abubakar for over six months. This is supposedly on the instruction of the Shariah Court who has ruled that she be kept on “protective custody” away from her biological father. Since when have Christians started to kill their own children because they choose another religion? Such so-called honour killing is entirely an Islamic thing; and it is a clear indication of the brainwashing the lady has received that she believes his pastor dad could even contemplate such an action.

Charity Uzoechina left her Abuja home for school at the Federal Polytechnic Bida in January, but the next communication the father will receive about her daughter is a phone call from palace aides to the

Etsu Nupe (on March 1) inviting him to come have a chat with her daughter who, they informed him, is now in their custody, having become a muslim since February 15. According to reports, within minutes of the interaction the next day, the obviously brainwashed lady started yelling that her father had threatened her and she could no longer return to living under his roof! A few days later, the Sharia Court gave its ruling on “protective custody”. The Christian father got the Sharia court summon the same day as the case was heard, tried, and executed! He has filed an appeal with the same Sharia court challenging its jurisdiction to try him, a Christian.

It is interesting to note that none of the interview reports could claim Charity suggested her life is in danger with her dad. Only the deeply Islamic Weekly Trust newspaper suggested they had anything close to a face-to-face “exclusive interview” with Charity, and she was asked specifically about the nature of the “threats” from her father :

Q: What did he do to you amounting to a threat?

A: *In the first place you know, I put on Hijab (veil), he said I should remove the Hijab. He was angry and used some harsh words on me, directing that I should remove the Hijab, but I refused. He threatened to take me to a village where nobody will set his (sic) eyes on me. So I became scared of him, therefore I refused to follow him. That is it.*

Later on in the interview, Charity added a new dimension of threat when she claimed the reason she could not go anywhere or “even continue with my schooling” is that her dad “is still bringing people up till now to keep watch on me”. The interviewer asked for clarification:

Q: How do you know that your father has assigned people to keep watch on you?

A: *There was a time that I wanted to go out, information came to me that my father was around and I had to stay back since I don't want him to take me away. I know that if I go out anytime, he'll pick me up.*

Very simple, “information came” and she knew. That was it! Of course it is such “information,” probably with a generous dose of hypnotism, that has been feeding the mind of Charity with stories of how the Etsu Nupe and her new palace friends have now come to suddenly love her more

than her own biological family. This effectively is the mind-fetter, chaining down the poor girl and the several others in her shoes to the Etsu Nupe's palace. Just as she had also amassed enormous information about the intricate workings of the Islamic world to be petitioning organizations, like the JNI and Sharia court. to press for her new rights as a moslem – supposedly all on her own volition, based on what she has “been reading about them”.

One should not be surprised however, if the several “legal documents” the Etsu Nupe has been basing his claims on did contain allegations that Pastor Uzoechinna could indeed kill her daughter, Islamic style, for the so-called conversion! According to a newspaper report: “Be that as it may, the Etsu Nupe is not in any way moved by the Pastor’s arguments, instead the emirate has produced legal documents where Charity reportedly said she had converted to Islam and alleged that his father could kill her for the action hence the need to seek protection from the Palace and the Sharia Court, which the court granted”

However, such “honor killing” is an entirely Islamic thing, formally codified into their Books. According to [this site](#), both the Quran and Hadith - Sahih Al-Bukhari (9:57) clearly instructs: "Whoever Changes His Religion Kill Him" . See also <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= M3xUgyq1AQ>). Whereas there are thousands of cases of pious muslims killing or seeking to kill their kith and kin to demonstrate their religious piety, such an action is not only meaningless, but constitutes an abomination in Christianity! (See also Chapter 25 of Behold I come quickly, Book 3)

In any case, as pointed out by Pastor Uzoechinna, “If [Charity] has converted to Islam, must she practice at the Etsu Nupe’s palace? Is Etsu Nupe the chief security officer now? ...If they say I will harm her, let them release her to the Inspector General of Police, leader of the Christian Association of Nigeria, CAN or ask me to write an undertaking. Why is my daughter still under Etsu Nupe’s enclave?”

Unfortunately, it is when matters involve the Islamic religion that people seem to lose their sense of logic or sound reasoning. As pointed out by [Festus Eriye](#) of The Nation newspaper, there is really nothing complicated about this case. He has a simple common-sense proposition:

“Both the Sharia Court and the Etsu Nupe have ... tried to defend themselves. The only missing voice in the hubbub is the most critical – Charity’s.

“Third parties have been regaling us with what she said or didn’t say. But this needless controversy can be cleared up in a minute if the

lady at the center of the storm would be allowed by those in whose custody she presently is, to speak for herself.

“Every side claims to be telling the truth and yet we know there can only be one version of the truth. The only person who can clear things up is not being allowed to speak. All those interested in the unvarnished truth ought to ask why? <http://thenationonlineng.net/new/the-strange-case-of-charity-uzoechina/>

In the meantime, the Emirate is clinging to “legal documents” and is refusing Charity to be presented at Court for cross-examination. Neither will they allow the mother any access to her. What a way to make converts! See more details about this bizarre case, as compiled by **Nigeria Newspapers Online at** <http://nigeriannewspaperstoday.net/2013/07/26/pastor-fights-etsu-nupe-over-daughters-forced-conversion-to-islamic-religion/>.

Some History of Forced Conversions

In the highly celebrated case of Rifqa Barry in the US, a moslem girl who converted to Christianity and moved in with Christian friends, despite her clear public declarations that she chose to become a Christian of her own free volition, and the well-known and fully acknowledged death sentence that hung on her head, compelling her to run away from home, ([http://wikiislam.net/wiki/Rifqa Bary](http://wikiislam.net/wiki/Rifqa_Bary)) , she was nevertheless **NOT** allowed to continue to stay with her Christian friends, but placed within the public domain. Similarly in the UK in 2009, a moslem girl who insisted on converting to Christianity while staying at a Foster home run by a Christian lady, got the Foster parent into deep trouble as she (the young girl) insisted against all entreaties that she must convert to Christianity. According to the Foster parent, “ I offered her alternatives. I offered to find places for her to practise her own religion. I offered to take her to friends or family...” Not only was the young convert removed from the Foster home, for her failure to prevent the conversion, the Foster parent also lost her licence and meal ticket! (see CA! [Vol 12 No 2](#)).

Contrast these situations with the current case of Charity Uzoechina in Bida, Nigeria, where the so-called Islamic proselytizers are not only proudly announcing their “catch”, they are also scrupulously keeping her away from the public domain - not even to appear at the Courts for cross-examination. Rather, they keep on insisting that they have “legal documents” (rooted in their religion), authorizing them to keep the lady perpetually within their own enclave. They are even already making marriage plans for the lady!

For years, we have reported on this sad trend of forced Islamic conversions, which is common in Islamic communities with Christian minorities. Most notably in Egypt, where innumerable ladies are being abducted, either blackmailed or brainwashed to claim conversion to Islam, and thereafter married out to Moslem men. (<http://christiannews.over-blog.com/article-the-disappearance-forced-conversions-and-forced-marriages-of-coptic-christian-women-in-egypt-40541012.html>) In 2012, the U.S. Congress held a special hearing to receive testimonies about the “escalating abduction, [coerced conversion](#) and forced marriage of Coptic Christian women and girls in Egypt.” Earlier in 2009, the Christian Solidarity International and the Coptic Foundation for Human Rights had jointly commissioned an investigation into the cases of Islamic forced conversions in that country. One of the attorneys interviewed during the Investigation indicated that as many as a thousand ladies forcefully converted to Islam in recent years, have initiated petitions to have their Christian identities restored.

The report of the Investigation (available [here](#)) describes the common pattern of Islamic abductions-cum -forced conversions:

“Most cases referenced in this report began with a trusting relationship that ultimately led to disappearance or abduction and finally marriage to a Muslim man and conversion to Islam. These friendships may include a school friend or peer; an older woman who fills the role of a mother figure, a Muslim boyfriend, or a benevolent provider. These relationships offer a sense of belonging, camaraderie and emotional as well as financial support. In some cases, they also provide vital services and tangible forms of assistance in the case of need. These supposed new friends exploit the vulnerability of young Coptic women for the purposes of forced marriage and conversion...”

All these elements are clearly visible in the current case of Charity Uzoechina.

Another report cited by the catholic news agency contains similar details. According to the report, “The individuals interviewed also said that the disappearances are the result of ‘organized and systematic planning.’ They often involve attempts to befriend victims, or else use force and fraud. Abductors target vulnerable young women... They physically separate these women from their families and proceed to abuse, threaten and brainwash them.” <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/hearing-outlines-forced-marriages-conversions-in-egypt/>

Clearly there is nothing original in all the drama scripts currently being played out at the palace of the Etsu Nupe in Bida as regards Charity

Uzoechina. It’s just a crude copy mainly from Egypt! And on this note, we again wish to emphatically warn the Christian community in Nigeria that the perpetrators of this grand evil have no intention of stopping any soon unless they are forcefully confronted and stopped. As far as they are concerned, they have virtually no other hope of getting people to embrace Islam other than these foul, despicable means.

In 2007, we reported the case of Victor Udo Usen, a Christian boy who had gone missing in November 2006 in Sokoto; but was later spotted in the house of a moslem neighbor several months later. Shame of a nation, rather than the abductors being charged, they piously claimed the 13 year old boy, whom they had renamed Abdulkarim, had chosen to convert to Islam. He could therefore not be released back to his infidel parents! Even the police and state security, when contacted, could only counsel that the parents appeal to the Sultan of Sokoto that their child be kindly released to them! (See CA! Vol 10 No 2). What then is kidnapping?

At that time we noted that Christian leaders were reporting that abductions “of boys and girls by Islamists” in Northern states of Nigeria are now becoming “increasingly common”. As the case of Charity and the several other ladies of unknown identities currently swarming around the Etsu Nupe’s palace indicate, there is no end in sight to this kind of situation.

Of course if Charity or anyone else wishes to become moslems, (or pagans for that matter) they should be free to do so. Yes, free to move around and not be locked up in an emir’s enclave. Of course moslems who also wish to become Christians should also be similarly free to do so and continue to move freely in society. That’s what civility is all about, and all religions MUST subscribe to this basic fundamental human right!

The really sorry aspect of all these nauseating stories is the countless Christian lives that have been wasted in Northern Nigeria on the charge that they attempted to convert Moslems to Christianity. Popular cases highlighted by CA! included the 20 year old Christian lady who in the same Niger state as the case of Charity, was forcibly removed from the Police Station at Izom where she had sought protection, and brutally murdered in cold blood on Wednesday June 28, 2006 – all because she shared Gospel tracts with willing moslem youths. (see CA! Vol 9 No 4). Also at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi in December 2004, the President of the campus fellowship of Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA), Sunday Ezekiel Achi was murdered near the University mosque for the

mortal sin of leading the distribution of some gospel tracts on the campus! (See CA! Vol 8 No 2).

Now, in the same country, so-called respectable moslem clergy and traditional rulers are claiming that they have not only effected the conversion of the daughter of a christian pastor to Islam, they proudly announced that they have commissioned people to be teaching her the basics of Islam as well as arranging a number of suitors to take her in marriage!

This is not a case just for the Christian Association of Nigeria – who under the current leadership of Pastor Ayo Oritsajefor is already doing a yeoman’s job. Unfortunately, for so many Christians in authority (politics, business, etc), the people who should speak out for their brothers and sisters, life is all about concessions and compromises. Until Christians in positions of authority decide to arise, and stop making silly selfish concessions to moslems, we are not likely to see too soon an



end to these sort of Islamic supremacist feelings. Christian legislators, ministers, captains of industry etc should remember the words of Mordecai to an initially reticent Esther: “For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father’s house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? “ - **Esther 4:14**

For a detailed account of Islamic forced conversions, please read Raymond Ibrahim’s article at <http://frontpagemag.com/2013/raymond-ibrahim/islamic-forced-conversions-past-and-present/>

Furthermore, for a graphic demonstration of the sad reality of sadistic Islamic forced conversions, see the video at [this link](#) showing a Coptic Christian girl, from a wealthy family, being kidnapped, stripped and abused by a group of Muslims in Egypt. According to the group “[Free Copts](#)” who provided the video, the plan was to blackmail the lady into marrying the moslem man she had been videoed completely naked with. They also threatened her with the same fate as had befallen another girl not far away, a girl who had been raped by 8 Muslim men, murdered, and had her body dumped in a nearby graveyard. The police and the prosecuting authority let those eight men go free.

<http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2013/02/shock-video-shows-sexual-abuse-and-forced-conversion-of-coptic-christian-girl-in-egypt/>

CA! AT ICR (continued from Page 1)

It was a great privilege joining the ICR family at devotion, and being treated to a comprehensive tour of the facility by amiable Dr Jake Hebert – meeting several famous personalities whose articles and research works I had fed on for over a decade. A further confirmation of the Lord’s ordering of these events was the rescheduling of Dr Jake Hebert’s “brown paper” presentation on the Ice Ages. This premiere presentation, as it were, was shifted back a day, and was presented on the day of my visit. Not only did I have the privilege of listening to a most educative, witty, and fascinating presentation on the Ice ages, I also had the rare opportunity of seeing the ICR at work, as invaluable critiques were made to the presentation - starting from John Morris himself. I probably had a semester-worth of learning in those 2 -3 hours!

I also had physical tangible blessings to show for the trip. In a true Christian spirit, I was loaded with a number of latest resources from the ICR. (see the blog version of this article to see a list of the resources –

<http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2013/08/ca-visits-institute-for-creation.html>)

It is my intention to donate all these resources to jumpstart a Campus Christian Creation Society on the Obafemi Awolowo University. Interested students (and staff!), particularly from such fields as Geology, Philosophy, Physics, Theology, etc where various forms of the dubious evolution theory is being forced down students’ throats as fact, should please see me for further details. To learn more about the multi-dimensional ministries of the ICR, please visit www.icr.org

Quick Ministry Links

For strategic prayer points for Nigeria, from Intercessors for Africa, West Africa Coordinator, visit this site:

<http://lists.xcomputer.net/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/watchmen>

For updates on efforts by Nigerian-American Christians to fight the menace of Boko Haram, as well as provide succour for the victims, visit this site <http://www.cananusa.org/>

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Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. Mark 13:33
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Christians Face “Disproportionate Violence and Abuse” in Syria

As the intractable war in Syrian continues to rage, an aid and advocacy group, Open Doors International, has warned that the country's minority Christians are becoming victims of "disproportionate violence and abuse" in a war that has claimed as many as 100,000 lives.

The alert is coming at a time when Worthy News is reporting(July 5) that Free Syrian Army militants have carried out yet another massacre on a Christian community in Syria. According to the reports, about 350 armed militants forcefully entered the homes in the Christian village of al-Duwayr/Douar, close to the city of Homs (near Syria's border with Lebanon) where family members were all rounded-up in the main square of the village and then summarily executed.(see [Free Syrian Army Massacre Christian Village](#)). Similarly, a catholic priest, Francois Murad, was publicly beheaded by Islamic militants in northern Syria on the accusation that he was collaborating with President Bashar Assad's government. The slaughtering which was watched by dozens of people, including children, frenetically chanting Allahu Akbar, was captured on video and posted on the Internet. (for details, see [Syria Militants Behead Catholic Priest And Two Others](#))

Exodus International Backtracks on Homosexuality!

The end times are here, and if anyone still doubts how close we are to the finish line, the 'U turn' recently made by Exodus international should be a clear eye-opener! For 37years, the Exodus International has been one of the foremost organizations highlighting the unprofitableness of homosexuality, and offering to help ex-gays live not just a healthy sex-life, but a holy one. The organization is famous for its slogan that the opposite of homosexuality is not heterosexuality, but rather holiness.

Now Exodus international (current Board membership, that is), is saying it has been making a mistake all along in condemning homosexuality, and that homosexuals should just go ahead with their lifestyle! On his blog, on 19th June, President of Exodus International, Alan Chambers, profusely apologized to homosexuals for the past activities of the Organization, and recanting, said though he still considers the practice of homosexuality as wrong, he has come to realize there is nothing wrong with having same-sex attraction. Chambers said he was sorry for so many things. Basically he was sorry and ashamed of the Gospel. For instance he said: "I am sorry that when I celebrated a person coming to Christ and surrendering their sexuality to Him that I

callously celebrated the end of relationships that broke your heart." In short, Mr Chambers is apologizing for causing godly sorrows which indeed led to repentance and positive change in people! Henceforth, rather than try to help people change their sexual orientation, Mr Chambers said the new organization they are starting will seek to help people "manage" it one way or another

In a statement posted on its website, Exodus International's board of directors said the decision to close the doors of the ministry came "after a year of dialogue and prayer about the organization's place in a changing culture." Many observers noted that Exodus International had been losing big funding partners in recent years, and Mr Alan Chambers had become increasingly inconsistent and confused.

Speaking on the development, Russel Moore, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention said: "I think there's a tendency to see Exodus folding as a parable of Christian capitulation and ethic, that is not what's happening. Instead what you have is an organization that has some confusion about its mission and purpose.... What is not happening here, is an evangelical revision of a biblical sexual ethic." <http://articles.latimes.com/2013/jun/21/local/la-me-0621-exodus-international-gays-20130621>.

One of the lively comments on the closing up of Exodus International, as reported by Christianity Today, was from one James Aist. Mr Aist wrote: "My initial withdrawal of support for Exodus came last year when Chambers embraced a re-worked, gay version of an ancient heresy called 'antinomianism.' The gay version, called the "gay gospel", holds that one can be a Christian, never turn away from the sin of homosexual behavior, and still enjoy eternity in heaven with Jesus. Satan is using the "gay gospel" to get Christians who are homosexual to continue to practice homosexuality, feel good about it, and end up in hell, rather than repent of it. Read more about the "gay gospel" at <http://rethinkingtheology.com/2012/12/16/the-gay-gospel/> that there are still hundreds of ministries and therapists who adhere to a Bible-based approach to providing help for dissatisfied homosexual people. You can link to them at <http://rethinkingtheology.com/2012/07/11/homosexuality-good-news/>"

Unfortunately, this turn around by Exodus is only the latest of key conservative groups caving in to the intense pressure from by the antichrist's new world order goons. The other time, it was Dr James Dobson being forced out of Focus on the Family, largely due to his unwillingness to soft-pedal on homosexuality (<http://churcharise.blogspot.com/2010/03/james-dobson-forced-out-from-focus-on.html>). To continue

with the work God had called him into, Dr Dobson had to leave the organization he had started and ran for 33 years to start a brand new one; while the old Focus on the Family turned into a shadow of itself – chiefly with respect to view on homosexuality and abortion.

Let nobody think it a child play, the enormous pressure being asserted by new sexuality people on organizations opposed to their evil agenda! Months earlier, some Board members of Exodus International, seeing the handwriting on the wall as their president began to make ambivalent statements concerning homosexuality, began to quietly jump ship. For instance, John Warren the former treasurer, in resigning on September 6, 2012 said as sad and disappointed as he was, he still understood the enormous pressure that brought down his president. In his words: *"I believe that Alan Chambers is a good man with good intentions. It is his messaging that concerned me recently and prompted me to resign....Alan is in an extremely difficult position, and I don't want to disparage him"* A few days earlier, Jeff Buchanan also had resigned his position as executive vice president .

(<http://www.christianpost.com/news/exodus-board-member-resigns-cites-concerns-over-chambers-comments-81305/#EXeVDYaQ0vi4B7Po.99>)

We can identify two major weaknesses exploited by the enemy to bring down Exodus International. First was its resolve to use man-made solution, the so-called reparative therapy, as the principal means of securing deliverance from homosexuality. Other prominent organizations helping ex-homosexuals who see the problem as more of a spiritual problem are having far better results than the now defunct Exodus International. Indeed, according to John Warren, several other ministries under the Exodus Global Alliance are producing excellent results in the work in helping ex-homosexuals to exit a destructive lifestyle

The weakness of Exodus' proffered solution for dealing with homosexuality, with the resulting failures and disappointments, contributed to the frustration of Mr Chambers, who in admitting to the failure of reparative therapy, unfortunately concluded that there is no hope of (and consequently no need for) dropping the homosexual lifestyle. He consequently adjusted his theology to fit in this position. Stoking this sad belief was Chamber's close interaction and sympathy for Justin Lee, founder of the Gay Christian Network. It was on account of Alan Chamber's comments on Mr Lee, that John Warren felt he had to resign his Board position on Exodus. In an interview with Janet Mefferd, Chambers had insisted that Lee, a celibate but foremost advocate for homosexuality, is a fellow

Christ follower, and will be with him in heaven. An incredulous Janet Mefferd demanded of Chambers: "If you believe that you have to turn from your sin and turn to Christ ... how can you simultaneously hold that somebody who is an unrepentant homosexual can go to heaven?"

In the novel Piercing the Darkness, Frank Perretti, graphically demonstrated the enormous societal pressure on American Christians who are forbidden to identify demon possession among people. Without a correct diagnosis, how can the appropriate remedy, deliverance in the name of the Lord Jesus, be applied? The Bible explicitly says that intense demon possession will characterize the end times, just like it happened in the days of Noah, when demonic entities came down to copulate with human beings. Numerous evidences from both victims of homosexuality, desperately seeking a way out, and the Pastors who ministered to them, make it abundantly clear that homosexuality falls squarely within the realm of this phenomenon.

Founded in 1976, Exodus was an [umbrella organization](#) which grew to include over 120 local ministries in the [United States](#) and [Canada](#) and over 150 ministries in 17 other countries.^[7] While local affiliated ministries can continue to operate, they cannot use the Exodus name, according to a statement from the group. <http://abcnews.go.com/US/exodus-international-gay-cure-group-leader-shutting-ministry/story?id=19446752>

And two new ex-gays associations emerge

A day prior to the announcement by Exodus International that it was folding, an announcement for the First Annual Ex-Gay Pride Month, was released. To be launched as part of the Month are two new organizations to advocate for the rights of former homosexuals – Voice of the Voiceless (VoV), and Equality and Justice for All.

According to the June 17 Press release issued by Voice of the Voiceless, the Ex-Gay Pride will be a "time to recognize the unique experiences of ex-gays and former homosexuals and celebrate their existence in American culture." The VoV further explained that the timing of the Ex-Gay Pride was strategically planned for "July, after June's annual gay pride month, in order to draw attention to the ever-increasing phenomenon of ex-gays or former homosexuals; that is, individuals who formerly had unwanted same-sex attractions and/or lived an LGBT-identified life, but now do not. These individuals may be in heterosexual relationships, pursuing heterosexuality, or living celibate lives as former homosexuals."

The existence of ex-gays is the ultimate bad news for the Gay Lobby. All their arguments of homosexuality feelings being akin to the colour of

one's skin fall flat in the face of tens of thousands real people who once practiced homosexuality, but have now successfully come out of it! The VoV therefore did not think the powerful gay lobby would fold its hands and watch the Ex-Gay Pride events take place. In fact, according to press notes, one reason why organizers chose Washington DC as the venue of "at least one event" during the Ex-Gay Pride Month, is "Because Washington, DC is the only jurisdiction that recognizes ex-gays as a protected class against discrimination in the United States" and thus likely to provide "a safe place to gather and celebrate free from any threat of intimidation."

They were wrong! By July 12, the VoV had to announce a change in the programmes "due to some anti-ex-gay extremism that has occurred since we first announced Ex-Gay Pride 2013." According to the release, "the July 31 Lobbying Day on Capitol Hill and Evening Dinner/Reception at the Family Research Council has had to be moved and postponed to an undisclosed location in September. The harassment has caused several security threats which has forced us to change plans, and that is unfortunate."

The VoV is taking a positive attitude to all the harassment from the Gay Lobby. The announcement continued: "On the bright side, this harassment and anti-ex-gay extremism has reminded us just how intolerant some individuals and organizations are about the existence of ex-gays and former homosexuals."

The VoV had tried to seek the involvement of the White House in the ex-Gay Pride, via a Presidential Proclamation, as has been "issued in previous years, including this year, for June's Gay Pride Month". This must certainly be some joke on the part of VoV, given Obama's unhidden absolute support for the homosexuality lobby. Despite its claim to represent "tens of thousands of former homosexuals" and the fact that "former homosexuals are now recognized as a legally protected class in Washington, D.C.", VoV efforts drew a blank from White House Officials. In a letter written directly to President Obama on June 18, the VoV began:

"Dear Mr. President, Our office has left multiple voice messages for the White House Office of Public Engagement."

It went on to request for discussion with relevant officials on the issue of "tolerance for the ex-gay community and how The White House can ensure equal access for ex-gays in the nation's capital, which is the only jurisdiction that recognizes ex-gays as a legally protected class."

The unofficial response was the series of intimidation and security threats that forced the change in date and venue of the events! In offering

its apologies to attendees for the shift, the Voice of the Voiceless emphasized the security situation:

"For all of our supporters that have made travel plans to attend the July 31 event, we sincerely apologize for having to change plans, but we thought it was in the best interest to ensure the safety and security of all participants and speakers."

Meanwhile, all that is heard on mainstream media is how homosexuals are being persecuted with no mention of the ex-homosexual minority! (For related materials, please see the Exhortation in this edition of CA!)

Sensational Soccer Scorelines in Nigeria:

79 – 0; 67 – 0!

While a suspect was being arrested in Milan on allegations of [Soccer Match-fixing](http://www.voanews.com/content/soccer-matchfixing-suspect-arrested-in-milan/1607824.html) (<http://www.voanews.com/content/soccer-matchfixing-suspect-arrested-in-milan/1607824.html>) authorities in Nigeria were completely perplexed as to who to arrest or punish when results of two soccer matches played produced outrageous scorelines of 79 – 0 and 67 – 0, respectively! The last two games that would determine which team moves into the fifth tier of the Nigerian football league were played simultaneously at two different centres, to prevent the outcomes from influencing one another. However, the team managers from the two teams competing for elevation monitored match progress at the other venue by phone, and the result was a shameful, all-decorum-dumped race to outscore the other team, producing those record-breaking scorelines! (see an account here: <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/07/11/sport/football/football-nigeria-scandalous-scorelines>). Ironically, one of the teams represents the Nigerian Police!

The same principle of doing all that is necessary, damning decency, to outscore the opponent was also shamefully displayed in the Rivers State legislature where honorable members resulted to a free-for-all fight that was televised nationally. (see some details and video at www.toksdam.com/2013/07/09/video-rivers-state-house-of-assembly-legislators-in-gang-fighting-jumping-each-other/)

Worst of all is the on-going repetition of this same principle in the lives of multitudes of individuals who continue to pursue certain passions of life as if the Maker of Heavens and Earth is either non-existent or fast asleep. According to the Scriptures, all who live such lives are fools and they can look forward to shame as the promotion they seek (Proverbs 3:35)

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. Rev 22:12

EXHORTATION / TOPICAL ISSUE: RECIPE FOR LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY

At the close of my Inaugural Lecture which broadly addressed the issue of public health and environmental concerns, I was able, by God's grace, to smuggle in a few paragraphs on what I called "even more weightier issues" The extract:

The original name for Physics was Natural Philosophy, and often, physicists draw inspiration from the physical world into other aspects of living. Indeed, one of the basic axioms of the scientific method (attributed to Francis Bacon) is that nature is unified, implying that paradigms can be transferred across different areas of nature. I crave the indulgence of this august audience to share one major insight I have gained from my studies in Biological Trace Elements Research.

This is the two-sided composite worldview that trace indeed does matter, and that we must nevertheless be holistic in our outlook. As the saying goes, not straining out gnats while swallowing camels!

Everyday illustrations of this concept abound. Explaining why he was not going to invite some notable stars with character flaws into his team for the 2013 African Cup of Nations, Stephen Okechukwu Keshi, coach of the Super Eagles, the eventual winners of the Cup explained, and I paraphrase, "you don't need all the best individual players to get the best team". That's vintage holistic reasoning! Similarly, the Lord Jesus Christ in the Bible says: **"I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly"** (John 10:10b). Life more abundantly speaks of life in all its ramifications. A holistically well-balanced life, rather than some narrow-minded pursuit of one-sided "success".

In human health, environment, and all of life, we must learn to keep an eye on the whole; while noting the tremendous influence (positive or negative) of some minor/trace issues. For instance, as has been clearly expounded [by others], cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and several such very weighty issues, might as well be outrightly preventable by such relatively light efforts as regular exercise and consumption of diets free of excessive fats but enriched with anti-oxidants. However there is little value in going to extremes in one area (say diet) while we remain sloppy with another (say, unnecessary exposure to microwave radiation through continued abuse of the GSM phone). These are very weighty issues, but we can extrapolate this worldview to even weightier matters in the society.

Inductively applied to the weightier socio-political issues currently topical in our Society, my twin-postulate will look like this: The majority must recognize and respect minority rights, yet it must be done in a holistic manner. Take for instance the hot issue of homosexuality. In my opinion the big issue with homosexuality is not so much the act itself, but the vociferous advocacy for it. The miniscule minority of gay advocates insist that homosexuality is no longer a private matter between individuals, but the public (particularly our children and vulnerable youths) must be taught about it; and recruited, even coerced into it. However they, at the same time, insist on denying this same basic right of advocacy to the other minority in the gay issue - that is ex-homosexuals! The response of the gay advocacy group to anybody who would claim to have found the homosexual lifestyle horrific and has decided to come out of it is predictable. In Europe and North America ex-gays are endlessly and crudely pilloried, harassed and gagged. Any support for them is labeled homophobic and could attract stiff jail terms! One lesson from this lecture is that while we should embrace minorities, it must be done holistically!

The same analysis can of course be applied to other pressing issues in our country today including Boko Haram and Niger Delta insurgencies.

Ladies and gentlemen, let me conclude this lecture with a prayer that we all experience and enjoy life more abundantly, even as we pay holistic attention to the trace matters of life.

Joshua Ojo.

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