

Women's Federation for World Peace

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The **Women's Federation for World Peace** (WFWP) is an organization whose stated purpose is to encourage women to work more actively in promoting peace in their communities and greater society.^[1] It was founded in 1992 by Hak Ja Han, the wife of Unification Church founder Sun Myung Moon, and is supported by the church. It has members in 143 countries.^{[1][2][3]}



Han has traveled the world speaking at conventions on its behalf.^[4] In 1993 the Women's Federation for World Peace held a conference in Tokyo, Japan at which the keynote speaker was former U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's wife Marilyn Tucker Quayle, and in a speech at the event Han spoke positively of Mrs. Quayle's humanitarian work.^[5]

In 1993 Han traveled to 20 cities in the United States promoting Women's Federation for World Peace,^[6] as well as to 12 countries.^[1] At a stop in Salt Lake City, Utah she told attendants: "If a family is not centered on God's ideal of love, there will be conflict among the members of that family. Without God's love as an absolute center, such a family will ultimately break down. A nation of such families will also decline."^[6] Her 1993 speeches in the United States focused on increasing violence in the U.S., and the degradation of the family unit.^[7]

In 1995 the Women's Federation for World Peace generated controversy when it indirectly contributed \$3.5 million to help Liberty University which at that time was in financial difficulty. This was reported in the United States news media as an example of closer relationships between the Unification Church and conservative Christian congregations.^[8]

Han hired former United States president George H. W. Bush to deliver several speeches for the Women's Federation for World Peace in several cities in Japan in 1995,^{[9][10]} as well as at a related conference in Washington D.C.. There he was quoted by the *New York Times* as saying: "If as president I could have done one thing to have helped the country more it would have been to do a better job in finding a way, either through speaking out or through raising a moral standard, to strengthen the American family."^[11]

The event in Japan drew protests from Japanese people who were wary of unorthodox religious groups. Bush's spokesperson Jane Becker stated "We were satisfied that there was not a connection with the Unification Church, and based on the information we were given we felt comfortable speaking to this group."^[12] 50,000 people attended Bush's speech in Tokyo.^[13] The theme of the talks was "family values".^[9] In the half-hour speech, Bush said "what really counts is faith, family and friends". Bush also spoke on the importance of the relationship between Japan and the United States and its importance for world peace.^[14] Han spoke after Bush's speech and praised Moon, crediting him for the decline of communism and saying that he must save America from "the destruction of the family and moral decay."^{[14][15]}

In 1999 the Women's Federation for World Peace sponsored a conference in Malaysia in which religious and government leaders spoke on the need to strengthen education and support families, as well as the need for peace and understanding between ethnic and racial groups in the nations.^[16] It has also been active in sponsoring various local charity and community events.^{[17][18]} In 2009 it co-sponsored, along with the Unification Church affiliated organization the Universal Peace Federation and the government of Taiwan, a conference in Taipei calling for Taiwan's greater participation in world affairs independent of the People's Republic of China. Taiwan's president, Ma Ying-jeou, spoke at the event.^[19]

External links

- Official site (<http://www.wfwp.org/wfwp/index.cfm>)
- Page on US Unification Church site (<http://www.familyfed.org/services/index.php?id=12>)

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