



Institute for National Transformation

Lecture 14

The Role of the Family in Nation Building

By

Beat Baingana Bisangwa

Developing value-grounded, no-excuse leaders that will transform their organizations, communities and nations to greater levels of performance and achievement.



Objectives

1. To define the family in the context of national building
2. To examine the evolution of family and current family trends
3. To explore means of building strong families for national transformation



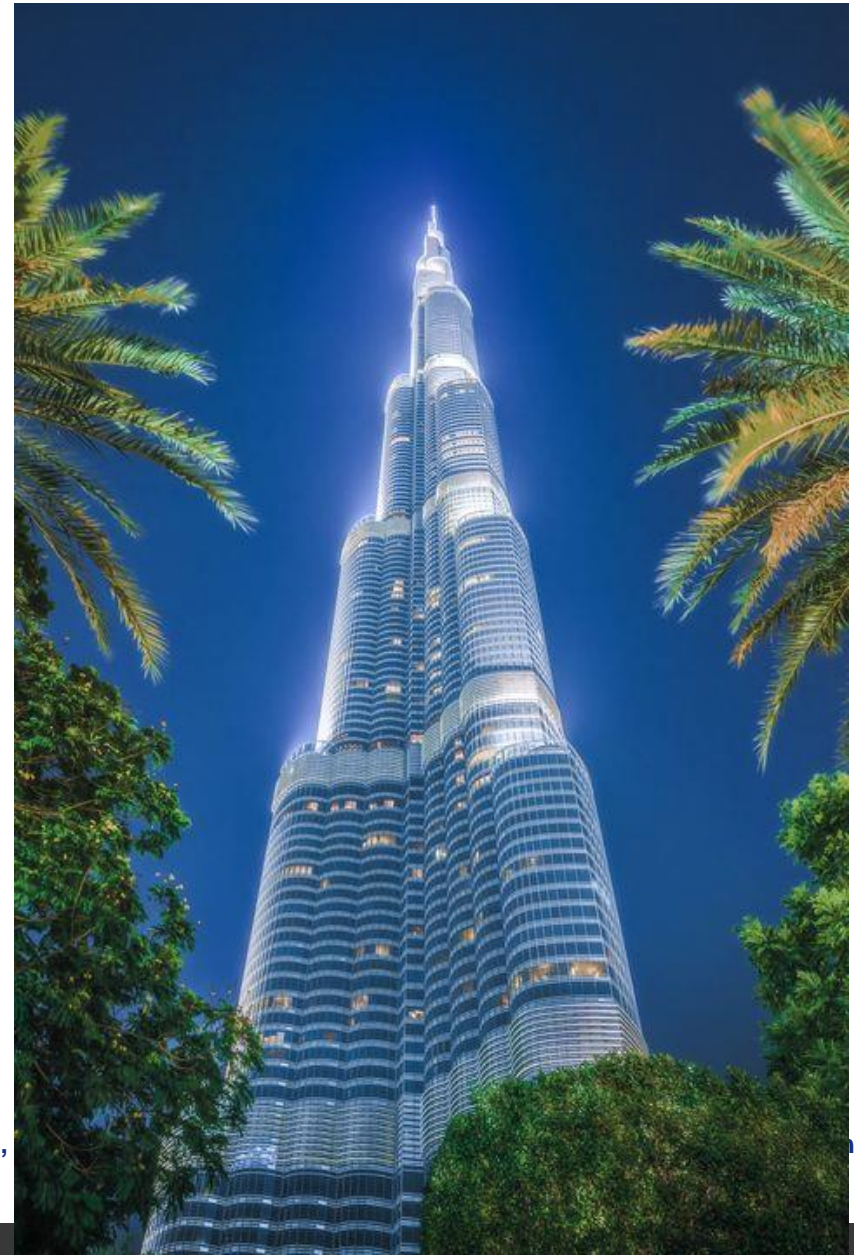
Reflection

1. What comes to mind when you think of this lecture:

...Family in relation to nation-building...

NB: Please put up you hand to share or write in the chat.

Reflection



POLL QUESTION

Which statement is correct? 1 or 2?

1. We build strong nations to build strong families
2. We build strong families to build strong nations

NB: *Consider these statements with where we are as families today in Uganda.*

You will put up you hand if you have a point to make

DEFINITION OF FAMILY

- Our constitution under “*Social and Economic Objectives*” in section XIX states that:
- “...*The family is the natural and basic unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State...*”



GOVERNANCE ISSUES BEGIN AT HOME

A nation is as strong as its families

“....As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live.....”

Pope John Paul II



NDP II also highlights the importance of human capital development in addressing socio-economic transformation. It further provides for strengthening of the family to be able to nurture culturally conscious citizens who will actively participate in government programs for wealth creation, sustainable development and nation building.

THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- The NDP II also highlights the importance of human capital development in addressing socio-economic transformation.
- It further provides for strengthening of the family to be able to nurture culturally conscious citizens who will actively participate in government programs for wealth creation, sustainable development and nation building.



POLICES & LAWS

- The Domestic Violence Act;
- Children's Act;
- The Succession Act;
- The Family and Child Protection Unit of police and the Family and Children's Court.
- Department of Family and Culture in the Ministry of Gender,



TYPES OF FAMILIES

- Nuclear – husband/father, wife/mother (couple), and children. This is the typical reference family.
- Female/Male headed household (single parent).
- Child-headed house holds.
- Extended family – Nucleas plus extended family.
- A group of adults living together without necessarily a mother or a father.



Geneology of a functional family

- Illustrating the priority Jonathan and Sarah Edwards placed on training their children, **A.E. Winship's A Study in Education and Heredity (1900)**, revealed that Edwards' descendants included:
- 1 U.S. Vice-President,
- 3 U.S. Senators,
- 3 governors,
- 3 mayors,
- 13 college presidents,
- 30 judges,
- 65 professors,
- 80 public office holders,
- 100 lawyers and
- 100 missionaries



Genealogy of a dysfunctional family

- This same study examined a family known as “Jukes.”
- In 1877, while visiting New York’s prisons, Richard Dugdale found inmates with 42 different last names all descending from one man, called “Max.” Born around 1720 of Dutch stock, Max was a hard drinker, idle, irreverent and uneducated.
- Max’s descendants included:
- 7 murderers, 60 thieves, 50 women of debauchery, 130 other convicts, 310 paupers, who, combined spent 2,300 years in poorhouses, and 400 physically wrecked by indulgent living.
- The “Jukes” descendants cost the state more than \$1,250,000.

GOVERNANCE ISSUES BEGIN AT HOME

A Chinese saying

...'If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person. If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house. If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world...'

The Future of a Nation

- The societal value system are thought and reinforced at three places:
...The Family, Religious Institutions, and the existing Educational systems...
- The virtues of character, behavioral patterns and moral systems determine how great the nation and its people are going to become.



WHAT GOD HAD IN MIND

26Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

27***So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28******Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it;***



God's Plan For Nations

Acts 17:26-28 (NLT)

26 From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand which should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.



FROM ONE MAN - NOAH

Genesis 8:18,19

So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, **according to their families, went out of the ark.**



HOW THE FAMILY HAS EVOLVED

The family is evolving, almost facing extinction

1. Feminism
2. LGBT
3. Pornography
4. Prostitution & human trafficking
5. Cohabitation
6. Bestiality, pedophilia, incest
7. Cohabitation
8. Abortion and childlessness
9. Abolition of marriage and family life

Leadership at family level cited as the root cause



American Statistics

- 50% of all marriages in America end in divorce
- 50% of first marriages, 67% of second and 74% of third marriages end in divorce

Jennifer Baker, Forrest Institute of Professional
Psychology, Springfield, Missouri

These statistics also include Christian marriages



LEADERSHIP AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

POLL QUESTION

Would you say that if we fixed the leadership issue at family level, within a generation, we would fix leadership issues at government level?

Yes.

No.



RECOMMENDATIONS

We must arise and fight for the survival and well being of the family because the very fabric of society is under attack by vicious forces.

HOW?

Write brief suggestions in the chat please.



GOVERNANCE ISSUES AT HOME

Eph. 5: 25 - 29:

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might [\[a\]](#)sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church.



GOVERNANCE ISSUES AT HOME

CONCEPTS TO UNDERSTAND FOR BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

- Refer to God
- Foundations of relationships building – character building
- Gender equity
- Oneness
- Helper
- Headship/Submission
- Household management



RECOMMENDATIONS

The real action ought to be at the family level but to kick that off we might have to start at governance level.



RECOMMENDATIONS

There is need for the following:

- Strategies to equip couples with relationship and parenting skills
- Strategies to equip young people with relationship and social skill before they engage for marriage
- A robust M&E system for families



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish a Ministry or an authority for the family and/or an inter-ministerial taskforce to operationalize effective policies and strategies
- Strong coordination and strengthening of all institutions involved in strengthening families
- Communities and religious organizations to become serious watch dogs over family affairs