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INNER VOICE

A Newsletter of
Initiatives of Change Indonesia

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Berbenah: Reset, Renew, Refresh!



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Cover Story

Indonesia-Women Creators of Peace is reborn from the womb of lofC Indonesia. The women representatives of lofC Indonesia are grateful for the opportunity to learn from licensed facilitators of Women Creators of Peace Australia. This training was conducted remotely by Jean Brown, and in person by Cheryl Wood and Chebet Vincent at Armagh Center, Toorak, Australia, from June 5-7, 2024. At the end of the session, Cheryl Wood passed on a candle as a symbol of inheriting love, wisdom, and knowledge for the future generation in Indonesia.

In line with our theme this year, *berbenah* means tidying up and focusing on Intergenerational Legacy. The hope is that the birth of CoP is part of the legacy to empower the community, especially supporting women in decision-making and change.

Names in the frame (left-right)

Front: Nenden, Etun, May, Hayati

Back: Anisa, Cheryl, Delia, Daya



Foreword

by:

Nur Hayati Syafii

National Coordinator of
Initiatives of Change Indonesia



Greetings.

As a movement and organization that holds conscience as its core principle, lofC (Initiatives of Change) recognizes the necessity for both structure and flexibility in meeting its challenges and needs. Established as a movement in Indonesia in 2001, lofC registered as an official institution in 2006 and as a foundation in 2020.

Throughout its development, lofC Indonesia continues to strive for presence and growth. We continue to improve internally while externally adapting to the changing times, available resources, and evolving needs. Our dedication is to always improve the quality and relevance of the organization to achieve our collective goals.

There is a saying in Bahasa, “The bigger a tree grows, the faster the wind that blows it away”. Similarly, in lofC, we believe that improvement is always needed at every stage of life.

This year lofC conducted its internal evaluation. We reviewed the organization's rules and will be electing new official lofC members.

In terms of programs, we are reviving our monthly and annual programs that had previously paused,

such as Monthly Gathering, Kuping Haya, MENTALK, and Woman Creators of Peace (COP). We continue the existing programs by paying attention and responding to what needs to be improved. Some of the flagship programs are the School of Reconciliation class, Trustbuilding Program, Bandung Peace Week, and Family Camp.

With the capability, resilience, and dynamism of the lofC movement, we are deeply moved and grateful that lofC Indonesia can reach this stage. We are very grateful to the people who still believe in this movement, trust its values and goodness, and understand that everything comes from self-awareness. Together, we are building the social support system we desire.

Change starts with me, my family, my neighborhood, and my country.

Long Live Kindness in Life!
May God always be in our steps!



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Highlights

The School of Reconciliation: A Journey of Return, Discovery, and Recovery

by:

Rinni Meir Rakmeni
Principal of School of Reconciliation



Rinni Meir is the coordinator of the School of Reconciliation (SR) Yogyakarta, Central Java, with SR's students.

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“...When working on this, I realized I was obstructing myself, still not accepting, and even feeling guilty to admit that my parents had neglected me. I felt like I was still denying it. After a while, I reminded myself that this process was not to blame or to justify them, but to accept that they were imperfect and had shortcomings...”

Every reconciliation process in the School of Reconciliation begins with awareness of the part of oneself that needs to be addressed.

As conveyed by one participant, the readings at each meeting encourage them to reflect and inspire them to take steps.

This is certainly not easy. Some were hesitant to continue the class, realizing the challenging tasks they had for themselves after the various discoveries from the readings and discussion.

Through assistance in class and one-on-one sessions with the facilitator, participants understood that self-improvement is not an instantaneous process. Self-improvement requires consistent effort. Only then do the knots of doubt and fear unravel one by one. However, this can only happen if the facilitator can listen wholeheartedly and the participants are willing to open themselves and learn.

Self-improvement does not only happen in the classroom but in the Reconciliation School system itself. We started team-building sessions in January 2024 and improved the curriculum and technicalities.

In the team-building session, each member examines their role in the team. Everyone sees if there are any identities from the family that carry over to their relationships within the team. This helps each of us realize the nature of our relationships and conflicts so that everyone can position themselves appropriately and accept the right amount of responsibility.

Revamping the curriculum and system was also done for a better classroom environment. Some roles were trimmed, divided, and added to be more efficient. In this semester, the role of deputy facilitator was eliminated. Administration is centered on an administrator and assisted by positions filled by participants such as attendance and concise findings at the end of each meeting. Facilitators also receive a comprehensive class guide so they can design classes according to their characteristics without deviating from the curriculum.

The changes in the class system had an impact on the schedule and rhythm of the class. The impression was that the class rhythm was slower than in previous years. However, this has helped participants to have more time to digest the material and work on the exercises.

This semester, every participant is required to attend offline classes. Some offline classes will be held in Yogyakarta, Jakarta, Manado, Bandung, and Banyuwangi. Offline classes are designed not only for formal class sessions but can also be adjusted to class agreements such as outings, camping, etc. 68 students are studying in various class levels such as On The Family, Homecoming, Inner Bonding, Learning to Love Yourself, and Road less Travelled. Sekolah Rekonsiliasi is accompanied by 2 facilitators, Nenden Prawira and Rinni Meir.



Trustbuilding Program: Creating a New Story for Indonesia

by:

Miftahul Huda

Program Manager TBP - IofC Indonesia

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For the past 3 years, Initiatives of Change (IofC) Indonesia has been trusted to run the Trustbuilding Program (TBP) by Initiatives of Change International. During the 2021-2023 period, the TBP Indonesia team succeeded in having an impact in many cities. The team also developed various products as learning tools as well as fundraising methods for program sustainability.



In terms of outreach, TBP has produced

572 facilitators

spread across 4 cities (Jakarta, Yogyakarta, Makassar, and Bandung).

So far, the TBP program has successfully reached and impacted

3.492 young people

as trust builders.

The funding that we received for 2 years is a valuable asset to increase our capacity as an organization that continues to grow and reach out to young people. At TBP Indonesia, we use creativity to raise young people's awareness of peacebuilding, healing, and conflict resolution issues.

We created a learning tool in the form of 3 conversation cards: Friends for Life (FFL), Ngobrol Yuk, and a board game called Pest Attack. We use all three to create a safe space for participants to connect and inspire each other. Through these spaces, we want to initiate change and foster peace for Indonesia, starting with its young people.

With the above experience, lofC Indonesia is honed and challenged to continue the TBP program. In 2024, the Yogyakarta facilitator team successfully organized a 3-day Trustbuilding Camp for Muslim and Christian Young Leaders. This event was collectively funded without any grant from lofC Indonesia. Seeing its impact, one of the Pastors who attended as a speaker eventually sponsored the next TBP event.

However, the sustainability of TBP in the 4 cities depends on the commitment of the alumni facilitators to continue facilitating safe spaces in lofC Indonesia's TBP approach. For example, in almost all cities, many were inspired by the reflective and authentic nature of dialogue in TBP. One of the favorite sessions was about Quiet Time, which gives time to love oneself and connect with The Higher Power.

In addition, participants also enjoyed the Healing Historical Wounds session because they could understand the patterns of communal conflict in Indonesia. These are usually conflicts between groups of different religions, ethnicities, economic status, or conflicts between the government and the people. In this session, conflict analysis and resolution are required because prolonged conflict has destroyed the trust of each party.



TrustBuilding Facilitation team in Yogyakarta.



Training participants from TrustBuilding program in Yogyakarta.

TBP is here to knit back the fractured trust through a safe space that is reflective, authentic, and dialogic. In Bandung, TBP was able to present stories from Penghayat Kepercayaan (an indigenous religion) whose identities have not been recognized by the state.

By presenting narratives from minority groups, the community learns a lot about how identity relations affect social relations and conflict resolution.

In Jakarta, the facilitators collaborate with the Jakarta State Islamic University campus. In the event, TBP created a space for interfaith and cultural dialogue between Indonesian Muslim students and Christian students from the United States.

The journey of the TBP program from Iloilo, Indonesia is far from over. TBP will continue to encourage efforts to build trust so that conflict mediation and peace-building can be realized for a strong, peaceful, united, and just Indonesia.

MenTalk: A Place for Men to Speak Honestly, Returns as Monthly Intensive Classes

by:

Marvel Zainuddin
MenTalk Team

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We are excited to announce that “MenTalk, A space for Men to Speak Honestly”, is back with a different format! This time, we invite you to join our monthly intensive classes.

MenTalk is a safe space where men can share their experiences, ideas, and feelings openly and honestly.

We believe a supportive community is essential when facing challenges and changes in life. Through deep and supportive discussions, we strive to create an environment that fosters personal growth and healthier relationships.



Men-Talk online session in Mid 2024.

Why MenTalk?

In our monthly intensive classes, you will have the opportunity to:



Explore Diverse Topics about Men: Each month, we will discuss different topics, ranging from mental health, work, relationships, to hobbies and personal interests. Each topic is designed to provide fresh insights and deeper understanding.



Connect with Fellow Men: Together with fellow participants and our facilitators, you will build a strong and supportive network. Listening to others' experiences and sharing your stories is one of the best ways to learn and grow.



Receive Support and Advice: Whether you're facing difficulties or just want a new perspective, at MenTalk, you will find the support and advice you need. Together, we will overcome various challenges and fulfill our full potential.

The registration fee for this intensive class is **Rp 100,000**, with a class contribution of **Rp 50,000** per session. This small investment will provide significant benefits for your personal growth and relationships.

Joining the MenTalk intensive class is very easy! Simply contact **Marvel at 085959722745** to register and get all the necessary information.

Register soon and join us in exploring the world of men at MenTalk

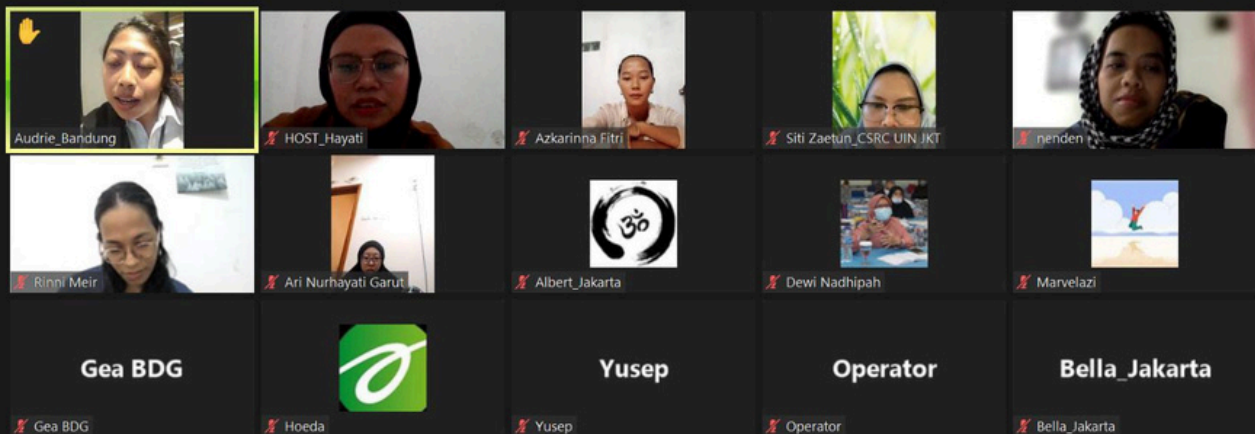


Finding the Courage to Grow out of an Abusive System in Kuping Haya

by:

Stella Susanti

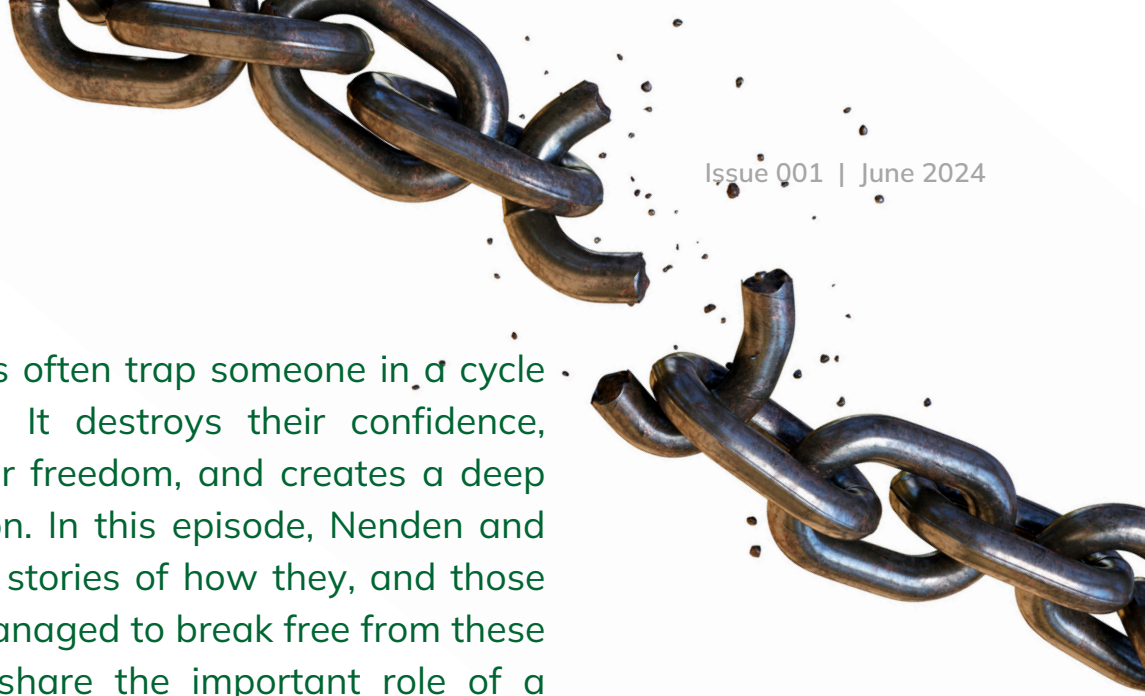
Kuping Haya Team



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On Monday, May 20, Kuping Haya's ("The Ears of Haya") 18th episode returned with a crucial and relevant topic: "Inner Work: Growing out of an Abusive System with a Support System." The event took place online via Zoom, with Nenden Prawira and Rinni Meir sharing their experiences.



Abusive systems often trap someone in a cycle of helplessness. It destroys their confidence, takes away their freedom, and creates a deep sense of isolation. In this episode, Nenden and Meir share their stories of how they, and those around them, managed to break free from these shackles. Both share the important role of a support system during recovery.

One of the most anticipated parts of the event was the breakout room session. In this session, participants were split into small groups. They exchanged responses and shared personal experiences related to the topics. The atmosphere became very emotional as some shared very personal and scarring stories. Yet, they also felt relieved as they realized they were not alone. The stories are empowering and inspiring and they show how many people have managed to recover and get back on their feet.

The event ended with a sharing session. Participants shared their experiences and thoughts after hearing Nenden's and Meir's stories. Many participants felt inspired and motivated to start making changes in their lives.

Kuping Haya's 18th episode helped create a safe and supportive space for participants to share and encourage one another. With the right support, everyone can overcome abusive systems and rediscover their inner strength.

Kuping Haya Coming Soon!

Make sure you don't miss the next episode, which will cover an equally important and inspiring topic. We'll announce more details on the topic and interviewees soon.

Stay connected with us and don't miss the opportunity to learn and grow together!



Creators of Peace Reborn!

by:
Anisa Ladhuny
Creators of Peace Team

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Garut, the Enchanting City, Became the First Cradle of the Creators of Peace (CoP) Program's Revival. On May 19, 2024, IofC Indonesia collaborated with PD Nasyiatul Aisyiyah Muhammadiyah Kab. Garut to hold an event titled, "Upgrading Pimpinan, Creating Personality Woman Leader" marking the rebirth of the Creators of Peace (CoP) program in the serene city of Garut.

As the sun rose, the venue was filled with hopeful faces. The 25 participants, all from PD Nasyiatul Aisyiyah Muhammadiyah Kab, Garut, arrived with high enthusiasm. They carried personal aspirations and dreams of making changes within their organization.

The first session commenced with the singing of the Indonesian National Anthem, Mars Muhammadiyah, and Mars Nasyiatul Aisyiyah. The event continued with a welcoming speech from the leader of PD Nasyiatul Aisyiyah Muhammadiyah Kab. Garut, who emphasized the significance of this gathering. "We are here not only to learn but also to forge stronger connections and deepen our understanding among PD NA members," she passionately declared.



The event featured three inspiring female facilitators who had accomplished and overcome multiple challenges, both in their careers and personal lives. One of them was Teh Nenden, a social worker actively spreading peace on a national and international level. Nenden, who has helped over 500 individuals grow and heal their inner wounds at the School of Reconciliation, shared her insights with a relaxed and meaningful tone.

"Women are the source of love. We are bestowed with the privilege of being the vessel for new humans to reside and grow. From us, life unfolds and everything begins; goodness and evil. So women carry a great responsibility to build peace because as peacebuilders, women also face the risk of disrupting peace. Women need to be given opportunities to learn and continuously grow, building their authentic selves. CoP provides a space for women to have the opportunity to grow, and enhance their capacity to become peacemakers within themselves, their families, and their nation."

Her words resonated with the participants, prompting reflection and motivation to cultivate inner love and drive for change.

CoP Agendas:

- Orientation & Explanation: An introduction to Quiet Time and the 4 IofC Standard Moral Values.
- Jar Exercise: Sharing a life story from a facilitator about her journey of applying the 4 Standard Moral Values and Quiet Time in her life.
- Playing Friends for Life Cards: Participants are divided into small groups and share reflections based on the chosen cards.
- Part #1: What is Peace? Initiated with an Art Therapy activity, inviting participants to be creative and define peace from their perspectives.
- Part #2: What Destroys Peace? Commencing with a life story from a facilitator, followed by participants selecting a Today I Will card and reflecting on the elements that disrupt peace, aligned with the illustration they chose.
- Closing: The session concluded with an appreciation thread activity. Each person shares a thread with another participant, offering appreciation. These threads were then interconnected, symbolizing the strength and unity among all those present.



With the conclusion of this event, Garut now boasts a group of empowered women ready to assume greater roles in leading and inspiring their organization. Woman Creators of Peace has successfully created a space for women to flourish, learn, and prepare themselves to spread peace, starting from within themselves, their families, and their nation.

**Join us in becoming
a part of CoP.
Together, let's unleash
the potential of women in
Woman Creators of Peace!**



A Deep Strength from Brisbane Energy

oleh:
Miftahul Huda
Program Manager TBP - IofC Indonesia



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Brisbane has brought energy to me, and all of the IofC Indonesia delegates. In 2005, Leaders from Indonesia's two most prominent Muslim organizations were at the Brisbane conference and came back refreshed and inspired.



We had Abdul Mukti, Habib Chrizin and Rozy Munir who used to be the chairperson of Nahdlatul Ulama, The Minister of State-Owned Enterprises, and Indonesia Ambassador for Qatar, shared with me that the people of IofC at the Brisbane conference were inspiring; he said, "They were more Muslim than we were in Jakarta." Since then, I have felt the same energy as he did. He opened his office for us to work for the Asia Pacific Youth Conference (APYC) in 2006, and also his home and all his networks and resources to make APYC possible.

This time, we visited Brisbane for Life Matters (LM) and Melbourne as an IofC Indonesia team for public discussion, CoP facilitation training, and collaborative activities with IofC Australia. We would like to have a longer connection with IofC Australia through collaboration, leadership, and friendship.

I felt inspired and privileged to be at LM in Brisbane from 31 May to 2 June 2024. I came with the spirit of just being there and contributing to the ice-breaking session on Trust building, the panel on identity, and the Dynamic of Change and Leadership programme.

The family group, as a safe space, was amazing, as I had an Aboriginal friend in my group; this is my first time having a circle with such a dynamic and deep reflection from a young Aboriginal friend. She was inspired to come and share her connection with nature, and the following day, we joined her ritual to greet nature and talk to the trees as a way of showing respect and prayer.

Having such a diverse group of young people from the Pacific, such as Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and also participants from vibrant Africa, plus Afghanistan and Myanmar, made this LM unique, special, and full of learning.

I learned how a team of elders like Barbara Lawler, Mike Lowe, Ann Holand, and Loraine and emerging leaders like Amiel, Mu, and Naomi, who were alumni of Caux Scholars, worked together and made LMC possible in Brisbane. Of course, Sudharshan and Prashanti, who are from Sydney, also supported LM.

I came to LM with less responsibility as an organizer, but being a support facilitator to this event has taught me to have a space to learn about myself, my emotions, and my wounds and to be able to share them in a family group with my wife. In this way, we learned together and were at peace in this program after being busy in Indonesia. I gained inner strength and energy by participating in small group sessions and learning from the stories of others in the group.

The topic of trust building and addressing intergenerational trauma has been my highlight on how the people came to Australia with their cultures and traditions and who need to adapt to the new culture of Australia and deal with their family inside and outside the country. One participant from Samoa's action plan was to engage the younger generation to create a safe space for personal transformation to connect with themselves, family, and their community.

Overall, I was amazed at how this LM was designed and how people took this chance to reflect deeply and enjoy being with one another.



At the last session, almost everyone committed to being the organizer for the next LMC. What an incredible team in Brisbane!



Here are some reflections and takeaways from the Indonesian team:

There is a story from a young woman. After I explained my relationships with people, she said:

"We moved from our home country for a better life, but what we found here is not much better, so why did we move? We immigrants are expected to achieve the same life, education, and career milestones as the locals, which is impossible because we start from a different point. Why do parents force their children to achieve everything the parents want them to achieve? We have our own ways and desires, and all of this is stressful. We respect and love our parents, but we want to live our own lives in our own way."

If life truly matters, then besides listening to ourselves (inner listening), we as parents need to listen to our children and give them the right to live their lives and make their own choices. Parents should model good practices and be there for their children in any situation.

If Life Matters, then what kind of life are we capable of living? We should consciously live the life we choose with peace and mindfulness.

- Nenden Prawira

What is a long journey without profound reflection?

I have always believed that to catch a big fish, you need big bait. At the Life Matters Workshop in Somerset, Brisbane, I experienced a profound awakening about friendship, especially with our Pacific friends. This experience made me realize the importance of bridging relationships with them. My reflection led me to question why we often seek connections with distant people while neglecting those close to us. This journey has given me the chance to keep learning and growing, and to appreciate the relationships we can build right in our own neighborhoods.

- Siti Zaetun (Etun)

Before the Life Matters Workshop, I was very nervous and worried that I would struggle with my English and understanding in each session. However, it exceeded my expectations. I enjoyed all the sessions, interacted with everyone comfortably, and felt open to sharing about my life in the family group.

I found that the flow of the Life Matters Workshop was designed so well that it made difficult topics easy to accept.

I also discovered new things about myself. I realized that I still have inner-work to do, especially concerning my family. I need to address my grief over my big brother and learn to forgive the person who sexually abused me. This is a difficult path, but I gained more support through Life Matters. I understand more deeply that we all have wounds, but through these wounds we can feel the beautiful presence of God.

- Anisa Ladhuny



Being a support co-facilitator in this Life Matters Workshop in Brisbane was a great honor and validation to me, a little girl coming from a village, Bangkalan Madura, for the 17th year in lofC Indonesia learning about myself and practicing what I have learned in lofC about myself and my family, enjoying serving in lofC Indonesia, my home and beloved country for me. Now it's time for me to serve even further beyond my home, in Australia. A country that now feels very close and a neighbor in my heart.

Having such diverse participants in Life Matters, especially in the Family group, where we had people from South Africa, Congo, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan, Rwanda and Indonesia. We had diverse stories that were rich with wisdom about life from all of them. This space convinced me even more to create this small space for people to be their own true self, to be vulnerable and honest with themselves.

A very safe and comfortable zone that helps people to be free inside and have the independence to be the person that they are meant to be.

Following all the sessions in Life Matters empowered me to go back home, to my community. I have been equipped by lofC and now it's time to share this with my community in Madura.

Thank you very much to all the Life Matters Core Team for the trust that has been given to me, and for all the lofC Australian team for making this trip possible for the Indonesian team. We will carry the flame in our hearts and be ready to give back to our homeland, Indonesia.

- Hayati





CoP Facilitation Training Reflection

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After a long period of hiatus for CoP in Indonesia, I feel that it is time for CoP to be reactivated. The process of testing which program activation would work took about a year. Finally, we decided to go to Australia to get training directly from the initiator and more experienced facilitators.

We went through a series of activities to strengthen our motives and solidify our goals before leaving for Australia. First, we received refresher training from Rera who had previously participated in the training for facilitators at Adelaide. Then, we implemented the reborn CoP 2024 program in Garut.

All the preparation paid off because the training in Australia was very important. We were able to hear the fundamentals, principles, basics, and core values of the CoP Program directly from the initiators and seniors that still uphold IofC values in each session.

We understand that CoP is a safe space and also a brave space for women to express all their views and feelings. In addition, women have an important role in terms of peace because women also have the risk of destroying peace itself.

-Nenden Prawira



Participating in the Women Creator of Peace Facilitation Training has been an enlightening experience for me, especially as part of the Indonesian team. We feel a strong need to revive the Creator of Peace in our country to create safe spaces for women. One key lesson I learned is the importance of active listening and empathetic communication. These skills are essential for resolving conflicts and building mutual respect. Furthermore, the training taught me that peacebuilding is not only about resolving current conflicts but also preventing future ones by fostering a culture of empathy and understanding.

Another takeaway is learning the 10 Gathering Points that the Creator of Peace taught us. These points include: What is peace anyway? Circles of concern; What destroys peace and what builds it?; Qualities of a peace creator; Inner peace; Listening to others; Inner listening; The power of forgiveness; Peace in practice; and Evaluate & commit. These points provide a comprehensive framework for understanding and implementing peacebuilding initiatives. They combine theoretical and practical aspects of peace, helping us to reflect on our roles and actions in fostering peace.

Lastly, the training emphasized the importance of self-awareness and inner peace for effective peace facilitation. By practicing self-reflection and understanding my own biases, I can become a more fair and effective facilitator. The focus on personal growth and mindfulness showed that inner peace is key to building peace externally. This approach of combining personal development with community action has equipped me with the tools to promote peace in various situations.

-Siti Zaetun





From June 5 to 7, 2024, I embarked on my journey to learn about the Woman Creators of Peace (CoP). This training was led by Ibu Jean and Ibu Cheryl, with support from Chebet as the co-facilitator. Over three days, I gained many insights and a deeper understanding of how to conduct a CoP. This included mastering the modules, facilitation techniques, technical details, and microteaching.

I am excited to apply this knowledge in Indonesia. As women, we need a special space to share our stories and grow together. It's important to trust that every woman has potential and inherent value. Often, women are perceived as weak because they are seen as too emotional. However, through CoP, this becomes a strength. Every woman has the right to be herself.

The 10 learning chapters, from understanding peace to evaluating commitments, form a perfect combination for the CoP program. They are presented in a relaxed manner without sacrificing depth. I have already experienced the benefits.

-Anisa Ladhuny

I am so lucky to have been trained by Jean Brown, Cheryl Wood, and Chebet in this CoP Facilitation Training. Jean taught me that the most fundamental principles that I should hold in CoP is that I, the facilitator, is not a master of everything. The facilitator also learned a lot from the participants during the process. I need to hold strong to this humbleness.

I learned a lot of technical details we need to pay attention to during the Peace Circle from Cheryl and Chebet. Their gentleness and patience creates a calm energy that's so important for creating a safe space for people. Both of them are great role model.

-Nur Hayati Syafii



Story of Change

My Journey to Peace: Embracing Imperfections and Leading with Authenticity

by:
Nawangsih Falah

Peace is when I can express my heart and mind without guilt or fear of judgement. Leading an organization filled with individuals from diverse backgrounds in terms of age, education, geography, economics, mindset, and other aspects is no easy feat. Moreover, I was elected to this role during a low point in my life, amidst deep sorrow. In the past, I was a person with a rebellious spirit, burning ambition, and a thirst for validation from others. Of course, these traits have both positive and negative sides if I don't know how to manage them.

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I once held the misconception that a leader must be perfect. For instance, leaders should not cry in front of others or express their emotions. This view was utterly wrong.

In my early twenties when I was entrusted with leading an organization, I lost many battles against myself due to my inability to accept criticism. I feared abandonment and constantly felt like I was fighting alone. I convinced myself that I was okay with this situation, but in reality, my soul was fragile and far from okay.

I used to believe that intelligence was solely defined by academic achievements. I chased after grades to the point of neglecting my emotions. As a result of suppressing my emotions, I felt unprepared to face problems and challenges. I would often escape, drown myself in isolation, avoid people, and constantly blame myself.



As I've grown older, I've reflect on my past experiences, learned to accept myself, and embrace my strengths and weaknesses. I've begun to learn, and I must continue to learn, to express my emotions authentically. Of course, I'm not alone on this journey. I've found a support system that helps me grow every day through the ups and downs of life.

IoFC Indonesia's School of Reconciliation transformed my mindset. I discovered that learning about emotions significantly impacts one's personality development and that balance in all aspects of life is important. These are lessons I would never have learned in formal education. I've been studying them for the past four years and I believe that I must share them with others.

Nasyiatul Aisyiyah is a youth women's organization of Muhammadiyah (the largest Islamic organization in Indonesia) at the Garut district level. This organization has been a platform for my growth and development. As an organization composed of women aged 17-40 with diverse backgrounds, there will undoubtedly be conflicts. These conflicts will negatively affect the organization's progress if I do not prepare and work on my personal development.

My vision for this period (2022-2026) as the leader of PDNA (Pimpinan Daerah Nasyiatul Aisyiyah) Garut is to establish NA as a beacon of a women and child-friendly movement. Certainly, I hope that everyone involved will share the same vision that before changing the world, we must change ourselves. As an English proverb states, "Birds of the same feather flock together," meaning that groups with similar character and vision will always fly together.

Before helping others, serving the community, and inspiring many people, we, as agents of change, must first put our own houses in order and be willing to learn. I don't want to be an organizational activist who dedicates my life to helping others but feels helpless, fragile, and broken inside.

The collaboration with Creator of Peace Indonesia, through the leadership upgrade event in mid-May, instilled confidence in me. I believe that the leaders and members of Nasyiatul Aisyiyah will spread their wings of change and become agents of peace in their own right, starting with ourselves and then impacting our families, organizations, and the broader community.



This event marked the beginning of our reflection as individuals, as women, and as organizational activists.

The event, packed with personal, small group, and large group reflections, serves as a reminder for us to continue learning and growing.

There is hope and a great opportunity to change the world, starting with ourselves. At the event, we reflected on how our roles as mothers, wives, and daughters define peace as seeing them physically and mentally healthy. As women, peace is when we can support and not judge other women, and when we can empower each other. Change is starting here!

Reflection

Declutter!

by:
Nenden Prawira

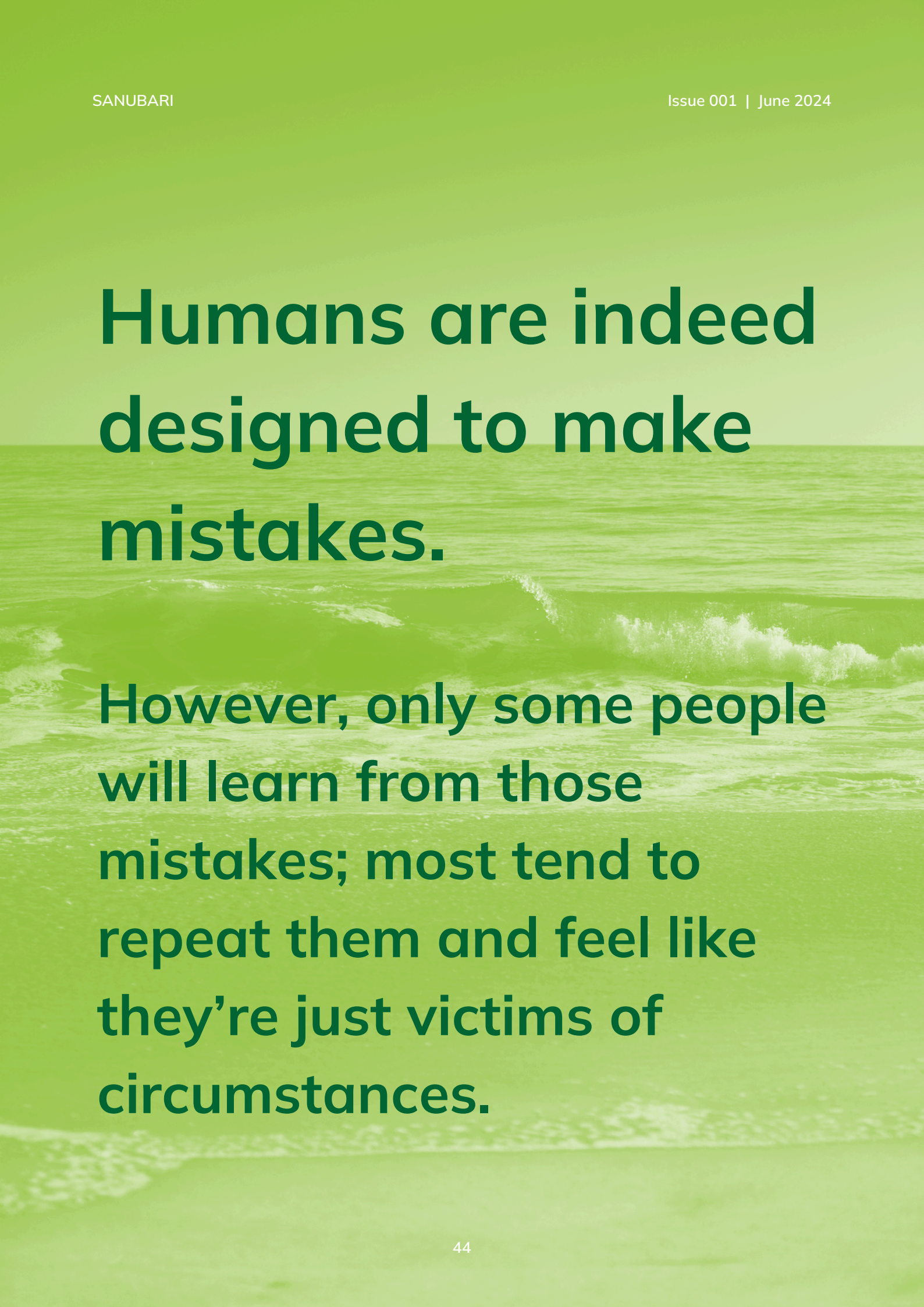


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Our purpose in life is indeed to tidy up and learn, as every day we will face a life full of uncertainty. Every day will not be the same, and every day will bring subtle change.

The process of reflection and listening to our inner voice through Quiet Time is part of a "decluttering." This is where we continuously measure how we apply the four moral values of lofC which are absolute Purity, Honesty, Unselfishness, and Love.



**Humans are indeed
designed to make
mistakes.**

**However, only some people
will learn from those
mistakes; most tend to
repeat them and feel like
they're just victims of
circumstances.**



Will change happen to those who feel victimized? Of course not. Change will only happen to people willing to learn and do their inner work. Through this, there will be a second chance to have a better life.

As individuals, we need to gather the courage and strong intentions to acknowledge what needs to be decluttered. We must accept that we will never be perfect, so we need to be willing to continue our inner work. Only we can make changes, and only we can give love to our empty souls. We cannot expect others to fill that hole.

Decluttering is part of the responsibility of being an adult and only some people are willing to do it.

Not because they don't know the importance of it, but because taking responsibility for oneself is extremely difficult. As a result, many people take shortcuts by blaming others or demanding others to take responsibility for their desires.

We need to believe in the process of becoming whole human beings, learning, improving, and taking responsibility for our own needs. If we have reached this stage, then it will be easier for us to give love and care to others with the purity that comes from our hearts.

Even in the face of difficult times, we will not feel alone because God is always with those who persist.

Mid-Note

Homecoming and Rebuilding My Hometown

by:
Yudi Septiawan

Working in an Independent State Institution in the broadcasting sector is both a new challenge and a positive opportunity for development. Having a background in education, taking international relations courses, and working at the Bangka Belitung Islands Regional Broadcasting Commission (KPID) is a life path I never imagined.

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I serve as the Institutional Affairs Coordinator at the KPID Bangka Belitung Islands, overseeing 51 broadcasting institutions, including television and radio. In addition, I am also active on campus as a lecturer. I consider my work to be a form of dedication. As a native son of the region who has spent almost 10 years studying in Jakarta, I finally returned home in 2016. Teaching on campus, initiating local organizations, and working for the broadcasting commission are a series of activities that I have gone through and enjoyed to this day.

Working in a state institution certainly means dealing with bureaucrats, from the lower to the upper levels. In addition, I often meet with broadcasting stakeholders at both the regional and central levels. The nature of my work requires me to constantly uphold the moral values of Initiatives of Change (IofC) that I have learned since 2008.



One of the values that I always hold firmly is **purity**. Carrying out the important mandate of providing valid information is not an easy task. Moreover, nowadays there is a lot of false information circulating and KPID monitors and oversees this.

So, upholding IofC values in work is my bastion against negative and harmful values.

My work at KPID is also the result of my long learning at IofC. Positive friends, inspiring activities, and collaborative communities are supplements for me to continue to do positive things, think innovatively, and be adaptive.

**If we want to change
the world, then change
ourselves first.**

**If we want to be an
example, then don't be
afraid to follow suit.**

Upcoming Program

Juli

- National Gathering Akasha
- Trustbuilding Program

Agustus

- “Agustusan” Celebration
- Creators of Peace Bandung Debut
- Sekolah Rekonsiliasi Weekday Class
- ToT TrustBuilding Program Salatiga

September

- Bandung Peace Week
- Creators of Peace Ciputat Debut
- Dialogue for Change

Oktober

- Sekolah Rekonsiliasi Weekday Class
- Team Building Banyuwangi

November

- Sekolah Rekonsiliasi Weekday Class
- Trustbuilding Program Festival

Desember

- Coordination Meeting
- Family Camp
- Newsletter Issue II

Fundraising Update

January - June 2024

Merchandise Sales

944 USD

Grant Writing

6,704 USD

Join IofC Indonesia in reaching hundreds of young people in remote areas and cities across Indonesia to heal intergenerational trauma and foster peace.

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