

**YAHOO! MAIL**

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**Subject:** Fw: FW: Draft CFC GK position**Date:** Wed, 9 May 2007 07:41:12 +0800**From:** "Bacarro, Gerry" < >**To:**

Bros. Joe/Joe/Ernie,

I got this email from Gary Faustino which he claimed later was sent to me accidentally.

I'm forward this you for your disposition as CFC leaders. I trust that you will treat this with confidentiality.

God bless.

Gerry

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Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

-----Original Message-----

From: gary faustino

To: Maria Isabel Fara Descallar

CC: Bacarro, Gerry; Oscar L. Contreras Jr.

Sent: Tue May 08 16:49:21 2007

Subject: Re: FW: Draft CFC GK position

Hi Maribel,

Thank you for sharing the draft letter. I must say it is an ingenious way of conducting the "split." It appears to be very Christian, smooth and orderly. However, I need to clarify certain statements that the good bishop made that may pose some difficulties with the membership.

First, that the poor "is in the core of the life and mission of CFC." Does the bishop mean only the materially poor? From the context of his succeeding paragraphs, it appears to be such. If it is so, then that is exactly the bone of contention of the community as represented by GK. We have adopted a major shift in direction towards the materially poor and diverted our resources by creating a pillar. The members that I have encountered have questioned whether we are indeed families engaged in renewal of family and individual life, or we have adopted a "Mother Theresa" kind of spirituality.

Please don't get me wrong. I do believe in our work with the poor. However, calling it as part of the core and creating a pillar to support it somehow subtly changes the complexion of the vision and mission. It actually gave the license for individuals to make a "GK" out of it. My point of view is, regardless if we are advocating a split or not, is that work-with-the-poor should be a core value not a pillar (Pillar, from my experience of community, is a mainline function). In other words, it should not eat up resources the way it has done so for the past years. Instead, ALL members of CFC should have an appreciation and be advocates of it, not necessarily be in its mainstream conduct. The same is true

with pro-life. It should be a CORE VALUE, and not a pillar. Members should espouse the value and grow in it but need not divert resources to it nor participate in it like a mainstream endeavor. We are still, and I think this is the sentiment of a lot of CFCs, a community building group with all its formation (CLPs, teachings etc) and avenues (social ministries) for living out the faith. That is our pillar and should be given the appropriate amount of resources. Should work-with-the-poor and pro-life become just ministries? I say, yes.

Second, passing on the "Pondong Pinoy" spirituality to GK will not sit well with Tony. In my experience of this person, he will not adopt something that he did not create, much less from the clergy. Restricting what he wants to do (compete with CFC) will not be palatable to him. That is precisely why this whole chaos came to be. He wanted a parallel organization. I say give it to him. It is a big world out there anyway. Even CFC in its size can't make a dent. The way we do things will be quite different anyway.

Third, the electoral process which the bishop mentioned might not be applicable. I have very little knowldege on the by-laws of GK. I am not sure whether what the bishop proposed can actually be implemented. So, I cannot comment any further.

I may speak of radical thoughts (on the pillars) and Frank may not agree with me. If we make a formal statement to the Cardinal as drafted, then we need to uphold it. But that core element of the vision and mission and its implementation is how I see the monster was created. We are in danger of creating another one if we don't watch out. I have always believed that Tony's behavior is only a symptom of a much deeper and systemic problem in community. Maintaining the struncture that will magnify the problem is not learning from the Lamentations.

God bless.

Gary

Maria Isabel Fara Descallar < > wrote:

Here you go brother.. God bless!

-----Original Message-----

From: soc b villegas [mailto:  
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2007 9:00 PM  
To: mdescallar  
Cc: fapofc@  
Subject: Draft CFC GK position

and  
Please  
then  
Enclosed is a draft letter for the Archbishop of Manila for your study  
evaluation. I request you to send the Council of Elders yourself.  
convey my apologies to the other Council Elders for inability to send  
personally.

only  
I  
With you I pray for the will of God. I am not imposing my proposal. I  
come from my sincere love for CFC and GK. That love for you all is all

have and all I offer.

father soc

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Mabuhay! Bataan Bayani at Banal!

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His Eminence  
Gaudencio Cardinal ROSALES, DD  
Archbishop of Manila  
121 Arzobispo Street, Intramuros  
Manila

Your Eminence:

We the seven members of the Council of Elders of the Couples for Christ Ministries come to you to inform you of some matters affecting our community. We have been discerning the plan of God for us and the direction that we shall receive from you after reading this letter will complete our process of seeking the holy will of God. Your pastoral direction is the will of God for us.

#### OUR COMMON STAND

We affirm our deep love for the Lord and the holy Catholic Church. We affirm our common passion for the renewal of the Church and society through the formation programs of Couples for Christ and the social action programs of Gawad Kalinga.

We declare firmly that any positive impact that Couples for Christ and Gawad Kalinga may have contributed to Church and society is all due to the grace of God. Everything that Couples for Christ and Gawad Kalinga has become is pure grace! No one in CFC and GK can lay claim for any honor and praise. We are only His miserable servants.

We affirm our preferential option for the poor and we declare that the mission to bring the Good News to the poor is at the core of the mission of CFC and GK.

We recognize that Gawad Kalinga has become a great blessing for the Church in its mission to build Christian communities of families who have been empowered to live up to their dignity as men and women created in the image and likeness of God. Gawad Kalinga owes this to the grace of God and to the generosity of the members of Couples for Christ all over the world. Gawad Kalinga without the full support of Couples for Christ would not have been able to achieve what it has become right now.

We recognize too that as Couples for Christ continues to grow in its various pastoral pillars, it has nurtured the immense growth and maturity of Gawad Kalinga such that the latter has become a Church program that may be given a recognition and approval by the hierarchy as a social action program for the poor distinct and independent from Couples for Christ. Couples for Christ recognizes this growth with much gratitude and a deep sense of holy pride. Gawad Kalinga acknowledges this with an even greater sense of gratitude and increased fervor for the Kingdom of God.

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## OUR PLAN OF ACTION:

With your blessings, we plan to announce to the members of Couples for Christ and the Gawad Kalinga benefactors and beneficiaries that GK will start to have its own governing body distinct from Couples for Christ. This is a moving towards maturity and growth and not a separation of ways and ideals.

By the end of May, we request you to constitute an **ad hoc** Council of Elders for Couples for Christ and another **ad hoc** Council of Elders for Gawad Kalinga. These two **ad hoc** bodies must prepare to call for an election of the regular Council of Elders for CFC and another Council of Elders for GK not later than June 30, 2007. The members of the **ad hoc** Council may be elected.

The Elders Assembly to be convoked by the two ad hoc councils will elect five members for the CFC Council and five members for the GK Council. The Elders Assembly must not be divided between GK and CFC. The entire Elders Assembly must vote for the two Councils. Nominees for the CFC Council may not be nominated for the GK Council and vice versa.

We request you to preside at a Mass to bless the new Councils of CFC and GK together. While CFC and GK are independent from each other, we are united under one common Archbishop and members of the same spiritual family sharing a common mission of evangelization.

## HOW SHALL WE OPERATE

### On the Part of CFC:

Couples for Christ will continue to keep social ministries as one of its pastoral pillars. On the matter of building homes for the poor, it will not initiate a parallel program. CFC will encourage members who want to engage in this ministry to support GK. CFC members who want to be GK workers may do so but only in an individual capacity. In opting to take on positions of leadership in GK, CFC members give up their right to become leaders in CFC.

### On the Part of GK:

Gawad Kalinga will continue its mission of building homes and communities for the poor and adopt the **Pondo ng Pinoy** as its core spirituality. It must work on an evangelization program different from the Christian Life Program which is distinctly a CFC program. It must not engage in family enrichment programs in deference to CFC's mission thrust. While present members of CFC may opt to become full time GK workers, GK must actively recruit workers from non CFC members as a way to make the GK better known by more people.

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We plead with you to give us your pastoral guidance and help us to discern the will of God for us now that we are at the crossroads of our mission for the Church.

We submit everything to you. We are your sons. Your sons we want to remain.

Respectfully yours,