

SPEECHES AND LECTURES DELIVERED

BE THE CHANGE THAT YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD.

A good way to judge a man is by what He says. A better way is by what He does. The best way is what He gives. Elizabeth Bibesco said 'Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting'

Valedictory speech by: TPL. Niyi Olanipekun (RTP, MSC, MPA, MNITP, MNIM.) Chairman Nigerian Institute of Town Planners South West Forum.

Protocols.

QUOTE;

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past, the good old days were never that good, believe that, the good new days are today and better days are coming tomorrow, our greatest song are still unsung"-(Jefferson,1998.)

INTRODUCTION.

I give thanks to the Almighty God for preserving my life and that of members of this Institute to witness this occasion. I wish to appreciate the efforts of all the past Chairmen of our Noble Institute in the State, most especially the Pioneer Chairman Pa Tpl. S. O Fayomi, Prof. Tpl. Ogunjumo, Tpl. Okelola and the immediate past Chairman, Tpl Nathaniel Olatunji for their unalloyed support and contributions towards the success recorded by this Regime. I must say that they are all wonderful.

The journey started on the on the 15th day of January 2013 when I was first elected as the 9th Chairman of the Institute for the 1st term which was later renewed on 18th January, 2014 for the 2nd Term based on the outstanding performance of the entire EXCO.

I have to thank my Executive Council Members for their Selfless and purposeful service. They all served without any material or financial rewards, I believe that God will reward them accordingly as there is no labor without gain. They served under a very tight economic and stringent situation, carrying a gigantic project for implementation which God has purposed us to do. May God Almighty remember you for your good works and help you marvelously.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE.

Over two decades ago, the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, State of Osun was established after the carving out of Osun State out of the Old Oyo State. I salute the courage of the past chairmen of the Institute for their total commitment and contribution towards the progress and development of the Institute in the State over years of existence. Osun State Chapter has grown from membership size of 49 in 1991, 77 in 2003, 190 in 2010 to 310 members in 2015.

Through the years a lots of Changes have been introduced into the Institute at both the National and State chapters levels in the areas of Membership Admission, Administration and Management, Discipline and Election into various Posts / Offices.

When I was elected as the 9th chairman of the Institute, in my inauguration speech I made it abundantly clear that I will have no reason or excuse for not serving the Institute to the best of my ability and capability as I share the principle of thinking about thousands of reasons of doing things not reasons for not doing it. Also, I opined that I have the determination to succeed in projecting the image of the Institute in the face of intimidation, criticism and opposition. This has given me courage to perform with my 'Godly' team of Executive Council Members.

OUR MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY.

During the investiture and inauguration ceremony of the chairman and members of the Executive committee held on 6th February 2013 which was the first in the history of the state chapter; the name of the Institute came to limelight as the ceremony attracted dignitaries from all walks of life. Also, the Institute realized close to one million Naira through mini-fund raising for the Institute's Secretariat building.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE STATE NITP SECRETARIAT:

The foundation for the State Chapter Secretariat was laid on 4th April 2014 .To the Glory of God, the roofing of the project has been completed. I have to mention the support and assistance given by our past National Presidents and other Professional colleagues and friends who made our dream come to reality. These include; Tpl. Remi Makinde (fnitp) Tpl. Bunmi Ajayi(fnitp.) and Tpl. Waheed Kadiri (fnitp.) Tpl. Wasiu Abiola Anifowose(fnitp.) Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Lagos State, Tpl. Ayo Adediran (fnitp.), Tpl. Wole Akande, Tpl. Dele Akindele and our Professional colleague in Diaspora, Tpl. Bayo Adanri. For their donation towards the project.

However it should be noted that a substantial sum of money was realized during the Investiture ceremony of the outgoing Executive which was used to kick start the project. List of external Donors;

LECTURES AND SPEECHES DELIVERED.

On 3rd April 2014, a public lecture was delivered, during the Environmental Planning Students' Association week, urban and Regional planning Development, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. The Topic of the public lecture was Town Planning Profession; in the 21st century:- Prospects and Challenges. Also, another Lecture on **the need for the changing roles of planning professionals in curbing current physical planning challenges**, was delivered at the monthly meeting of the chapter held at Osun state college of technology, Esa oke, on 19th February, 2015.

GOODWILL MESSAGES AND MEMORANDA.

Goodwill Messages were delivered at the flag off of Oranmiyan New Town and memoranda presented during the Public hearing on Land Use Charges Bill and Urban and Regional Planning Bill 2015.

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS:

The chapter was adequately represented and recognized at all the National Council Meetings through the robust contributions and objective analysis of issues by the Chairman at the meetings.

ADMISSION OF NEW CORPORATE AND REGISTERED MEMBERS.

During the Regime under review, our Members increased from to 310 due to the New Image created for State Chapter through the activities and programmers of the Institute. A total number of 65 corporate Members were admitted while 63 become Registered Town Planners.

NATIONAL CONFERENCES.

Members of the chapter were fully represented at the last National Conference of the Institute held at Ilorin. We participated fully and effectively in all the proceedings during the National Conferences held at Lagos and Ilorin.

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PUBLICITY.

Our image in the Public has tremendously improved. Many of the activities of the Institute are featured in the Media. Also the Chairman has been engaged on many Television and Radio programmes such as Platform, Saturday morning Threat and others to discuss and enlighten members of the Public on issues relating to Physical **Planning** and the Institute.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

The monthly meetings were held at the scheduled time (3rd Thursday of every month) to deliberate on physical planning activities NITP. National activities and State Chapter programmers.

HEALTH TALK:

The Institute organized a **HEALTH TALK** during one of her monthly meetings at Egbedore Local Government, with the Theme: “**How to live a Healthy Life**”. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Tunde Afolabi of Emmanuel Medical Centre, Osogbo.

ACTIVITIES OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, SOUTH WEST FORUM.

Since the Chairman became the Chairman of the NITP South West Forum, He has built on the achievements of the immediate past Chairman of the Forum Tpl. Ayo Adediran who organized the South West strategic workshop for Regional integration held on 25th March 2014 at Airport Hotel, Ikeja Lagos. In the same vein, a special assembly of elders, past National NITP and TOPREC Presidents, TOPREC representatives, Chapters Chairmen and National officers from the South West, was convened on 12th June 2015 at sustainable Ibadan City project resource Center , Iyagangu GRA, Ibadan , Oyo State, to discuss and find solution to the lingering Problems between the NITP. and TOPREC. The Resolutions reached at the meeting spurred further discussions on the Issues of Tenure elongation, NITP Examination Board and MCPDP. Which the College of Fellow has deliberated upon and finally resolved by the NITP. National Council.

COURTESY VISITS TO THE HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PHYSICAL PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, LAGOS STATE AND OONI OF IFE.

The Chairman led delegation of NITP. South West Chapters’ Chairmen, Fellows and Elders from the South West to visit the Honourable Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development of Lagos State, Tpl. Wasiu Abiola Anifowose, on 7th December, 2015, to felicitate with Him on His recent appointment as Commissioner in Lagos State. A portrait on roller stand was presented to the Hon. Commissioner on behalf of the South West Forum.

The Institute also visited Ooni of Ife on 11th January 2015 to felicitate with him on His recent Installation as Ooni of Ife Land and presentation of Staff of office by the State Governor of State of Osun. During the visit, a customized portrait felicitation card was presented to the royal father on behalf of the Institute.

CHALLENGES.

Lack of Finance and commitment of some members are the major challenges facing the Institute. These nearly cripple most of the activities of the Chapter. Lack of Funds has hindered us to fully execute our Programmes and Vision.

ELECTION.

We should try to play a decent politic divulge of acrimony and bitterness. Election into various offices should be based on personal standing and integrity, passion and commitment to the Institute. Election should not be based on sentiment.

CONCLUSION.

“Everyone think of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself” Leo Tolstoy. We live in a society that loves to make excuses and one of our favorite phrases is “it is not my fault”. The truth is, if we are bitter and resentful, it is because we are allowing ourselves to remain that way.

Anyone can make excuses and blame the past for his or her attitudes, poor choices and hot temper. I heard somewhere that 70 percent of people today are angry about something. That means out of every ten people you encounter today, 7 will be angry, without counting the people who pass you on free way.

No man is rich enough to buy back his past. The past is always going to be the way it was. The more you look back, the less you will get ahead

Finally, Mea West said, “You only live once, but if you do it right once is enough. Let us change our attitude, let’s change our character and embrace the new changes in the World and in the planning profession.

BE THE CHANGE THAT YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD.

TOUGH Time never last but Tough People always do, because Tough People know that with Men it may appear impossible, but with GOD all things are possible.

Long live NITP.

Long Live State of Osun

Long Live Nigeria

I thank you all, God bless.

BEING THE WELCOME ADDRESS DELIVERED BY TPL. NIYI OLANIPEKUN (MNITP, RTP) THE STATE CHAIRMAN, NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS ON THE OCCASION OF THE FOUNDATION LAYING CEREMONY OF “THE PLANNERS HOUSE” HOLDING AT THE STATE OF OSUN G.R.A, GBONGAN ROAD ABERE, ON THE 4TH OF APRIL, 2014.

I have the great honour and pleasure to join all my members in welcoming you all to the foundation laying ceremony of “THE PLANNERS’ HOUSE” which will be the official secretariat of members of the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners in the State of Osun, holding here today at the State of Osun G.R.A, Gbongan road, Abere.

Permit me to specially welcome the Honourable Commissioner for Land’s Physical Planning and Urban Development, Architect OlumuyiwaIge. I am indeed grateful to him for his kind gesture in granting our Institute the waiver during land acquisition process.

So also, I recognize and welcome Overseer Peter Babalola, the Chairman local government service commission and his team.

I say welcome to my father and mentor Tpl. RemiMakinde (FNITP, PPNITP) who is here to perform the Foundation Laying Ceremony.

I equally welcome Tpl. Bunmi Ajayi (FNITP, PPNITP). All fellows here present, Chairman of other State chapters, Permanent Secretaries and Directors.

Thanks you all for creating time out of your very busy schedules to be with us at the special gathering , and I acknowledge unflinching support of all distinguished members of the Institute in our determined efforts toward realizing this noble goals, most especially the positive contributions of the past executive, which are parts of the success story today. I salute your courage and commitment at this juncture.

Moreover, as I said during my investiture ceremony, the passion to serve the institute and lift her image to the greater height remains the concern of the present executive, of which members have imbibed. To prove their commitment, members have started contributing money and building materials for the fulfillment of this great mission.

As we all know that things are very tough now in relation to the economy, but I always believe in Kunte Rockne statement that “when the going gets tough, the tough rise to the occasion, they win, they survive and come out on top, because Tough time never last but tough people do” so we have to put a lot of efforts in realizing the vision.

In the word of Nehemiah “so they said, let us rise up and build. Then they set their hand to this good work (Neh. 2:18b)

Finally, I solicit for your support and donations towards fulfillment of this golden mission. I pray that God almighty will strength us to surmount all challenges that may be placed on our ways and turn them to opportunities for us.

Thanks you all and God bless.

MY TASK AND MY MISSION: THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Being speech delivered by: TPL. Niyi Olanipekun (FTP, MSC, MPA,, MNIM) Chairman Nigerian Institute of Town Planners State of Osun Chapter, at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 29th January, 2015 at the Civil Service Club’s Hall G.R.A, Osogbo

Over two decades ago, the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, State of Osun was established after the carving out of Osun State out of the Old Oyo State. I salute the courage of the past chairmen of the Institute, most especially fellow Pa. S.O Fayomi for their total commitment and contribution towards the progress and development of the Institute in the State over years of existence.

When I was elected as the 9th chairman of the Institute, in my inauguration speech I made it abundantly clear that I will have no reason or excuse for not serving the Institute to the best of my ability and capability as I share the principle of thinking about thousands of reasons of doing things not reasons for not doing it. Also, I opined that I have the determination to succeed in projecting the image of the Institute in the face of intimidation, criticism and opposition.

All these have been my guiding principles since I assumed office, as I remain focused with the crop of dedicated members that formed the Executive committee we have achieved remarkably within this one year of our tenure.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

During the investiture and inauguration ceremony of the chairman and members of the Executive committee held on 6th February 2013 which was the first in the history of the state chapter; the name of the Institute came to limelight as the ceremony attracted dignitaries from all walks of life. Also, the Institute realized close to one million Naira through mini-fund raising for the Institute's Secretariat building.

(2) FOUNDATION LAYING CEREMONY OF THE INSTITUTE'S BUILDING: - This took place on 4th April 2014, under the able chairmanship of Fellow TPL. Remi Makinde (PPNITP), with Fellow TPL Bunmi Ajayi (PPNITP) and the Deputy Rector of Osun State College of Technology, Esa-Oke in attendance. The ceremony was well attended by Fellows of the Institute and members of the Institute from the federal and state ministries, Tertiary Institutions and Local Government Service. Tangible sum of money was realized during the ceremony. However, since this is one of the, major pledges made by this present Executive

Committee members that the phase one of our secretariat building will be completed before the end of this tenure, the structure has got to roofing stage and by God's grace our target shall be met. I have to thank those that have contributed materials and money for the construction of the project. I pray that God will reward you all accordingly.

(3) PUBLIC LECTURE

On 3rd April 2014, a public lecture was delivered by the chairman during the Environmental Planning Students' Association week, urban and Regional planning Development, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. The Topic of the public lecture was Town Planning Profession; in the 21st century:- Prospects and Challenges. A merit award was given to the chairman after the presentation of the lecture.

(4) NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, SOUTH WEST FORUM

The chapter has been participating fully in all the activities of the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners, South West forum, Members of the State chapter attended and contributed effectively at the NITP South West strategic plan for Regional integration workshop held on 25th March 2014 at Airport Hotel, Ikeja Lagos. Presently, the chairman of the State chapter is the chairman of the NITP South West FORUM

(5) NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS:

The chapter attended all the National Council Meetings held at Abuja, with robust contributions.

(6) INTERVIEW FOR NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

Interview was conducted for 35 corporate members some have been elected while we are still awaiting the result of some members.

(7) TOPREC INTERVIEW

The Town Planners Registration Council (TOPREC) through his representative in Osun State (fellow Sola, Gbadamosi) together with accredited committee members and officials from TOPREC office, Abuja, conducted interview for 30 intending registered Town Planners at University of Osun. The result of the interview have been complied and submitted for further action.

(8) NATIONAL CONFERENCE / ELECTION:

Members of the chapter were fully represented at the last National Conference of the Institute held at Golden Tulip Hotel, Lagos. We participated effectively during the election and won the post of National Treasurer for one our members, TPL. Femi Folaranmi

(9) MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AND COMMITMENTS

All the achievements listed above could not have been attained without the support and contribution of members, most especially the Executive Committee members and the various committee chairmen. They are all wonderful! Members have shown tremendous interest in the institute and they have been participating fully and actively in all programmes including monthly meetings.

(10) OSBC PLATFORM PROGRAMMES

The investiture ceremony led to the invitation of the chairman by the Osun State Broadcasting Corporation to appear on Platform (an OSBC Current Affairs programme) on three occasions to discuss issues relating to Urban Planning activities in the state most importantly, the urban renewal project of the state Government. This was attended by other Executive members and the programme were well publicized.

(11) FOCUS / NEWSTALK: The chapter sponsored FOCUS on Osun State Radio Broadcasting Radio station on 6th November to commemorate the World Town Planning Day with the Theme: constitution implementation – Towards integrated planning.

Finally, according to Frantz Fanon *“what matters, is not to know the world, but to change it as each generation must discover its mission, fulfill it or betray it in relative capacity”*. We have the **HOPE** enough to keep our heart looking forward, we have the **COMMITMENT** enough not to give up and we have the strength enough to **BATTLE** obstacles and overcome them.

By the grace of God we shall all get to our Promised Land.

Long live the great planners of State of Osun

Long Live State of Osun

Long Live Nigeria

I thank you all

THE PLANNING PROFESSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

Being Paper Presented By Tpl 'Niyi Olanipekun (MNITP, RTP, MNIM), Chairman, Nigerian Institute Of Town Planners State Of Osun Chapter, At The Annual Lecture Series Of The Environmental Planning Students' Association (EPSA), Urban And Regional Planning Department, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, State of Osun, On Thursday 3rd April, 2014

Protocol

INTRODUCTION

The future of urban planning has been the object of lively debate in recent years. For long time, urban planning was considered as inefficient tool, unable to address development effectively. However, renewed attention to urban planning has recently emerged. Shifting dramatically from its initial ambition to command control of the city. Planning has started reassessing itself in the new context of urbanization.

In many cities around the world:

Urbanization has become synonymous with slum formation.

A global environmental crisis under climate change is questioning the development model planning has been promoting across the world.

The global financial crisis questions the market suitability to drive development and take care of public interest.

Urban planning must recognize these changes and develop new approaches to tackle the challenges facing cities.

In 2006 at the Third World Urban Forum in Vancouver, the planning profession took a leading role in reinventing the way in which it functions. Examples of good planning

practices from all over the world, including approaches based on innovative land ownership, public space up keeping, soft mobility and slum integration were brought to the forefront. Discussions also highlighted the fact that legislative and policy reform must be accompanied by capacity building and project-based support. The paper 'Reinventing Planning' was widely accepted by planners from all continents. Its 10 Principles define the 'added value' of the New Urban Planning.

Principles of New Urban Planning:

Promote sustainable development

Achieve integrated planning

Integrate plans with budgets

Plan with partners and stakeholder

Meet the subsidiary principle

Promote market responsiveness

Ensure access to land

Develop appropriate planning tools

Be pro-poor and inclusive

Recognize cultural diversity

UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES OF URBANIZATION

The 2009 Global Report on Human Settlement 'Planning Sustainable Cities' identifies the factors shaping 21st century cities as:

The environmental challenges of climate change and cities' dependence on fossil fuels.

The demographic challenge of rapid urbanization (particularly the growth of small and medium size cities), and the youth bulge, as the increasing multicultural composition of cities.

The economic challenges linked to the uncertainty of future economic growth, the new doubts on market-led approaches and the expanding informality of urban activities.

The challenges linked to social and spatial inequality, urban sprawl and unplanned urbanization.

The challenges and opportunities of increasing democratization, awareness of social and economic rights and consequent political renegotiation of power.

Although these challenges are global, their impacts are mainly urban, and the local environment context, culture and economic basis in each city and community shape to a large extent their impact on the local living conditions.

HOW DO WE COPE WITH THESE CHALLENGES ?

An urban planner or city planner is a professional who works in the field of urban planning / land use planning for the purpose of optimizing the effectiveness of a community's land use and infrastructure. They formulate plans for the development and management of urban and suburban areas, typically analyzing land use compatibility as well as economic, environmental and socio trends. In developing their plan for a community (whether commercial, residential, agricultural, natural or recreational), urban planners must also consider a wide array of issues such as sustainability, air pollution, traffic congestion, crime, land values, legislation and Zoning codes.

The importance of the urban planner is increasing through the 21st century, as we begin to face issues of increased population growth, climate change and unsustainable development. An urban planner could be considered as a green collar profession.

Urban planners are usually hired by developers, private property owners, private planning firms and local / regional government to assist in the large-scale planning of communal and commercial developments, as well as public facilities and transportation systems. Urban planners in the myriad web of the community's political environment. Related disciplines include regional, city, environmental, transportation, housing, community and cultural planning.

WHO IS A TOWN PLANNER?

Those wishing to be a Town Planner in Nigeria must have any of the following qualifications:

A degree in Urban and Regional Planning from an Institution recognized by Nigeria Institute of Town Planners (NITP).

A Professional Diploma or post graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning from any Institution recognized by NITP.

A pass in the final professional Examination of the NITP.

In addition to the above (i-iii), he must possess two year of post qualification supervised experience.

Course leading to the award of the qualification specified in (i) and (ii) above must have been accredited by the Town Planners Registration Council (TOPREC)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TOWN PLANNERS

Town Planners can work in the following areas:

Local Government Council / Local Planning Authorities.

Regional Agencies like River Basin Development Authorities

Government Agencies (e.g. Housing Corporations, Mass Transportation Companies, Directorate for Food, Road infrastructure, National Population Commission, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) e.t.c.

Federal and State Ministries directly responsible for physical planning matters, Housing, Lands, Environment and those whose activities have planning implications like ministry of Education, Agriculture, Water, Resources, Communication and Health.

Universities, Polytechnics/ Colleges Technologies and Agencies governing them E.g. National University Commission and National Board for Technical Education.

Financial Establishments like banks and Insurance Companies

Property Development Firms e.g. Federal Mortgage Bank

Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Manufacturer Association of Nigeria

Research and Large Agricultural Institutes like (IITA)

Private Consulting Firm and Individuals.

Oil Companies, Producers and Marketers.

Television, Newspaper and Magazine Publishing House.

WHAT DOES THE TOWN PLANNER DO?

Forty seven years of our existence as professional Institute has made it manifest that we are the professionals who:

Determine the use of Land for present and future needs.

Helps Government to plan ahead.

Carry out development control in towns, cities and rural areas.

Advise Government on community needs as we are conversant with their ways of life as insiders.

Preparation of physical layout of communities.

Make proposal and initiate policies calculated to make life comfortable and worth living.

The significant of planning includes prevention of urban decay, degeneration and urban sprawl and maximizing the use of land to foster beauty, orderliness, safety and functionalism among competing land uses that will generate economic wellbeing, health, security and a satisfactory living environment.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

With diversification and changes to the planning scene, a planner's scope of work have also underwent changes. Interestingly, there is a trend towards the increasing specialization of planners. The list includes, but is not limited to:

Economic development planning.

Environmental Planning

Geographic Information System

Infrastructure Planning

International Development

Metropolitan Planning

Neighborhood Planning

Open Space/ Recreation Planning

Park Planner

Planning Barrister

Advocacy and Social / Community Planning

Statutory Planning

Strategic Urban Planning

Tourism Planner

Transportation Planning

Urban Design / Urban Planning

All planners deal with land use, space and place, but provide different viewpoints towards the planning of the built environment. For instance, in planning for a neighborhood center, the economic development planner would suggest locations that are economically viable and would be subjected to a steady flow of potential customers. He or she would analyze statistics and projections like the floor-space needed, where the customers are to drawn from, location of competitors and so forth.

THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS (NITP) AND TOWN PLANNERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL (TOPREC)

NITP MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

YEARS	MEMBERS
1983	280
1985	304
1994	556
1997	776
2007	1589
2013	Less than 4,000

Source: NITP Abuja

The Nigeria Institute of Town Planners (NITP) founded in 1966 is the professional body that regulates the practice of the Town Planning profession in Nigeria. In the last forty seven years, the Nigeria Institute of Town Planner has been doing its best to improve the quality of Town Planning profession in the country. Its membership (Excluding Graduate Members) rose from 280 in 1983 to 1589 in 2007 and presently we have less than 4,000 members of NITP. The Institute has many committees and boards that handled different aspects of the Institute functions for the achievement of the NITP objectives in addition, conferences and meetings are held on continuous basis to articulate the Institute views on typical issues on Town and Country planning in Nigeria.

Presently, Nigeria, with an estimated population of over 140 million people has less than 3,000 professionally qualified Town Planners. This number is grossly inadequate by any known standard in the world giving the undoubting physical planning problems earlier mentioned. However, there are a good numbers of indigenous qualified town planners who are presently unemployed. This phenomenon can be described as the ‘paradox of unemployed planners in a country where there is an acute shortage of town planners. The apparent paradox can be explained by the low priority given to physical planning, and the state of our Economy.

TOPREC MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

YEAR	NUMBER
2004	1328
2008	1717
2013	2793

APPOINTMENT OF TOWN PLANNERS BY GOVERNMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES

S/N	INSTITUTION/AGENCY	NUMBER OF PLANNER EMPLOYED
1	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife	No Response
2	Osun State College of , Esa-Oke	6
3	Osun State Polytechnic, Iree	3
4	Osun State University	8
5	Capital Territory Development Authority (CTDA)	2
6	Min.of Lands,Physical Planning and Urban Development.	5
7	Osun State Property Development State Property Corporation (OSPBC)	3
8	Local Government Service	65
	TOTAL	92

Source: field survey 2014

THE ASSOCIATION OF TOWN PLANNING CONSULTANTS (ATOPCON)

Another very important professional association is the Association of Town Planning Consultants of Nigeria (ATOPCON), which seeks to promote and protect the interests of urban and regional planning consultants in the country.

Its Growth

Ogunleye (2010) observed that one of the best things that have happened to the profession of urban and regional planning in Nigeria is the formation of the Association of Town Planning Consultants of Nigeria (ATOPCON). The conception of the Association was in the

early nineties when some elders of the profession in private practice in Lagos came together to form what was later referred to as ATOPCON. It is worthy to note that this group of practitioners had a clear view of what they wanted at the inception. Their mission was to strengthen the practice of urban and regional planning profession by building a virile team of practitioners that is capable of delivering services that are comparable with those of urban planners anywhere in the world. The Association is made up of firms that offer town planning consultancies.

Two decades after, the Association has grown steadily. From membership strengthen of less than 15 members “pre – 2000, the Association membership has increased to 73 in 2011.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH OF ATOPCON 1995 - 2011

YEAR	NO
1995	15
2000	18
2005	35
2010	65
2011	73

Sources: ATOPCON REGISTER

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT: NITP, TOPREC, ATOPCON AND OTHERS

As noted earlier, the relationship between the three bodies- NITP, TOPREC and ATOPCON has continuously been strengthened. For example, the three organizations have collaborated in many regards. The most feasible area of co-operation has been in the conduct of qualifying examinations for candidates that intend to become town planners.

The examination is known as NITP – TOPREC Examination. It is the equivalence of Diploma or Degree depending on the stage passed by candidate.

Besides, as part of a retraining programme known as Mandatory Continuous Development Programme (MCPD) in 2000. The training programme, as name connotes, is mandatory for members of the NITP who are expected to attend at least once in three years. Eleventh edition of the programme have been held in different parts of the country. It is worthy to note that the programme has played a significant role at improving the skills of town planners. However, there is need to enhance participation of members in the programme by wielding the stick for those who have not participated in it within the stipulated time limit. This will make practitioners to attach more importance to the programme in terms of attendance.

The relationship between the three bodies of NITP, TOPREC and ATOPCON has also been extended to representation in the Council of the various bodies. For instance, the membership of National Council of NITP includes the President and Registrar of TOPREC, as well as the President and Secretary-General of ATOPCON. Similarly, the Council of TOPREC also has as member, the President of NITP. These provisions have facilitated in great deal, the building of greater co-operation and mutual understanding among and between the three parties.

REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS IN PLANNING PRACTICE

TOPREC was established in 1988, to among other things, perform the following general duties; determining who are town planners, determining what standards of knowledge and skill are to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the profession of town planning and reviewing those standards from time to time as circumstances may require; securing the establishment and maintenance of a register of persons entitled to practice the profession and the publication from time to time lists of those persons, regulating and controlling the practice of the profession in all its aspects and ramification; maintaining in accordance with the establishment Act discipline; and performing of such other functions which in its opinion are calculated to facilitate the carrying on of its activities.

The establishment Act of the planning profession has stipulated what is expected from a planner but how well are the Nigerian planners fulfilling the professional bargain? How well are planners committed to practice of the profession and how well are planners policing the conduct of professional members for the general elevation of the status of the planners and for strengthening the image of the profession before the public?

Laws, regulations and ethics are established for the good conduct of citizens and those who cross the path of the law are punished. However what are the disciplinary consequence of the various flagrant abuse of the very soul of planning by the planners? Humans, including those in the noble planning profession, give highest priority to favoritism and partiality in disbursing punishments to those who err.

THE PRACTICE AND PROBLEMS OF TOWN PLANNING:

According to Obateru (2004) the modus operandi of the economic development system of countries lacking effective planning is like that of a team of soccer or basketball whose members may individually play brilliantly but who do not know how to cooperate and co-ordinate, their brilliant efforts are therefore dissipated and wasted. He went further that in case of physical planning; central public administrative machinery capable of co-ordinating the goals and the resources of these Government instrumentalities, private bodies and people directly concerned with the use and development of land is not just desirable but necessary.

The cardinal factors responsible for the present economic misfortune of most of the third world Countries are lack of effectiveness political leadership, foresight and developmental direction as well as the problems of piecemeal and-hoc development planning.

According to Ratcliffe (1978) the persisting process of urbanization, the worst excesses of an industrial society, and the explosion in population awareness, and ultimate acceptance, for the introduction of some form of regulation regarding the

distribution of land between competing uses, this call, for the profession and practice of Town Planning. Ratcliffe (1994) also noted that, control over the layout and design of urban settlements has been exercised since time immemorial. The early civilization that congregated in the valleys of the tigris and Euphrates demonstrated an ability to impose order upon comparatively high- density Community living and established an elementary system for the provision of services and facilities, as did the Inca and Maya cultures of South and Central America.

Urban planning / management is the activity of attempting to mobilize diverse resources to work in a co-operative manner in the fields of planning, programming and budgeting, monitor implementation of development, its operation and maintenance in order to achieve city development objectives (Division 1996).

Urban planning attempts to solve the problems of urban growth and decay, precisely, it deals with the future physical form and structure of towns and cities. By physical form is meant their spatial layout and pattern of vertical growth. By physical structure is meant the spatial pattern or arrangement of urban land uses on functional basis. The main elements of an urban plan are the residential, industrial, commercial, educational, health, public Azelema (2008) explained that with the rapidly changing demographics in many communities, politics and policy will be greatly changed. For city managers, the challenge is to embrace diversity so that their city governments can accommodate the changes that are coming. We also have the problem of isolating certain groups of people in poverty areas while more affluent residents move to safe havens in the suburbs or beyond.

Owiasuyi (2008) Expressed that Local Governments are being asked to take a developmental approach to governance, which means creating the right conditions for development to flourish, and includes planning, land administration, Local economy and environmental Management.

As noted by Sanni and Duruzoechi (1999), the origin of modern physical planning in Nigeria could be said to be similar to that of Britain, where it emerged in response to the poor living conditions of factory workers during the early stage of industrial revolution. The poor capitals. The chaotic situations that result have not been resolve; rather the situation has since been deteriorating rapidly. (Oyeneye 1999).

The Town Planning Profession in Nigeria is little understood by the generality of Nigerians both literate and illiterate. Even successive governments at all levels in the country have not come to grips with the aims and aspirations of town planners, and the invaluable roles they can play in creating beautiful, functional and liveable environments in both our rural and urban areas of this great country. For most times, policy makers, policy advisers harp on approval or non-approval of building plans, lay out plans, industrial and commercial development proposal and demolition of illegal structures. (Adeniji 1987)

Ratcliffe (1978) asserted that, in practice the planner is expected to be able to 'operate to secure adequately related activity in the various parts of the framework of a comprehensive town and country planning system involving the local, urban, metropolitan, regional, rural and natural resources field'. Furthermore, his traditional role of controlling and allocating the use of land among competing activities has been substantially enlarged to take account of social and economic factors. In addition to which he is expected to assist in the selection of overall goals for the welfare of the community at the policy-making level of local government, and assist in the organization and management of local government itself.

LEVELS OF PHYSICAL PLANNING IN NIGERIA

LEVELS OF PHYSICAL PLANNING	GOVERNMENT
National	National / Federal
State	State

Regional	Regional
Urban	Urban
Local	Local

Source: Author, 2009

The five levels of physical planning in the above table constitute a system. A system is a phenomenon made up of elements (parts) and links in the links connect the element to foster interaction. The five levels of physical planning not only inter-relate and interact, but also form a spatial hierarchy, in which the lower-order level of planning occur as constituent elements (components) of higher-order level of planning (Obateru 1986).

A national physical plan gives guidance on the overall spatial distribution of the nation's population and employment taking into account the geographical location of its national resources.

State physical plans are by and large similar to national plans in contents.

Regional plans are necessary within the framework of national and state physical plans as well as for federal territory.

Urban planning attempts to solve the problems of Urban growth and decay. Precisely, it leads with the future physical form and structure of towns and cities.

The pre-occupation of local physical planning is the detailed layout of the various local areas (zones) contained in urban plans.

There are other agencies that are directly involved in physical planning in Osun State.

They include Federal and State ministries of works and Transport, Federal Ministry of Housing and Urban development, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and

Cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Education, e.t.c. All these do their own planning with little or no reference to the state planning agencies.

It is important to note that the Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning and urban development (MLPPUD) exercise direct development control powers only on State Government G.R.As. while its control powers on other developments in the state are indirect. It also, on behalf of the Governor, gives Interim Planning permits on major developments while Local Governments approve the plans of such developments. The Ministry is also in charge of the Governor's consent on layouts of parcels of land from applicants in compliance with the land use decree, 1978.

Local Governments are in charge of development control in their area of jurisdiction except in the State Government G.R.As and property Development Corporation Estates.

When Osun State was created in 1991, a Technical Committee delineated in area covering Osogbo and Olorunda Local Government areas and parts of seven (7) adjoining Local Governments and describes it as Osun State Capital Territory Development Authority (CTDA). the operation of the CTDA, therefore, affects part or whole of the nine (9) Local Government. The Edict which established the CTDA was enacted in the Osun State Gazette No. 1 Vol. 1 of 13th November, 1991. By virtue of section 4 (3) of the Edict, parts of the adjoining LPAs which fall within the Capital Territory seized to be parts of their respective planning authorities, for development control purpose only as from commencement of the Edict. The Capital Territory Development Authority now serves as a clearing house for Developmental proposals within its area.

PHYSICAL PLANNING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Decree 88 of 1992

In 1992, the Nigerian urban and regional Planning Law (Decree No. 88. 1992) was promulgated. Section 2, 3, 4 of the law have greatly attempted to streamline physical planning administration at the three tiers of Government (Federal, State and Local). The Law also created new bodies with functions alongside the three tiers of government. These are the Commission at the Federal, the board at state and authority at local level. The three parallel bodies were assigned specific function. (See table 1). This law is a sharp departure from the old order as each tier of planning administration is enabled by law not only to plan but also how to plan and where to plan.

The Nigerian urban and Regional planning law (Decree 88 Of 1992) has however been difficult to implement. The major constraint is that same functions being performed by the traditional Institution are assigned to the newly created bodies. For instance, both the Federal Government (FMHUD) and planning Commission are assigned same functions (Section 2) (a-j) & 7 (a-h). The same things go for the States and the Local Governments (LGs). At State, level, if the board is constituted and starts to function, the state government (Ministry of Land and Physical Planning) is likely to be in conflict with the board. Secondly, membership of the new bodies is too many. Each Board consists of 18 members, while each authority comprises of 15 members. In a state of 30 Local Governments, members of the local Planning Authorities will be 450. It will therefore be too expensive to implement. These are some of reasons why most states are finding it difficult to implement the law.

However, the law have been reviewed by the state and has passed through the public hearing, first and second reading by the state of Osun House of Assembly waiting for final passage and Approval for domestication.

SOME OTHER PHYSICAL PLANNING STATUTES IN OPERATION IN OSUN STATE

There are other legislations that have direct bearing on physical Planning / Development in Osun State, they include:

The Road Law sets out the statutory setbacks for most highways which every development abutting them have to observe.

Nigerian Railway Cooperation has its regulations that developments have to obey.

National Electric Power Authority also has its rules that all the other developments have to obey.

The Land Use Decree No. 6 of 1978.

Limitation of Laws and Regulations

Co-ordination of physical planning Agencies

The Ministry of Lands, Physical Planning and Urban development which is at the apex of physical Planning Administration in the state, does not have a direct relationship officially with the 30 Local Governments' Town Planning departments. For effective communication, the MLPP & UD will have to pass through the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs (MLG & CA). Such directives are not all the time complied with.

It is to be noted that since the transfer of the Local Planning Authorities to Local Government in the State of Osun in 1989, scarcely has any Local Government established a planning scheme. All the assets of the planning Authorities were taken over by their local government and most of their past activities ceased. The Town Planning Departments in the various Local Government are mere building plan approving bodies. The officers are completely immobilized. There is no basic instrument for the co-ordination of all development within the environment.

SUMMARY OF PROBLEMS

PROBLEM OF FUNDING

The problem of poor funding arises from two factors: people ignorance of the role physical Planning plays in socio – economic development and their failure to look and plan ahead towards alleviating if not solving their

physical, social and economic problems which demand the preparation and implementation of medium and long term economic and physical planning programmes.

The federal government itself depends on revenue from the sale of crude oil (up to an average of 95% of its total revenue). The country is down to a situation that whenever the international oil market sneezes, the federal government catches cold while the state and local government catch pneumonia. (Mustapha 1995).

With the persistent economic problem in the country, state and local government administration are becoming incapable of providing services and installing vital infrastructural facilities required by the citizen for economic and social development.

Unless a way is found of saving town planning from the clutches of death, and unless the profession is fully integrated (and accepted) into the national socio-economic process, it is unlikely that a sustainable source and mechanism for financing physical planning programs, at the three tiers of government, can be established (Zubairu 1995).

PROBLEM OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

Physical planning is not only a social service but also a public service for which the government is responsible. Whatever form of government a country has, be it democratic, socialist, authoritarian or military, it is its responsibility to plan the use and development of its urban and rural land.

The existence of informed, responsible and effective political leadership is fundamental to alleviating if not to solving the problems of physical planning listed W.A. Lewis correctly hit the nail on the head when he asserted that

If a country is fortunate to have a good leader, born at crucial time in its history, who catches the imagination of his people and guides them through formative experience, he will create traditions and legends and standards which weave themselves into the thinking of his people and govern their behaviors through many centuries.

POLITICAL INSTABILITY

There can be no political stability in a country having no effective political leadership. Since the heydays of the ancestral cities of the Middle East some 5,500 years ago, physical planning has been a product of peace and economic prosperity. A country or a people struggling for survival cannot find time and allocate resources for physical planning. It is only effective political leadership that can create peaceful and stable political environments.

In the last five decades, political, ethnic and religious conflicts as well as civil wars and coups d'état have been characteristic features of most of the developing countries of Africa, South Asia and South America. A typical example of such countries is Nigeria which gained political independence from Britain in 1960. Since then it has experienced 29 years of military regimes involving eight (8) coups d'état and only 14 years of civilian rule during the 3rd republic. In addition, it has fought a civil war of over two and a half years from 1967 to 1970. Nigeria is the most populous African country with a population of over 140 million in 2003. (Obater 2004)

OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC IGNORANCE

In spite of the fact that physical planning is a public service, virtually all government functionaries' including the political leaders who are responsible for planning policy formation and decision taking do not precisely know the nature and purpose of physical planning. Their knowledge of it is at best hazy. Consequently, they do not appear to know its specific role in economic development.

Among the general public, the knowledge of physical planning is probably nil. Not even the elites of the middle and upper socio-economic classes know enough about it. Public knowledge of the physical planner is limited to the approval of building plans and demolition of building and structure.

Experience has also revealed that the generality of the public in the developed countries of the world including the elements of the middle and upper socio-economic classes do not also precisely know what the physical planner does. As in the developing world, he is usually confused with such related professionals as the architect, the building draughtsman, the landscape architect, the surveyor, the estate surveyor and valuer, the quantity surveyor, and the civil engineer.

Physical planning is a residual function (subject) of the states in federations going by the division of governmental functions between the federal and state governments in federal constitutions. It is within the framework of state physical planning laws that planning and building regulations (by-laws) are prepare and adopted.

LACK OF PHYSICAL PLANNING POLICY

A government policy is the first essential step towards the formulation of physical planning programmes. “Experience proves that the establishment of a government policy not only speeds preparatory work in administration but creates confidence and public understanding”.

Unfortunately, the State of Osun Government has no existing physical planning law. This problem arise from the kind of priority giving to physical planning and official ignorance of the key role of physical planning in economic development. Now the State of Osun Urban and Regional Planning Bill is waiting for the final reading at the State of Assembly which will give legal backing for the effective implementation of the present laudable Urban renewal project and other physical planning programmes / activities in the State.

ECONOMIC POVERTY

Economic poverty is key factor responsible for the inability of most of the developing countries to effectively undertake physical planning. As stated above, physical planning is a product of peace and economic prosperity. A country or a society that needs all its time and resources for survival cannot afford the “luxury” of physical planning. The bulk of the populations of the state are low-income earners who possess grossly inadequate resources for even food, shelter and clothing.

UNCO-ORDINATED GOALS AND RESOURCES

Investment decisions are partly those of government instrumentalities and largely those of private developers and enterprises. Private land developers account at least 95 percent of the developments taking place in cities. The economic power of industrial and commercial entrepreneurs as well as their business. Without their co-representation, the implementation of physical plans are likely to encounter obstacles. Their representation in a central planning organization would foster understanding and co-operation.

By participating in physical planning decisions, private entrepreneurs would accept a high degree of responsibility for environmental planning and management. Their participation would also dissipate the sense of alienation and apathy which they display towards the problems of our cities and rural areas. In addition to co-operating they may place at the disposal of public instrumentalities their skills and experience as well as some of their material resources.

Experience has also revealed that the extent to which planning decisions are successfully implemented vitally hinges on the co-operation of the general public. The masses should be given the opportunity to participate directly in planning decisions that affect their living, working and recreation environments. They should be represented not only by their traditional rulers but also by their community leaders. Adequate Account should be taken of traditional rulers and community leaders who constitute potent socio-economic forces in the mobilization of public

opinion. The masses in the developing countries still lean heavily on their views. Consequently, traditional rulers and community leaders should be members of the organizations taking planning decisions. The participating of non-governmental organizations and women in planning decision is also necessary.

INEFFICIENT PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Those government that set up ministries or departments of physical planning deserve commendation for their planning initiative and fore-sight for seeing the need to tackle the planning problems of their countries.

But the question may be asked: Is a ministry or department the best type of administrative machinery for physical planning?

A ministry or department does not possess the capacity to effectively promote and co-ordinate physical planning in a country. Involved in land use and land development decisions are several governmental ministries, departments and public parastatals (agencies). The activities of these governmental instrumentalities are virtually uncoordinated. The ministries, departments and public agencies are virtually 'vertical' establishments devoid of significant horizontal links. Each instrumentality takes physical planning decisions and prepares future plans almost unilaterally with little or no communication with the other ministries, department and agencies.

Co-ordination of goals and resources is fundamental to effective physical planning while a central governmental body (agency) is necessary to foster co-ordination. Co-ordination can not be satisfactory achieved unless a central public authority such as physical planning commissions are set up composed of the representatives of the governmental instrumentalities, the private sector, community leaders, women and non-governmental organization whose decisions and development plans form the basis of land use and land development. Any decisions reached by such a central public agency will be binding on its members other factors being constant.

OUTDATED AND SUBSTANDARD PLANNING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Standard and up-to-date planning laws and regulations are scarce planning instruments in Osun State.

This notwithstanding, none of the country's 36 states has up-to-date planning laws. Similarly, most of the country's local governments and local planning authorities have no planning regulations, let alone substandard and outdated ones.

CONCLUSION

Town planners should not attempt to frame a single plan that represents the "public interest" but rather "represent and plead the plans of many interest groups".

Urban planning is fixated on the physical city: "The Town Planning profession's historical concern with the physical environment has warped its ability to see physical structures and land as servants to those who use the". Davidoff said that professionals should be concern with physical, economic and social planning. In a line that was relevant to the founding of the Hunter College urban planning program, he said: "The practice of plural planning requires educating planners who would be able to engage as professional advocates in the contentious work of forming social policy".

The planner is not solely a value-neutral technician; instead, values are part of every planning process.

According to Moduku (2007) past president of NITP and fellow of the Institute, we plan so that people may have a better, freer and indeed a happier environment conducive to purposive life, and in doing so we must show and demonstrate empathy, humility and service rather than professional arrogance.

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**THE NEED FOR THE CHANGING ROLES OF PLANNING PROFESSIONALS IN
CURBING CURRENT PHYSICAL PLANNING CHALLENGES.**

**BEING PAPER PRESENTED BY TPL. NIYI OLANIPEKUN, MNITP, MNIM. CHIRMAN
NIGERIA INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, STATE OF OSUN CHAPTER, AT THE
MONTHLY MEETING OF CHAPTER HELD AT OSUN STATE COLLEGE OF
TECHNOLOGY, ESA OKE, ON 19TH FEBRUARY, 2015 .**

Protocols.

INTRODUCTION

Efforts to incorporate sustainability principles into city planning demands new relationships between traditional and contemporary culture of key players involved in urban development arena. Many stakeholders involved in urban projects, management and governance are tailoring the destiny of urban world. Unfortunately, their contribution to sustainable practices show the lack of awareness and negative attitude towards protection of basic environmental, economic and social elements for the benefits of future generations of urban dwellers.

By changing the way in which they think it is important to spell out clearly the role of planning professionals which should be more active and persistent in educating and advising decision-makers and other stakeholders helping them not to think and act only sectorally supporting individual and forgetting common interests. With carrying capacities and sustainability in mind these “key players” should be trained and guided by planners and diverse community entrepreneurs to have a look well beyond current planning horizons of socio-economic and physical plans, because sound sustainable solutions need wider and

more ecologically friendly temporal frameworks.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME (UNEP) - Agenda 21.

According to (UNEP) Agenda 21, The overall contemporary development Agenda is to improve the social, economic and environmental quality of human settlements and the living and working environments of all people, in particular the urban and rural poor. Such improvement should be based on technical cooperation activities, partnerships among the public, private and community sectors and participation in the decision making process from community groups and special interest groups such as women, indigenous people, the elderly and the disabled. These approaches should form the core principles of national settlement strategies.

Furthermore, countries should make appropriate provision to monitor the impact of their strategies on marginalized and disenfranchised groups with particular reference to the needs of the poor.

The programme areas are:

- Providing adequate shelter for all;

- Improving human settlement management;

- Promoting sustainable land use planning and management;

- Promoting the integrated provision of environmental infrastructure: water, sanitation, drainage, hazardous and solid waste management;

- Promoting sustainable energy and transport systems in human settlements;

CHALLENGES FACING PLANNING PROFESSIONALS IN CURBING CURRENT UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

To reverse unsustainable development and environmental degradation in most developing and transitional countries, it is essential to understand and specify the factors that perpetuate the lack of appropriate preventive and curative environmental actions (Bartone

et. al. 1994). There are numerous actors in the city arena that could initiate and implement these actions. Sometime their roles are very specific and politically restricted. While another times they can operate in a more freely and innovative fashion. In most of the cases urban environmental problems can be anticipated before they become burning issues. To rectify them it is necessary to back-up activities such as improvement of public and political awareness, development of sound governance, and securing of smooth access to knowledge and information.

Public and Political Awareness

These two important elements that influence recognition and acceptance of current environmental deterioration in capital city are hidden factors for pursuing more efficient and productive urban environment approach. Even when they have acute environmental risk at their doorsteps people are closing their eyes expecting government and city official to intervene.

Aforesaid, discussion on sustainability and environmental issues have significance and present a challenge for a new generation of planning professionals who work in an environmentally fragile setting. Despite the numerous problems, it appears that there is still room and good prospect to curb unsustainable practices, and find alternative and environmentally friendly solutions. A small but growing contingent of environmentalists, planners, scientists, and community activists is trying to get the word out that our current way of doing business and shaping city environmental image need a serious rethinking(Krizek and Power, 1996) for the benefit of today and future generations.

SHORTAGE OF MAN POWER.

Unfortunately, the planning offices are short of staff with specialized environmental and sustainable development knowledge.

This problem affects daily operations and efficiency of physical planning units that need to deal with more sophisticated problems such as: urban renewal, squatter settlements,

environmental impacts, Agenda 21 and sustainability, urban agriculture, gender issues, urban indicators, globalization, land evaluation, planning techniques (e.g. GIS), etc. There is also a serious gap between senior and junior planning staff, as well as a lack of leadership and coordinating skills.

This has resulted in out-sourcing and commissioning environmental and planning projects to external consultant. How will planning develop further, and what are its existing experiences to date? Does planning practice have to be firmly rooted in environmental science, or is this the time to go “back to basics” grounded in design (Hague, 1994)? Could there possibly be some other way it could follow, perhaps a combination of these, or does it need a marriage of convenience based on an interdisciplinary set-up?

Planning paradigms have changed over the past decade and they are continually evolving as we work to address the many new problems of environmental impacts, urban renewal, sustainable development and urban revitalization of human settlements. In this respect, planning today is not what it used to be in the past, and what it will be tomorrow. Change will be continuous and evolution prolonged. Current planning practice is deeply involved in the social, economic, environmental and political aspects of urban development.

What difference can the New Urban Planning make? *Reduce vulnerability to natural disasters.*

By addressing, in cities throughout the world, some key causes of climate change, and by carefully planning settlements so that fewer people are vulnerable to natural calamities, human settlements will become more liveable and the world will stand a better chance of coping with environmental challenges.

Create environmentally friendly cities.

Urban growth has enormous impacts on the local, as well as global, environment. *New Urban Planning* can support environmentally friendly forms of transport and sustainable building, and conserve environmental assets. More efficient and economical city forms, where legal and governmental systems can deliver them, are vital elements for

environmental sustainability

Reduce new slum formation.

The Millennium Development Goal that seeks to make a substantial improvement in the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020 will be achieved. But, on present trends, the proportion of the earth's people living in slums will increase from 1 in 6 in 2001 to 1 in 3 by 2031. Slum upgrading is a necessary but not a sufficient way of tackling the slum problem. A planning approach is essential to ensure an adequate supply of land for development in safe and accessible locations.

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Build sustainable economic growth.

Urban growth is a major cause and consequence of economic growth and opportunity. By adopting a livelihoods focus, *New Urban Planning* can help to tackle urban poverty and rural-urban migration. *New Urban Planning* practices have reinvigorated declining cities and city centres in the northern hemisphere and facilitated growth in Asia – adapted to local circumstances, they can increase economic opportunities elsewhere

Conflict Resolution and Safer Cities

New Urban Planning can aid crime prevention and is crucial to post-disaster and post-conflict reconstruction in strife-torn cities. Planned reconstruction and a governance approach that emphasises inclusiveness and partnership, will nurture social and civic capital. Plans provide a framework for different interests to work together in a common purpose, and a transparent and accountable arena for negotiation of conflicts over development, both within civil society and between private and public interests. Cities are where people access new ideas and find ways to live together as communities and also with

strangers from different backgrounds and cultures.

In all, ***New Urban Planning*** seeks to enhance quality of life in human settlements. It builds on, but modernises, the planning profession's traditional concerns to address human, social, cultural, environmental, natural aspects of settlements, as well as infrastructure. However, it recognises that in today's world, poverty is central to any planning of human settlements.

The Draft Vancouver Declaration World Planner Congress 17th – 20th June 2006 Spelt out the Ten Principles of new Urban Planning which include:

Sustainability

The overarching principle that governs *New Urban Planning* is sustainable development as elaborated at WSSD in 2002. This is not an exclusive preserve of planning. The special contribution that *New Urban Planning* makes is its practical focus on integrating social, economic and environmental considerations in human settlements development. *New Urban Planning* takes account of the impact of today's developments on future generations, a crucial factor in environmental sustainability.

Integrated Planning.

New Urban Planning is integrated planning, not just economic planning, or physical planning, or environmental planning. Set in a favourable institutional framework, integrated planning and action can deliver efficiency and effectiveness by adding value through policies that support, rather than undercut, each other.

Integrated with Budgets

In order to ensure the integration mentioned above, plans need mechanisms that ensure effective linkages to private and public budgetary processes. Neither plans by themselves, nor unregulated market processes, can deliver more sustainable settlements.

Planning with Partners

New Urban Planning is a means of negotiating where and how development happens. It is

about planning with all sectors of the community with a stake in the place – not only governments, but also private sector organisations, voluntary agencies and civil society. *New Urban Planning* fosters voluntary collaboration amongst all these actors. Planning that responds to and works with, not manages or directs, the initiatives of non-governmental actors, will produce better outcomes. This is a departure from the notion that planning is the impartial arbiter of public interest. *New Urban Planning* is less an instrument of government, and more a process of good governance, to deliver quality and inclusiveness in decision-making. *New Urban Planning* is always seeking new and better ways of making city development more participatory, because demand driven planning is more dynamic and more effective; public pressure is the engine of performance. In order to plan with partners, planning must be made accountable to the public, with all activities open to public scrutiny through oversight by mechanisms such as public hearings, integrity pacts and so on.

Subsidiarity

The subsidiarity principle should be paramount in deciding where roles and responsibilities are lodged in *New Urban Planning*. National governments have important roles in setting national urban development policies and fostering national (and international) infrastructure networks that will guide development patterns. However, there needs to be decentralization, with local governments playing a leading role, and empowerment of community-based organisations on matters that can be determined at neighbourhood level. Integration of policy across scales again creates efficiency and effectiveness. Policies and plans must address implementation in a rigorous manner – or fail.

Market Responsiveness

New Urban Planning understands market demand, particularly in land and property markets, and is aware of the dynamics and potential of the informal sectors. It is responsive, but not reactive. For example, plans backed by public investment can create confidence in

areas where assets are threatened by weak demand and disinvestment. *New Urban Planning* is about creating opportunities, anticipating development impacts and being able to reduce risks of unintended outcomes and undesirable externalities. The market will respond to plans that are credible.

Access to Land

A supply of land in safe and accessible locations to meet the needs of all sectors of society, is fundamental to achieving efficient and equitable settlements. Traditional town planning too often under-estimated needs, particularly of the poor. Consequently the least advantaged sectors of urban society lack security, and often live in hazardous locations. Equitable systems of land ownership and land management need to underpin *New Urban Planning*. Plans must recognize the reality of existing slums and informal settlements, and the rights of their residents, and foster strategies that facilitate upgrading.

Appropriate Tools

Control of development should be strategic, affordable and effective, sensitive to the needs of the poor while conserving essential ecological resources, rather than attempting to micro-manage land use change and small-scale development. Thoroughgoing land use control is probably only affordable in wealthy economies with highly developed legal systems and a plentiful supply of trained professionals. *New Urban Planning* recognizes that rigid urban containment is not a feasible, equitable or affordable policy in conditions of rapid urbanization. Land use controls should never be used as a pretext for forced evictions of the urban poor in long-established communities.

Pro-poor and Inclusive

New Urban Planning is inclusive and pro-poor. It recognizes diversity and promotes equality. Plans can and should be driven by the objectives and priorities as expressed by all groups in the city. Planning is about finding ways to reconcile the priorities of diverse groups, now and in the future. Particular attention needs to be given to those whose voice

has often not been heard in conventional public policy-making – e.g. the old, children, those with disabilities, women, ethnic minorities, the homeless, those with low incomes etc. All have an equal right to the city and a right to be consulted, especially about developments that will affect them. In the past, area-based approaches have been shown to benefit mainly the better off: *New Urban Planning* retains the effectiveness of the area-focus, but directly confronts the need for equity.

Cultural Variation Cultures of governance and the resources that can be invested in governance vary between different countries. Interpretation of the principles of *New Urban Planning* will inevitably be influenced by such differences. *New Urban Planning* allows for a variety of outcomes according to cultural priorities and preferences: this contrasts with the uniformity imposed by the old master planning model. Outdated legal regimes and traditional bureaucratic cultures, as well as shortages of skilled personnel and of responsive institutions are barriers to realizing the benefits from the practice of *New Urban Planning*. An increase in capacity building would be good value for money. This should include skill development for sub-professionals and for community-based organizations and training of politicians.

New Urban Planning is smart planning because it is a responsive learning system. It embraces the need for skills, expertise, an entrepreneurial and citizen-focused culture and evidence-based policy-making. It reasserts the importance of combining long-term awareness and short-term practical actions. It updates to a 21st century context, the insight of the founders of the planning profession that planning is about 'Folk-Work-Place'. However, it rejects the technocratic model of social change and professionalism which for too long defined the practice of 'old' urban planning.

THE PLANNING SPECIALIST OR JACK OF ALL TRADES

Planners must always have their own way of thinking and judging. Their proactive approach

towards development and environmental issues is the basic premise of their existence in the world of limited natural and social resources.

The game of planning is a mother of resource distribution, in which planners and their multidisciplinary skills are more useful than the skills of other individual key players.

Planners should recognize that this changing role won't be a major stretch because many of the fundamental philosophies behind sustainability are also an integral part of what for years has been considered good planning. Integrating many of the concepts of some of planning's best ideas (mixed-use development, compact urban form, non motorized transportation) is necessary to effectively address the land-use aspects of local governance. In fact, the day-to-day work and education of most people in the planning profession make planners ideal candidates to exert a leadership role (or assume an active role) in such programs.

Physical planning as an attractive profession which includes numerous interdisciplinary skills, the knowledge of social and natural sciences; the vision of politics, vocation of negotiations; and the creation and futurism of urban design.

Seven different elementary roles of today's physical planning arena are essential ingredients for every planner involved in sustainable development programmes. These are the following: 1) technocracy and information provision; 2) regulation and land development co-ordination; 3) negotiation and mediation; 4) facilitation and initiation; 5) political advising; 6) designing; and 7) advocacy. An efficient planning professional could adopt all of them and become skilful as a "jack of all trades", or a specialist in some of them. Depending on where they work physical planners can undertake all these roles and manage the change that comes with it. Planner as Technocrat and Information Provider.

Technocracy based on data and information provision is one of the most traditional and common roles of physical planners world-wide. "A Planner's source of influence includes specialised knowledge or technical expertise, a monopoly on organisationally and politically

relevant information, and the role of gatekeeper of information and access” (Forester, 1989).

This role has been improved recently by advancements in information technology (IT) in general, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in particular. Processing and provision of spatial and environmental data for decision makers is fruitful when it leads to sustainable development practices, but it is disastrous when it leads to land speculation and environmental decay.

Prudent use of advanced information technologies is a must for contemporary planning professional.

Good information not only provides a direct basis for decisions, it also informs citizens of problems and possibilities and thus can directly advance decision politically by building community support (Randolph, 2004:30).

(2) Planner as Regulator and Development Control Coordinator.

Land allocation and development practices have been an extremely “hot potato” in the hands of political office holders and planning officials over the years. Numerous public and official enquiries are shaking chairs of cabinet ministers and local businessman involved in unlawful practices. This is a good sign that democracy has a means to curb unsustainable development. However, the role of planners in this activity was not of the “highest professional” level and their ethical conduct was overshadowed by the power of political influences. Planning and building permits have been issued without serious professional analysis.

(3) Planner as Negotiator and Mediator

As a negotiator, the planner is expected to be involved in conflicts resolutions between disputed or parties with different goals and interests, usually land developers on one side, and community representatives and government officials on the other. If they work for central or local government, planners must take different position in negotiation with developers, than when they are sitting on the other side of the table working for private developers and investors. If a planner represents government and community his or her

obligation is to serve the public interest. This includes concern for the long term consequences of present actions and for the ways that various decisions relate to each other. It also includes provision of full, clear and accurate information on planning issues and their social effects to both the public and to the decision-makers. This also includes protection and conservation of the environment in line with principles of sustainable development. Such situations are still common in transitional and developing countries where majority planners work in government agencies.

In the case of representing private entrepreneurs, a planner follows the instructions from management boards and their executives who usually aim at most profitable land project solutions. A physical planner working in such setting is obliged to support the request for maximal land utilisation, but also he should be diligent, creative, competent and independent in spelling out environmental and socio-economical consequences of intensified land development. A planner's ability to mediate between the "boss's orders" and private interests on one side, and legal, spatial and people's induced needs on the other, puts him in an extremely sensitive and responsible position where the highest level of negotiation skills and prudent balancing among interested parties are a real challenge for the planning professional. Planning can then be looked at as a competitive marketplace of ideas and alternatives (Susskind and Ozawa, 1984). In such a context, an alternative reflecting a negotiated agreement between conflicting and /or parties involved, stands the best chance of winning the competition for acceptance and being publicly, politically and business wise adopted and successfully implemented.

(4) Planner as Facilitator and Initiator

As a facilitator, the planner should initiate land development projects by making public and relevant departments / organisations aware of the purpose of the planning activity and practice. The question of cultural context, human and organisational behaviour is crucial for further diffusion of planning awareness amongst different stakeholders.

Politics in planning is becoming more and more important due to the increased sensitivity of democratic processes and its outcomes.

Every political leader has right to make their own decision, but if such a decision is not

coupled with professional opinion it can lead to political and other disasters.

(5) Planner as Designing Visionary

Urban planning has its roots in design tradition and city beautification. These roots are extremely important for better understanding of the forces they have been shaping and assembling cities all over the world. Urban design as a bridge between architecture and urban planning can always help to improve and polish city image. In the contrary we can always appreciate or refuse consequences of urban design expressing our satisfaction or dissatisfaction with different urban places. Meaningful city design at different urban scales from the entire city to an individual site guides our cognition and recognition. City image carrousel is a natural part of an urbanite whose life depends on the urban sense of place. A planner as designer of such imagery should always contribute to city visioning and development of its long term character. Cities without such character are like music without emotion and the planner's designing role is to fill the city with space, scale, colour, texture and furnishings. Only these "contributory features" can help that our cities carry a sense of place, history and spirit of its developers.

While urban design planners are involved in issues of land use, they differ from other planners who typically work on a larger scale creating policies and programmes. Urban design planning has changed over the years, with the increasing importance placed on the psychological and sociological effects of the physical environment on the quality of life of citizens. In response to this recognition of the importance of the physical setting on human activities and

behaviour, urban design planners have to find ways to involve the public in their proposals and designs (Kelly and Becker, 2000). Plan development is a participatory exercise, but this does not mean that planners are just facilitators.

By providing good information, by offering creative and visual alternatives, and by clarifying opportunities, planners play a principal role in "organizing attention to possibilities".

Conclusion

"The future of democratic planning, as proposed by Jeb Brugmann in Welcome to the Urban Revolution, is to allow all parties to be involved so that they co-design, co-build and co-govern to their shared advantage. He calls this a 'city system' where residents, community leaders, investors, developers and professionals co-create the city." (Johnson, 2011) Globalised professional networks, new technologies, growing collaborative and communicative values, combined with a genuine claim for inclusive and democratic processes have conducted the field of urban design and planning to become a complex web of relations.

Complexity and multiplicity are influencing the social and environmental context of urban planning. Increasing number of professional, organisational and public actors engage in present urban projects, thus providing design and planning practices with new tools and approaches inspired from their expertise. The knowledge of urban areas and dynamics, the urban planning expertise, along with the responsibility and power in planning decisions is spreading among a growing public, challenging hereby the role of the planner, his/her practices and responsibility towards the plurality of 'public interest'. Moreover planning cultures and urban governance forms can be interrogated on their adequate incorporation of contemporary urban complexity and multiplicity. On-going evaluation and self-reflection is thus necessary as to assure that our choices and practices as urban designers and planners are fitting the developments of the urban reality.

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CHALLENGES FACING THE YOUTH IN TODAY'S SOCIETY

Most of the problems facing today's youth are not restricted to any one ethnic or religious group, but affect young people generally. Most discussions on youth have focussed on issues such as drug abuse, crime, violence, sexuality and poverty. In addition to these, today's youth are afflicted by new challenges.

These include:

An Identity Crisis: *Who am I?*

Lack of self confidence and low self esteem: *I am worthless*

A sense of hopelessness: *Where am I going?*

Confusion and ambiguity concerning moral issues: *What is right and wrong?*

The negative impact of the electronic media: *Entertainment ?*

Competitiveness in education: the uneven playing field: *Excellence by whom? Not Me.*

IDEAL YOUTH

Traditional Society

Historically, the older generation has managed to transmit their beliefs, values, traditions, customs, worldviews and institutions to the younger members of their societies. This was achieved largely because of the impact of agencies of socialization, such as the family, religion and the schools. Today the impact of these institutions has been challenged and undermined by new forces, particularly the internet and the television.

Dominant Culture

Is Trinidad and Tobago a "Religious" Society in the truest sense? Is God's help sought at all times or do we conveniently call on God on special occasions as a mere formality?

In my view, we are witnessing an erosion of traditional systems and institutions . As such the family and religion now have a minimal impact on the average youngster. The values emphasized today include individualism, Godlessness, materialism, secularism and rationalism.

It is the youth who are encountering the most serious challenge to his/her faith under the impact of godless culture of modernity.

Best minds in our society are not socialized by religious institutions. The emphasis is on competitiveness, academic success, career goals, income and social mobility

Little or no attention is given to preparing tomorrows leadership. There is no emphasis is placed on critical thinking , problem solving.

We are preparing followers, imitators conformists, and not leaders, innovators or problem solvers.

The youth is being asked to give up certain family and social values that were an integral part of their identity, and adopt in its place a sense of self-alienation, and become a self-estranged imitator of everything "modern".

We need to pay close attention to the effects of secularism: confining the role of religion to the private domain of the individual and creating a dichotomy between "religious" and "worldly," between "private" and "public." It denies religion and its mediating institutions any public function and influence in shaping matters of public policy.

Technology: internet and TV

We are witnessing a phenomenal advancement in technology over the last three decades, and our citizens are experiencing remarkable social and cultural change. This drastic change has generated psychological and social dislocations among many people. Moreover, technology has influenced the way we think about life in general and interpersonal human relations in particular. Certainly, religion should influence all aspects of our life. It regulates our relationship to God and fellow human beings. When religion is made insignificant and is

reduced to one among many other forms of cultural expressions, then meaningful existence and interpersonal relationships that are cultivated by its presence are threatened. In its place personal greed and intensified forms of individuation breed self-centered and "first me" individualism. If these tendencies are not kept in check by concern for the well being of others, as taught by religion, it could lead to a self-serving, ego-centered individual.

Television in particular has gone beyond its mandate to assist the family and the school in providing visual aid and education to the young. It has taken upon itself to appeal to the destructive and disintegrative instincts, to provoke greed, unlimited self-gratification, and absence of moral restraint in its young audience.

There is a need for Muslims must to join other religiously minded groups in the agitation for more responsible TV programming and more media coverage of the human condition without the celebration of outrage and obscenities.

Religious groups must create alternate avenues for recreation and social interaction. There should be avenues where spiritual and social activities combine to make the average child a whole human being whose life is directed to God. Adults should ensure that he or she benefits and makes full use of the cultural resources of his or her society. This is a delicate task, and much research and brainstorming need to take place before we arrive at solutions.

Education System

There is need for re-structuring of the education system, so as to minimize competition and rivalry and thereby reduce feelings of marginalisation and exclusion among low achievers. Also, there is need for reform of the curriculum so as to include universally desirable values that are necessary for producing well rounded, balanced and useful citizens.

Our present educational system has trivialized religious devotion and relativized moral commitment. Therefore, the youth of today does not have the moral guidance to be able to pursue the right course when faced with a moral dilemma.

Family

The parents, consequently, have to assume an active role in the moral development of their children. They need to become fully involved at every stage in the child's mental growth until he/she attains maturity. This involvement includes learning to communicate with the younger generation through their books and reading materials. Also, there is need for constructive entertainment and personal involvement in the selection of the types of entertainment (whether at home or outside). This is very critical and almost inevitable since there is enormous pressure on the children from outside their home to participate in undesirable activities.

According to the Wall Street Journal (April 6, 1990), on the average American parents spend less than fifteen minutes a week in serious discussion with their children. American fathers spend an average of seventeen seconds per day of intimate contact with their children. In Trinidad and Tobago, the figures may not be significantly better. Let us ponder about the undesirable effects of this trend of parental non-involvement and the absence of suitable alternatives.

In closing, let us recognize that we have a serious challenge on our hands: to ensure that today's children (tomorrow's adults) would experience a better world than we are living in today. We should all work towards this objective and not wait for a crisis to occur and then react, let us be prepared.

WE ARE PASSING THROUGH THIS WORLD, ONCE

THERE IS NO FUTURE IN THE PAST; WHAT WE GIVE LIVES.

BEING SPEECH DELIVERED BY NIYI OLANIPEKUN (FTP, MSC, MPA, MNITP, RTP, MNIM)

DURING THE 2014 ESA ODO DAY CELEBRATION ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2014

PROTOCOL

.INTRODUCTION

No man is rich enough to buy back his past. The past is always going to be the way it was. The more you look back, the less you will get ahead. Jefferson was right when He said 'I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past' The good old days were never that good, believe , the good new days are Today, and better days are coming tomorrow. Our greatest songs are still unsung.

A good way to judge a man is by what He says. A better way is by what He does. The best way is what He gives. Elizabeth Bibesco said 'Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting'

2. COMPOSITION OF A COMMUNITY

Community can be defined as a group of people sharing a common understanding who reveal themselves by using the same language, manners, tradition and law.

There are three categories of people in any given community

Those who watch things happen

Those who are unaware that things are happening

Those who make things happen

It is those who make things happen that make history. We don't have to be a referee of life, watching other people's mistakes and criticizing everyone.

Other categories of people are those that live in the past. They don't believe in change, they are stories tellers while some are content with their present situation, they don't believe in improvement and progress that will better their life and that of other people. They believe that the present situation and condition is the best.

"Everyone think of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself" Leo Tolstoy. Change is a planned and managed process, it can be perceived as positive or negative. When we experience change, we move from what we had known and done through a period of transition to arrive at a desired end. (Sustainable future)

ISSUES AFFECTING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LOVE, FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION

With the existence of love, there will be peace, people will imbibe the principle of sharing and giving..The spirit of total forgiveness will set in as forgiveness is not as easy to practice as it is to preach, but is an essential step towards reconciliation and living in harmony. Forgiveness includes letting go of the hurts and resentments we keep within ourselves. Let us forget the past and face the future there is no glory in the past. Without peace, love and harmony there cannot be development

ARE WE POOR?

God created us in the midst of plenty and bestowed on us the power of Dominion. But how do we exercise the power and Authority given to us? We have power and Authority to control and appropriate all our natural endowed resources for our development and progress.

The different between the rich and the poor has to do with how they treated the opportunities / resources that came their way. Some defined the word “ **P O O R**” as **passes over opportunities repeatedly**. Let us seize all the opportunities God gave us, and don’t let them pass over us. Procrastination is the thief of time

THE ISSUE OF POLITICS

Politics is traditionally defined as the art and science of government. Oxford concise dictionary of politics views politics as the practice of the art or science of directing and administering states or other political units.

A theory of active involvement in politics is a theory of self interest, grow, activity to achieve defined objectives as well as need fulfillment. In order words, people at the local level are unlikely to participate in politics just for the fun of it. They must see the process as inherently beneficial or potential so, to enlist their service.

Those who are actively involved in politics should galvanize their latent political energies towards identifying and achieving the community needs and aspiration. They should shun **Politics of bitterness and “stomach infrastructure”**

ISSUE OF LAND TENURE AND ACCESS TO LAND.

Many indigenes of this community find it difficult to secure land for their projects development due to bottleneck attached to family's Land. Many viable projects have been abandoned because of this. The case of Presidential Brewery is still fresh in our memory. Many Sons and Daughters of the Town have taken their Residential development projects to the neighboring Towns of Ijebu Jesa, Ilesa and other places due to this problem. However many are still yearning to have their country Home at Esa. Our Kabiyesi should look into this. The old saying says **‘Oba lo ni Ile’** Esa Odo should have a land Bank for projects Development for social and Economic development of the Town.

CHALLENGES FACING OUR YOUTH

Most of the problems facing today's youth are not restricted to any of the ethnic or religious group, but affect young people generally most discussions on youth have focused on issues such as drug abuse, crime, violence, sexuality and poverty. In addition to these, today's youth are affected by other challenges which include

An identity crisis (who am I ?)

Lack of self confidence and low self esteem (I am worthless)

A sense of hopelessness.(where am I going)

Confusion an ambiguity concerning moral issue; (what is right or wrong)

The negative impact of the electronic media and ICT

Competiveness in education: the uneven playing- field: (Excellence by who? not me.)

Our youth should strive to distinguish themselves among their mates and be courageous enough to face the challenges of the present time.

FINDING THE REAL COMMUNITY LEADERS.

To encourage change in the community you have to identify the real Leaders. I share the belief that there are four key people in every community around the world. They are; The Gate keepers, The Caretakers, New Catchers and Brokers.

The Gate keeper is the person who decides whether or not someone gets through the 'Gates' of the community and is accepted. They are influential people who effectively control how others feel about new people and new ideas.

The Caretakers are the people others turn to when they have problems. The News-Catchers are the people who always know everything that is going on. When someone is ill or dying or has lost their job, they always seem to be the one to first hear.

The Brokers are those that are well connected with key people and Government or influential organizations who can get things done. **ASSESS AND POSITION YOURSELF.**

LEADERSHIP EFFORTS IN ESA ODO.

When I was young, I learnt of the Esa Odo union that made effort for the development of Esa Odo but was short-lived and have no notable achievement. Later, we have the Esa Odo united society which has some remarkable and notable achievement, which includes the construction of the maternity center, the community grammar school among others.

Following them are some age-group associations and unions such as the youth movement, the top-toppers society and others. The youth movement acquired the land, and erected some structures on which this modern town hall is located and being commissioned today.

Later, the Esa Odo central working committee was inaugurated, under which notable achievements were recorded which includes the rebuilding of the Oba's Palace, commencement of construction of shops around the palace's land, Purchase of Mercedes Benz car for our Kabiyesi.

As we are jubilating on finding our way forward, the disaster struck on 27th Jan., 2007 and claimed the lives of our 5 industrious sons and daughter who formed the EXCO of the Esa Odo central working committee. This interrupted and demoralized our cohesion and community development efforts.

It is in this light, that we appreciate the formation of Esa-Odo Steering committee under the leadership of Chief J.A.S. Ajayi which has been championing and providing platform for various development programmes and projects in the town, one of which we are celebrating today. Good as it is, there is need to have a corporate body capable of providing leadership in all ramifications, hence the need for the founding of Esa Odo Development Union [EDU].

ESA ODO DEVELOPMENT UNION (EDU)

Esa odo development union (EDU) which was inaugurated on 26th May, 2012 is a corporate body, registered with the corporate Affairs commission, Abuja, with the following aims and objectives:

To cater for the welfare of the entire sons and daughters of Esa-odo as well as husbands and lives of the town.

To use the union to invite the indigenes of Esa-odo both at home and in Diaspora.

To provide amenities and facilities within the financial capacity of the union.

To provide training and educational support for the students of Esa-odo.

To establish, keep and run training centers for the artisans and to assist in empowering the traders of the Town in whatever way possible

I appreciate the efforts of the original convener of EDU. Prof. D.F. Elaturoti and the chairmen of the union, overseer O.O Famakinwa for their doggedness and various assistance to see that the union is registered and keep on running.

I hereby appeal to all leaders of clubs and organizations in the Town to cooperate and operate within the objects of EDU for the meaningful development and progress of the Town.

CHALLENGES FACING US AS LEADERS

Many of us see life as a battle field. Some have over time learnt to base their self-worth on comparison and competition, we think about succeeding in term of someone else falling. Many of us oscillate between win lose and lose/win, they believe that if you get big slice, there is less for others. Those with this mind find it difficult to share recognition and power, and to be happy for the success of others especially those closest to them.

Whereas, there is plenty for everybody, one's success is not achieved at the expenses or exclusion of the success of others. Life is a cooperative arena, agreements or solutions are mutually beneficial and satisfying. We should strive to develop positive mind and shun unnecessary envy and jealousy. Let us imbibe the spirit of celebrating and appreciating one another. We are all from the same father. Let peace and love be our watchword.

CONCLUSION

“What matters in life is not to know the world but to change it” (Frantz fanon). What you do today is a seed for tomorrow harvest. We are all product of seeds shown by our father into our mother's womb and delivered into this Town (Esa-odo) as a human being for a purpose i.e. for progress and development of the Town.

Our Royal father, chiefs, my fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers why can't we look beyond now and join hand together to build the “wall” of our Town as we all know that there is power in unity.

The word in the book of 2corinthians 5v17 – is germane: Therefore if any man ,be in Christ, he is a ,new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. Let us forget the past, as there is no glory in the past. Let love, peace and harmony prevail.

Finally, I will advice that subsequent **ESA-ODO DAY^s** celebrations are handled by EDU as we are all aware that “DAYS” in various communities and Towns are organized and sponsored by their Development Union / Association.

I thank you all.

Long live Nigeria

Long live State of Osun

Long live Esa-odo , Esa-odo a gbe gbogbo ri a o

WE SHOULD LOOK BEYOND NOW;

THE FUTURE WILL HAVE NO PITY ON US IF WE FAIL THIS GENERATION.

BEING SPEECH DELIVERED BY TPL. NIYI OLANIPEKU.(MNITP.RTP.MNIM.) CHAIRMAN, SOUTH WEST FORUM, DURING THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OF ELDERS, PAST NATIONAL/TOPREC PRESIDENTS, TOPREC REPRESENTATIVES, CHAPTERS CHAIRMEN AND NATIONAL OFFICERS FROM THE SOUTH WEST, CONVENED BY THE SOUTH WEST FORUM OF THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS, HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2015 AT SUSTAINABLE IBADAN CITY PROJECT RESOURCE CENTER , IYAGANGU GRA, IBADAN , OYO STATE.

Protocols.

INTRODUCTION.

We live in a society that loves to make excuses and one of our favorite phrase is “it is not my fault”. The truth is, if we are bitter and resentful, it is because we are allowing ourselves

to remain that way. Anyone can make excuses and blame the past for his or her attitudes, poor choices or hot temper.

We may have deep scars from emotional wounds, but we should not allow our past to determine our future. We cannot do anything about what happened to us, but we can choose how we will face what is in front of us. When the past beckon our attention, we should not go back there. Instead, we should think on things that are of good report, things that are going to build the institute not tear it apart, things that will encourage members, things that will bring peace and happiness, not things that attempt to steal our hope and drain our spirit.

We all have unfair and unjust things happen to us, that is part of life. When we are hurt, we can choose to hold on to that pain and become bitter, or we can choose to let it go and trust God to make it up to us.

I heard somewhere that 70 percent of people today are angry about something. That means out of every ten people you encounter today, 7 will be

angry, without counting the people who pass you on free way. I am convinced that God is using this present situation to refine and redefine us, mould us, shape us and prepare us for good things to come.

No man is rich enough to buy back his past. The past is always going to be the way it was. The more you look back, the less you will get ahead. Jefferson was right when he said 'I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past', the good old days were never that good, believe, the good new days are today and better days are coming tomorrow, our greatest song are still unsung.

THE FOUNDATION OF NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS.

On the 5th of September, 1966, 30 pioneer Town Planners held a historic meeting in Lagos which led to the former inauguration of the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners (NITP.) A protem Executive Council was elected to steer the affairs of the young Institute. From this

humble beginning, the Institute has grown to a membership size of 4,155 made up of 203 Fellows, 12 Honorary Fellows, 2,913 Full members, 469 Graduate members and 560 Student members

In the presidential address delivered by the first National President of the Nigerian Institute of Town planners TPL.(Arch) Chief M.O Onafowokanmi at the inaugural conference of the Institute in Lagos between 16th and 18th January 1969, the primary aims and objectives of the institute include among others:

- 1.)The advancement of town and country planning education and research in Nigeria.
- 2.)The holding of conferences or meetings for the discussion and exchange of views on town planning.
- 3.)Protection of the practice of the profession and promotion of the welfare of those practicing it e.t.c.

Upon these, the constitutions of the Institute both new and olds are based.

THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF TOWN PLANNERS CONSTITUTION; 2010

As the major Aim of the Institute is ATTAINMENT OF SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLE MENT, section 2.2 of the 2010; Constitution provides for the following objectives;

- 1.)The advancement of public awareness of the importance of their living and working environments and the necessity for their protection.
- 2.)The advancement of Town Planning Education, Training, Research and practice
- 3.)The dissemination of Town Planning information through conferences, seminars, meetings, exhibitions and publications.
- 4.)The establishment and enforcement of a code of professional practice and conduct for Town Planning practitioners in Nigeria

5.)The protection of the practice of the profession and the promotion of the welfare of those practicing it.e.t.c.

Section 7.1.8 and 7.3.7 provide for the appointment and duties of NITP. EXAMINATION BOARD which include;

Conduct of all examinations of the Institute,

Make regulations for the approval of the council regarding;

Examination Fees;

Preparation, Security and distribution of question papers;

Dates, centers and invigilation by local Examiners;

Assessment of answer scripts and publication of results, and

Disposal of cases of examination malpractices and complaints.

THE TOWN PLANNERS REGISTRATION COUNCIL.(TOPREC)

The Town Planners Registration Council was established by Decree No. 3 of 1988 and the Decree provides for the duties and responsibilities of the Council (as contained in section 1 (2) of the Decree) which includes;

a.) Determining who are Town Planners;

b.)Determining what standards of knowledge and skill are to be attained by persons seeking to become members of the Profession of Town Planning and reviewing those standards from time to time of the lists of those persons;

c.)Securing in accordance with the Decree the establishment and maintenance of a register of persons entitle to practice the profession;

d.)Regulating and controlling the practice of the profession in all its aspects and ramifications;

e.)Maintaining discipline.

Section 1 (3) of the Decree provides for the composition of the Council which includes;

A representative from each State and the Federal Capital Territory;

Two persons from the Institute;

Two persons appointed by the minister in charge of Physical Planning and Urban Development.

Section 2 (1-7) specifies qualifications and tenure of council members;

One must be a citizen of Nigeria fully registered or qualified for registration as a Town Planner under the Decree and has been engaged in the practice of the profession for not less than five years;

A person who is a member of the council otherwise than by virtue of paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 1 (3) above shall hold office for three years;

The office of a member of the Council shall become vacant upon bankruptcy, physical or mental illness and upon conviction of an offence;

Any member of the Council holding office otherwise than by virtue of (a) and (b) in section 1 (3) above can resign his appointment;

A person who has ceased to be member of the Council shall be eligible for re-appointment: provided that no person shall hold office as President of the Council for more than two consecutive terms.e.t.c.

However, the Law also provides for conditions/requirements for registration of Town Planners, approval of courses, qualifications and institutions and supervision of instruction and examinations leading to approved qualifications among others.

When one look critically at the Functions and Duties of the two bodies we can see that the two are established to protect the practice of the Profession and promote the welfare of

Members which is one of the major objectives of the Institute. While one is responsible for the formulation of policy guidelines and regulatory standards and control, the other is concerned with how these policy guidelines and standards are met or implemented.

WHAT IS CAUSING DIVISION AND MISGIVING?

The three major issues that need to be critically examined and given attention for amicable settlement are;

The tenure of TOPREC representatives;

2.)Mandatory continuing professional development Programmed.(MCPDP)

3.)NITP.Examination Board and conduct of all Examination of the Institute.

We have to apply wisdom in dealing with the above;

-Along with the constitutional provisions;

-The Aims and Objectives of the Institute;

-Moral Ethical standards; and

-General Convention as applicable to other Professional bodies.

Moreover, the future of the profession and interest of our youth who have chosen this profession as their life long career on which to build their achievements and success in life have to be considered.

As we all know that the only thing that is permanent in life is “change” and if we refuse to change with time, time will change us. Life is give and take. As Planners, we understand better the important of future. Yesterday has become history , today cannot produce the best for us ; the past cannot be changed, but we can change our tomorrow by our actions of today. Our destiny and call in life is always forward, not backward.

CONCLUSION.

We should realize that the planning profession started at the south west, and since then we have been occupying a notable and remarkable positions in the administration and management of the institute hence we should not allow our actions and in-actions pull the institution down, we should continue to advance the aims and objective of the institute. We have the exceptional privilege to make the institute great and the future will have no pity on us if we allow it to fall.

My dear Father in the Profession, my colleagues and fellow Chairmen of the State Chapters, we have nothing to gain by plugging the Institute to unnecessary crisis. We should not see life as a battle field. We should not base our achievements on self-worth and competition. We should endeavor to share recognition and power and to be happy for the success of others. Let us view Life as a cooperative arena, where agreement or solutions are mutually beneficial and satisfying.

According to Frantz Fanon, “what matters in life is not to know the world but to change it.”

Let us forget about our past feelings and face the future as there is no glory in the past. Without peace, love and harmony, there cannot be real development in the institute and TOPREC. We have to work together.

I thank you for the undue privilege you have given me to call this meeting and to address you, let us join hands together to see that we record a remarkable success during this period of **CHANGE**” as we cannot afford to cut short the aspiration and interest of our members. I pray that God will bring a remarkable change into this Profession during this present regime.

I thank you all. God bless.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

Long live The Nigerian Institute of Town Planners;

Long live Town Planners Registration Council;

Long live NITP. South West Forum.

"HOW TO MAKE MARRIAGE WORK"

BEING A LECTURE DELIVERED BY TPL 'NIYI OLANIPEKUN, HEAD OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION, ILESA WEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST UNIQ FM COUPLES' DINNER IN COMMEMORATION OF YEAR 2013 VALENTINE'S DAY HELD AT THE KINGS' EVENT CENTER AND SUITES AYESO, ILESA TODAY THURSDAY 14TH

FEBRUARY, 2013.

INTRODUCTION

I believe most people would agree that a happy marriage is one of life's great treasures. Unfortunately, the odds of making a good marital union are not in our favor. We have a divorce rate in the U.S. of at least fifty percent. In some urban areas it is even higher, and this figure does not include separations, desertions, or marriages that stay together, but probably should not. Social scientists believe that only around twenty-five percent of all marriages work satisfactorily, and some believe the percentage is as low as ten percent. The children from this small group of successful families usually have the best chance to achieve their optimal potential. The offspring from the other seventy-five percent are often emotionally handicapped to some degree. In other words, an awful lot of people are living less than satisfactory lives.

There is no doubt that a good number of children from many homes are psychologically damaged by destructive experiences resulting from frequent angry interactions with parents that are dissatisfied, frustrated, and unhappy in their marriages. Thus, poor marital choices diminish our children's lives as well as our own.

It appears that numerous couples form these unsuitable unions because they do not know what to look for in a mate; others settle for partners they know are incompatible, but hope that after they marry, somehow, their mates will change, and their relationships will get better. Unfortunately, they seldom do. If they manage to avoid divorce, their marriages frequently settle into angry, cheerless, or deenergised forms of coexistence. Nevertheless, you can prevent this difficulty.

Now reflect on this experience from Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet:

**Love is a smoke made with the fumes of sighs;
Being purged, a fire sparkling in lovers' eyes;
Being vexed, a sea nourished with lovers' tears;
What is it else? A madness most discreet,
A choking gall, and a preserving sweet.**

From a psychological perspective, we can describe love as the state of mental well-being associated with the satisfaction of affectional, sexual, and ego enhancement needs, or the anticipation of such satisfaction. It does sound a bit stuffy compared to Shakespeare and Lord Byron, but it is accurate. Love fills us with a desire to satisfy our loved ones' needs as much as, and often more than, our own.

Psychologists also describe two kinds of love - romantic love and mature love. (The later is sometimes called companionate love.) Romantic love refers to the infatuation associated with falling in love, to love at first sight (or quickly there after). The lover imbues the loved one with enchanting and idealized qualities that are often little possessed by the loved one. The lover can also feel that the loved one is more important than life itself. Again, from Romeo and Juliet:

**"So dear I love him that with him,
All deaths I could endure.
Without him, live no life."**

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE MARRIAGE

DO you ACCEPT EACH OTHER AS you BOTH ARE?

It is important to accept each other's faults, flaws, and shortcomings without the need to make changes.

HAS YOUR COURTSHIP BEEN SMOOTH OR TURBULENT?

Frequent or caustic premarital fights predict turmoil after marriage.

DO YOU LIKE THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT YOURSELF WHEN YOU ARE WITH YOUR INTENDED?

The way you feel about yourself when in your mate's company frequently reflects your partner's underlying, often unstated sentiments.

4. DO you HAVE COMPATIBLE INTERESTS, ATTITUDES, VALUES AND GOALS?

It is important to be in harmony about the things you like to do, the beliefs you hold important, the way you view the world, and your life's objectives.

WHAT SPOUSAL ROLES DO you EXPECT AFTER MARRIAGE?

You need to agree about whether your marriage will be traditional or modern.

IS your INTENDED SEXUALLY ATTRACTIVE AND SATISFYING TO you?

Sexual and affectional compatibility are vital parts of a lasting and satisfying marriage.

DO YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE WHEN YOU ARE IN

THE COMPANY OF YOUR INTENDED'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS?

Be aware that marriage frequently comes with a large cast of loveable, and sometimes not-so-loveable, characters

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE SATISFACTION OF EACH OTHER'S NEEDS?

ARE YOUR PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD HYGENIC

STANDARDS COMPATIBLE?

Incompatibility in the need for orderliness and cleanliness can seriously undermine an otherwise gratifying partnership.

ARE YOU WILLING TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY, AS

FAR AS IS REASONABLE, FOR MAKING THE

RELATIONSHIP WORK?

People who recognize that their actions influence their spouses' behavior are best able to work out marital difficulties.

Choosing the right person is, sadly, not sufficient to produce a happy marriage. You must also be the right person both for your mate as well as for marriage in general. In other words, you not only need to be compatible in specific ways with you spouse, but you must also possess certain traits that are essential for making any relationship work. Trustworthiness, a capacity for empathy, emotional stability, and fair-mindedness are indispensable examples. It needs to be said, however, some people are so self-focused, or so fiercely independent they would have difficulty sharing control of their lives with anyone. These folks are probably better off staying single. I believe most of us, however, including those who have had poor prior experiences, are capable of forging good and lasting intimate relationships.

Thus, in addition to finding the right person you must discover what you can do after you marry to help your marriage function at its best and to promote its longevity.

SELF-ESTEEM

Self-esteem is a central issue in our lives and plays an important role in marriage. It influences our choice of partners as well as how we behave toward our partners. The development of a positive identity leaves us open to feeling, competent, valued, and with a secure sense of belonging.

Interpersonal System

. It is created and maintained by two individuals. Each person influences the other, creating a partnership that, through back and forth interaction moves toward a steady, distinctive, and enduring state.

Communication

Of all the social skills we learn in life, our ability to clearly state our thoughts and feelings is one of the most important. And this is especially true in marriage. The expression of feelings is its life-blood supplying needed information about the relationship to its members as well as furnishing vital emotional nutrients. Experts widely agree, the ability to communicate effectively is one attainable attribute that is crucial to the success of any marriage.

Modes of Communication

We communicate on two levels: verbal and nonverbal. We convey our thoughts and feelings verbally - with words - and nonverbally - with body language through tone, facial expression, gestures, and actions. It is important that our statements agree on both levels.

Passive Style

The passive style of interpersonal behavior is characterized by inaction. People utilizing this mode tend to be easy to get along with and pleasant. They go out of their way to avoid offending others.

Aggressive Style

The aggressive style is on the other extreme and is characterized by belligerence and interpersonal intrusiveness. People who utilize this approach tend to go forcefully after what they want and usually get it; but they are unconcerned about how this will affect others. They act as though they have rights, but others do not. They are not intimidated by anger and are seldom concerned with other's opinions. These people say, "I don't get stress - I give

it.” However, their angry, dominating manner tends to alienate people who, in time, seek to oppose them.

Assertive Style

The assertive style is a combination of the other two styles. It is characterized by both fairness and strength. Assertive individuals are able to stand up for their rights, but remain sensitive to the rights of others. People who choose this approach are usually relaxed and easygoing, but are candid about their feelings. They do not usually bottle-up their feelings and deal with stressful situations, when possible, as they arise.

DIVINE MARRIAGE

Active God, Active Women

[Genesis 1](#) provides our initial glimpse of who God is. The first thing God wants us to know is that he is an extraordinarily *active* God. In [Genesis 1](#) there are *thirty-eight* active verbs describing what God does: he creates, he speaks, he separates, he calls, he blesses, he gives, and much more—all in just one chapter.

Then—and this is the key—he tells the woman and the man *to do the same*: **“God blessed them [male and female] and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground’”** ([Genesis 1:28](#)).

God made you, as a woman, to rule in this world, to subdue it, to act according to his image. Sin begins with sluggishness, despair, and despondency. People give up on their marriages, give up on prayer, give up on their churches, give up on their kids, and eventually even give up on themselves. They say, “It’s no use,” and start to sulk instead of painstakingly remaking their marriage—simply because their first (or even tenth) attempt failed.

Your marriage is what you make it. The relationship you have is the direct result of what you’ve put into it, and in many cases, a marriage can rise only to the level of your courage. Initial romantic intensity is unearned; it seems to fall on us out of nowhere. But marriage has

to be built stone by stone. We have to make deliberate choices; we have to be active and confront the weaknesses we see in ourselves and in each other.

The Divine Pattern for Marriage

Our generation is watching the death of marriage and the family as we know it. Among the many factors contributing to its destruction are immorality, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, abortion, sterilization, women's liberation, delinquency, and sexual rebellion. All those things are like strands in a cord that is strangling the family. But God has the divine standard that can make marriage and the family what they ought to be.

The priority

If we don't preserve the family, society will crumble. The family is the basic building block of society.

The presupposition

Before you can know the divine pattern that can make your marriage and family life meaningful, you must meet one requirement; you must be a Christian. The book of Ephesians, which discusses the divine pattern, is written to believers. If you're not a believer, there is little hope that you can make your marriage and family anything near what God intends it to be. Now I'm not saying that non-believers can't have meaningful relationships. They can but only up to a point. They will never know total fulfillment. As an individual can find fulfillment only in a relationship with God, a family can find fulfillment only if its definition is designed and authored by God Himself. So, apart from knowing Jesus Christ, we can't expect a family to be fulfilled, because God is the One who created man, invented marriage and the family, and wrote the book on how marriage is to function.

The power

There's more to having a meaningful and fulfilled marriage and family than just being a believer. There are many Christians who know and love the Lord who are not living according to His moral, marital, or familial laws. Why? Because they are not filled with the

Spirit. It's one thing to possess the Spirit of God and another to be filled by Him. [Ephesians 5:18](#) says, *"Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."* In other words, every Christian possesses the Spirit but is not always controlled by, or filled with, the Spirit. And when we're not controlled by the Spirit of God, our family life will manifest that. A carnal believer is going to have discord in his family because he has discord between himself and God. So, to be a believer is the starting point; but being controlled with the Spirit is what brings results. We're drowning in a sea of information on marriage today: marriage seminars, marriage conferences, marriage encounters, marriage books, and marriage counselors. People think the first thing to do when they have a marital problem is to see a counselor, psychiatrist, or analyst, buy a supply of books, go to a seminar, listen to tapes, or fill out charts. I don't want to oversimplify this, but if you're not filled with the Spirit, you can do all those things, but none of them will matter. On the other hand, if you're filled with the Spirit, He'll control your relationships. Now, counseling books, and seminars can be helpful in giving you practical hints on how being filled with the Spirit should work itself out in your relationships, but the epitome of the Christian life is to be filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit. Only when that happens will our families be what God wants them to be. That is what Paul is saying in the passage beginning in [Ephesians 5:18](#).

SUBMISSION

The word *submit* is from the Greek word *ὑποτάσσω* (*ὑπο* "under"; *τάσσω*, "to line up," "to get in order," "to arrange"), which, in a military sense, means "to rank beneath or under." As Christians, we are to rank ourselves under one another, not over one another. The whole mentality of the Christian life as we relate to each other is one of humility and submissiveness.

[Philippians 2:4-8](#) says, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBMISSION

In our relationships we are to be submissive. That is a general principle for all believers to follow. Now, in terms of structure and function, there is to be authority and submission; but in terms of interpersonal relationships, there is to be mutual submission. The principle of authority and submission is in the church, in the government, and in the home; but that doesn't change the fact that we are to mutually submit to one another. It's mutual submission the apostle Paul is after in [Ephesians 5:22-6:9](#). Paul uses the family to illustrate the concept, starting in verse 21.

Illustrated in the family

In verse 22, wives are to submit to their husbands; but in verse 25, husbands are to submit to their wives. You may ask, "In what way?" Verse 25 says, *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it"* I don't know of any greater act of submission than to die for someone---and that's the way husbands are to treat their wives. A husband is to submit to his wife, not in the sense of abdicating his responsibility of leadership, but in the sense of getting under her to bear her burdens, carry her cares, meet her needs, and sacrifice his own desires to fulfill her needs.

In [Ephesians 6:1-3](#), children are to submit in obedience to their parents; but in verse 4, parents also are to submit (the word *fathers* in verse 4 could be broadened to mean "parents"). Parents are to submit to their children in the sense that they are not to provoke them to wrath but instead "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

We are all to submit. A servant needs to submit to his master (vv. 5-8), but a master needs to submit by never doing wrong to that servant (v. 9). We all have to submit. Every relationship in the family illustrates mutual submissiveness. We need to keep that in mind. Remember, Paul was talking to the whole church when he said, *"We are all to submit to another"* (v. 21).

b. Illustrated in the marriage relationship

Even though there is authority and submission in the marriage relationship, there is also a beautiful mutuality. [First Corinthians 7:3](#) says, "*Let the husband render unto the wife her due.*" The husband has a submissive part to play in that he is to submit and render to his wife what she needs. However, verse 3 continues, "*And likewise also, the wife unto the husband.*" Verse 4 says, "*The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.*" That is mutuality. It does not negate the leadership responsibility, but it recognizes the mutual submissiveness that must occur in a marriage and a family at every point. It is the basic principle of family life.

c. In marriage

The same is true in marriage. The essence, the spiritual quality, and the position before God of both husband and wife are the same; but in the family, for the sake of function, the woman is to take the place of submission to the leadership of man. God has made the man stronger, capable of harder physical labor, and has given him the responsibility of taking the brunt of difficult circumstances. The wife's tenderness and gentleness, then, are to support and balance the husband's strength. The point is that there is mutual submission in marriage, but it doesn't negate the principle of authority and submission.

SUMMARY

After being happily married for 33 years, Dr. Phil Blog in his article "Relationship / Sex" shares some of his thoughts about what makes a marriage work:

The quality of a relationship is a function of the extent to which it is built on a solid underlying friendship and meets the needs of the two people involved.

You get what you give. When you give better, you get better.

If you put your relationship in a win/lose situation, it will be a lose/lose situation.

Forget whether you're right or wrong. The question is: Is what you're doing working or not working?

There is no right or wrong way to fix a relationship. Find your own way that work. But recognize when it's not working and be honest when it needs fixing.

Falling in love is not the same thing as being in love. Embrace the change and know that it takes work.

You don't fix things by fixing your partner.

Intimacy is so important because it is when we let someone else enter our private world.

You don't necessarily solve problems. You learn how to manage them.

Communicate; Make sure your sentences have verbs. Remember that only 7 percent of communication is verbal. Actions and non-verbal communication speak much louder.

You teach people how to treat you. You can renegotiate the rules.

CONCLUSION

Today's Marriages and Their Effects on the Next Generation

I am concerned about today's marriages. Each year several million couples pledge themselves in marriage, vowing to love each other for better or for worse. But many of those marriages will end in divorce. That contributes to the problem of unwanted children. There are as many abortions by married women as non-married. Couples often don't want children. One-third of all couples in their child-bearing years have been sterilized. Why? Because children interfere with divorce. If you don't have children, you can leave easier. Children get in the way. We have a generation of children growing up in families that are in chaos. Many children are saying to themselves, *The last thing I want to do is get married. I don't want to repeat this mess.* They've lived in chaotic and totally unfulfilled families, so they don't want anything to do with marriage. But they want to fulfill their sex drives, so they go from person to person with no commitment. The next generation may never get married.

Even marriages that do hang together are often characterized by adultery, unfaithfulness, lying, cheating, loss of respect, loss of trust, pride, self-centeredness, materialism, laziness, and loneliness. Our nation is in a mess, but the sad thing is that those characteristics have crept into the church. Believers are having marital problems, too. The answer is not more counselors, more marriage seminars, or more books on marriage; the answer is in [Ephesians 5:18](#): "*Be filled with the Spirit.*" When that is accomplished, God Himself will produce the virtues that make for a meaningful marriage. People are good at patching up symptoms but not so good at dealing with reality. What we need to do is back up and look at God's principles.

VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

14th Feb. is the most important day in lover's life. This day is called Valentine's Day. But do you really know the story that has led to the celebration of this day?

Once upon a time, there was a king named Claudius. He was the de facto ruler of the great Roman Empire. He wanted to conquer the whole world and to fulfill his dream he wanted to put in place a great and ruthless army, like the king of Persia in "300 movie". But men in his kingdom refused to join his army as this could lead them without families were at stake.

So King Claudius made an unkind rule, according to which no man could marry in his kingdom. Then came St. Valentine who used to hold secret marriages. Cruel King Claudius came to know this thing very soon and killed him. He died on 14th Feb. hence this day is celebrated by lovers to mark St. Valentine's sacrifice.

Valentine's Day is the second most popular celebrated day in the world. On this day, candy, gifts, flowers and cards are exchanged between loved ones.

The preparation to celebrate Valentine's Day starts one week before the actual day. I have provided the list of the days and concept. There are several ideas to celebrate Valentine week and I like to share some of them with you my listeners.

LOVER'S VALENTINE WEEK.

7 Feb, 2013 ----- Rose Day

This day is celebrated by sharing roses and it is the 1st day to start Valentine week.
Each colour of rose has a specific meaning and you can plan according to that:

White Rose --- To say "I am sorry"

Yellow Rose --- To start your friendship

Pink Rose --- To say "I like you"

Red Rose --- To say "I love you"

8 Feb. 2013 - Propose Day.

On this day, lovers' propose to each other and you can propose by having a candle light dinner or a long drive or try to give to whoever he or she loves most.

9 Feb. 2013 – Chocolate Day

This is the day to share sweets or chocolates and in the market you have lot of packs available. You can give gift a packet of ferrero rocher, pack of Cadbury or basket of chocolates.

10 Feb. 2013 – Teddy Bear Day

On this day, you can buy teddy bears as they are cute and loveable.

11 Feb. 2013 – Promise Day

This day you should make a promise to your loved one as to make the day special. Some of the ideas would be to leave any bad habit which is not liked by your partner.

12 Feb. 2013 – Kiss Day

On this day, you can plan an outing which is liked by your partner. You can also give gift of a photo frame with a loving moment.

13 Feb. 2013 – Hug Day

This is Valentine eve day, and the most romantic idea would be to give gift of a beautiful dress with a warm hug.

14 Feb. 2013 – Happy Valentine's Day.

This is the last day of the Valentine week. Below is the list of gift ideas that you can plan.

Gift ideas for girls are rose, dress, teddy bear, chocolate, watch, jewelry like pendant set, ring, bracelets etc.

Gift ideas for boys - sunglasses, tie, watch, memorial moment photo phrame, shirt, bracelet etc.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION !

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Self-Esteem Quiz

Here is a short quiz to help you determine your level of self-esteem and at the same time show you some elements that are vital to the growth of a secure and positive identity. Remember, a secure sense of self is an essential ingredient in love that lasts.

In each question circle the letter choice that best applies to you.

Do you judge your personal worth according to the opinions of other

people? a) Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you need everyone to like or accept you?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you believe that being alone means you are unacceptable?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you downgrade yourself when your performances are not perfect?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you feel rejected whenever attention is not paid to you?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you compare yourself unfavorably to others?

a)Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you set unrealistically high standards for yourself?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you believe people can only like you if you are interesting?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you estimate your general ability to be low or inadequate?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

Do you boast about your accomplishments or about the people you know?

Almost never. b) Sometimes. c) Almost always.

RESULTS (Self – Esteem Quiz)

The “a” answers reflect an independent, self-assured and self-confident manner. If you scored high here, you are able to accept your strengths as well as your shortcomings. Your close interpersonal relationships are probably enjoyable. Seven or more “a” answers indicate a very high level of self-esteem.

The “b” answers denote moderate feelings of self-esteem. Since most of us have some doubt about ourselves and need occasional reassurances from others, it is likely the average person would make this choice. The desire for approval is part of our nature as social beings and, in moderation, can prompt behavior that adds to our charm. If most of your choices were “b” choices, or if you chose as many “a” answers as you did “c” answers your level of self-esteem is average.

The “c” choices reflect strong self-doubt, low self-confidence, and feelings of dependency and inadequacy. If you scored high here you tend to see yourself as less adequate than others, are probably very needful of their approval, and feel generally insecure. You may feel you cannot function well on your own. Resentment toward the people you feel dependent upon may develop if it is not already present. Your low assessment of yourself may be hampering your ability to enjoy life. If you had a “c” choice score of seven or more you probably have low self-esteem. If you wish to boost your self-esteem, you may find it helpful to be more assertive and less perfectionist. It may be useful to know that most people value inclusion of some kind and wish to belong. Thus, the people you desire acceptance from likely want your approval too. This fact gives us all intrinsic value and makes our good opinion of others socially desirable. Take a look at your answers again and try to move your behavior into the “a” choice range.

It is important to note that, although this quiz does have face validity, it has not been subjected to validity and reliability trials. The results of this quiz is only suggestive and not intended to be definitive.

ARE YOU MODERN OR TRADITIONAL?

Here is a quiz to help you determine just how assertive you are and, at the same time, show you what assertive responses look like.

Quiz

Circle T (true) or F (false) on each question before looking at the answers. Try to answer the questions with the first response that comes to your mind. This will enable the quiz to better present a picture of your natural tendencies.

Please note, surveys of this kind are not definitive and can only reflect trends in your personality.

1. Muscles look good only on men. T F

2. In dual career marriages, the man's career is more important because if they decide to have children he must support the family..... T F

It is usually much safer for pilots to be men..... T F

During family meals, the father should sit at the head of the table..... T F

When dividing family chores, work inside the house should be for the woman and work outside for the man..... T F

Women in pants and short hair are usually unattractive..... T F

Women are usually better cooks than men..... T F

Women are usually not good at math.....TF

Women do not make good combat soldiers because they are
not as strong or as aggressive as men....., TF

In divorce cases, custody should be awarded to the mother because
women are naturally more loving and nurturingTF

A women's most important task in life is producing children ... TF

Because of their small size, women do not make good truck drivers .. TF

ANSWERS (Are you modern or Traditional Quiz)

The T (true) answers represent the more traditional view. The more T answers you made, the more traditional you are in your thinking. Eight or more T answers would definitely place you in the traditional category.

Feminists and modern social thinkers have challenged all of the issues raised by these questions. F (false) answers to these questions are more representative of their thinking. The more F answers you made, the more your thinking is in line with current ideas about sexual and social role relationships. Eight F answers or more would clearly place you in the modern category.

It is important to note that, although the quiz does have face validity, it has not been subjected to validity and reliability trials. The results of this quiz are only suggestions and are not intended to be definitive.

ARE YOU A GIVER OR TAKER?

I designed the following quiz to help you determine whether you are primarily a Giver or a Taker. Knowing this can help you correct any potentially harmful inequities.

Quiz

Circle T (true) or F (false) on each question before looking at the answers. Try to answer the questions with the first response that comes to your mind. This will enable the quiz to best present a picture of your natural tendencies. Please note, however, surveys of this kind are not definitive and can only reflect trends in your personality.

1. I agree with the following statement: It is nice to be important, but more important to be nice..... T F
2. I need to be liked by others more than other people seem to ..TF
3. I do not believe that nice people finish lastTF
4. I believe that most people on welfare are truly in need..... T F
5. I frequently give to charity..... TF
6. Christmas is my favorite holiday.....TF
7. There was much love in my family when I was a child
8. My efforts to achieve or succeed in life are seldom interfered with by others..... T F
- I do not agree with this saying: Do unto others as they would do unto you, but do it first..... T F
10. I usually feel uncomfortable when others do things for me.. T F
11. I am usually crushed when others have bad opinions of me... T F
- I believe that if you cannot say something nice about someone, don't say

anything.....T F

ANSWERS (Are you a giver or taker Quiz)

The T (true) answers represent qualities often found in Givers, or people who are compliant, pleasing, or other-oriented. Such individuals tend to seek approval and have a great desire to be liked by others. They have a propensity to give or do a great deal for others with the hope of being liked. Some psychologists believe that about fifty percent of our population has this characteristic. In the extreme, however, Givers or compliant personalities lack assertiveness and are easily exploited. In such cases resentment and hostility readily develops. But, for fear of rejection, their anger is seldom expressed until it builds to the point of rage. Ten or more T answers would suggest an extreme in this area.

The F (false) answers reflect qualities often found in Takers, or people who are aggressive and self-oriented. Some of these take-charge characteristics can be helpful for effective leadership. However, in its extreme, it creates resentment, hostility and, eventually, opposition. Eight or more P answers suggest the extreme in this position.

It is important to note that, although the quiz does have face validity, it has not been subjected to validity and reliability trials. The results of this quiz are only suggestions and are not intended to be definitive.

