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Major Stereotype of Filipino Amerasian Mothers as Sex Laborers vs. Truth and Realities Research Paper Redirected to Asia Pacific Social Sciences (APSSC-2014) Conference in Seoul, Korea 8-10 January 2014

SEOUL, South Korea -- The Philippine Amerasian Research Center (PARC) of Systems Plus College Foundation (SPCF College) in Angeles, Pampanga, the Philippines, has redirected a research paper originally accepted for presentation at a major Asian Studies conference at the University of Auckland in New Zealand in November to the Asia Pacific Social Sciences (APSSC-2014) Conference in Seoul 8-10 January 2014. PARC Director P.C. "Pete" Kutschera, PhD, LMSW, said the decision, in part, was based on a need that the subject of the paper would be more suitable for presentation in the Republic of Korea. "South Korea has a long history and a sizeable military Amerasian population of its own. It is also a nation-state which has felt the lash of world's geo-political forces that led to formation of the Pan Amerasian diaspora in East/Southeast Asia in the first place."

APSSC Conference Executive Administrator Candice Chang announced that the Taipei, Taiwan-based Higher Education Forum Association and Asia Pacific Education and Research Associates (APER) - sponsors of the Seoul conference – appointed Dr. Kutschera to the APSSC 2014 International Committee Board and named him moderator/chair of the conference's oral panel presentation of its "Society II" topics. Institutions represented on Society II panel presentations at the Seoul conclave will include Sophia University, Tokyo; King Mongkuts University, Bangkok; Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia and I-Shou University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Ms. Chang said conference organizers were pleased to have a social researcher of Dr. Kutschera's recent accomplishments promoting the APSSC conference and actively assisting in presentation scheduling and execution. She noted that the PARC-SPCF College researcher also moderated one of six education panels in September, 2013 at the first annual International Conference on Education and Social Sciences (ICEASS 2013) held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel in the Republic of Singapore.

The research paper to be presented in Seoul entitled, "*Filipina Military Amerasian Motherhood: Stigma, Stereotypes, Truths and Realities*" was co-authored by Dr. Marie A. Caputi, PhD, a veteran social science

researcher and contributing faculty at the College of Social and Behavioral Services, Walden University, Minneapolis, MN USA and Professor Mary Grace Talamera-Sandico, MPPM, a Philippine social worker and faculty instructor at Don Honorio Ventura Technological State University, Bacolor, Pampanga, Luzon. Dr. Kutschera, who also heads the New York-based non-profit Amerasian Research Network, Ltd., said the paper, “aims to put a revolutionary, new perspective on the myth that most Amerasian mothers were prostituted women or sex laborers. The myth, which constitutes an active and dangerous stereotype to this day in the Philippines and other Western Pacific Basin nations, has never been empirically studied or seriously researched, much less confirmed. Nevertheless, the stigmatization from the scourge of military prostitution did incalculable psychosocial and psychological damage, not only to mothers, but also to their children.”

Many Filipino and Pan Amerasians, the progeny of U.S. military personnel including numerous civilian defense contractors hired by private corporations, have been abandoned, stranded, estranged, left under supported or orphaned by their military fathers who impregnated national born women before being reassigned or redeployed to their next overseas or U.S. mainland assignment. “Mixed-heritage, biracial Anglo (White), African (Black), Latino (Hispanic) and Native American Indian Amerasians have experienced tremendous stigmatization and discrimination over the years in part because of skin color variances, atypical facial and body features, differential physical demeanors or hair texture difference. However, some researchers, including the highly respected Philippine anthropologist, Dr. Carolyn I. Sobritchea of the University of the Philippines-Diliman, have concluded that the notion that the vast majority of Amerasian mothers were prostituted women probably did the most psychological damage to their young,” the PARC-SPCF College Director asserted.

The paper, a qualitative, multiple-case method “pilot study,” Dr. Kutschera stated, indicates that a tremendous number of Amerasian children were born of normal, nubile, child-bearing age mothers. These were “what one would term typical, every day ‘boy-girl,’ ‘man-woman,’ and often romantic relationships. The recurring and venal stereotype that all the mothers were prostitutes,” Dr. Kutschera continued, “was and remains the tap root of some of the most severe stigmatization, discrimination and stress brought against military Amerasian progeny by mainstream Filipinos and foreigners including U.S. American citizens residing in the Philippines. It is an unrelenting stigma and shame which negatively affects Amerasian lives to this day.”

“This topic has tremendous relevance, not only in East/Southeast Asia but worldwide given that it is not only U.S. troops or corporative privateers who are deployed at troubled flashpoints around the world – and from time to time responsible for bring unwanted or uncared for babies to life - but fighting men from other major world powers and forces including the United Nations, N.A.T.O., the European Union, the African Union, France and Russia. These or similar situations (troops exposed to vulnerable native females) go on every day in all corners of the world. This is a global issue – and not only an East/Southeast Asian or U.S. phenomena.”

The Amerasian motherhood research paper was originally accepted and scheduled for presentation at the prestigious 20th New Zealand Asian Studies Society (NZASIA 2013) Conference at the academically world-ranked University of Auckland 22-24 November 2013. The Biennial NZASIA conference is

sponsored by the New Zealand Asia Studies Association. The University of Auckland (QS World University Ranking #83 in 2013) is one of the top research and learning institutions in the Asia Pacific region. “We are most grateful for their acceptance and look forward to an opportunity to present another meaningful research piece at an NZASIA Conference in the future. Hopefully at the University of Auckland, should the opportunity present itself,” Dr. Kutschera stated.

The Taiwan-based APERA and Higher Education Forum Association are major conference planners and organizers in the region and have scheduled major conferences in 2013-2014 attracting researchers, scientists, educators, college and university professors, doctoral and master degree student candidates and industry professionals and leaders to a wide variety of conference venues including Taipei, Singapore, Hong Kong, Seoul, Hainan Island and Beijing in the People’s Republic of China among numerous other locations. More than 175 participants worldwide will be present at the APSSC-2014 conference meeting in Seoul, Korea, Ms. Chang reported.