

How Anti-Bullying will Impact the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

Wednesday, May 31, 2017 in the Boss Room of the Church Center for the United Nations



Ms. Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children.

Ms. Santos Pais was appointed as the first Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Violence against Children on 1 May 2009, and took up her position on 1 September 2009. As a high level global independent advocate, Ms. Santos Pais promotes the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children. She acts as a bridge builder across regions, and different sectors and settings where violence against children may occur. Since her appointment, she has been strongly committed to mobilizing action and political support to maintain momentum around this agenda and to achieve progress towards the prevention and elimination of violence against children across the world. Ms. Santos Pais has more than 30 years' experience on human rights issues, and engagement in United Nations and intergovernmental processes. She is the author of a large number of publications on human rights and children's rights. Before her appointment as SRSG on Violence against Children, Ms. Santos Pais was the Director of the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, a position she had

held since 2001. She joined UNICEF in 1997 as Director of Evaluation, Policy and Planning. Previously, she was the Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and Vice-Chair of the Coordinating Committee on Childhood Policies of the Council of Europe. She was a Special Adviser to the UN Study on Violence against Children and to the Machel Study on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children. She was also a member of the UN Drafting Group of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and of its Optional Protocols and has participated in the development of other key international human rights standards.



H.E. Mr. Juan Sandoval-Mendiola, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations.

Ambassador Sandoval-Mendiola has been Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations since February 2015. Prior to this assignment, he served as Director General for United Nations Affairs. In this capacity, he was promoted to the rank of Ambassador of Mexico in October 2014. Ambassador Sandoval served as Legal and Human Rights Counselor at the Mexican Embassy in France, and as Deputy and Interim Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) from 2001 until 2006, where he oversaw legal issues and hemispheric security, including drug enforcement, transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption. In the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he has also been Deputy Director General of the Directorate for Inter-American Regional Organisms and Mechanisms (2006-2007), and during this time he also served as Deputy National Organizer of Summits. He was

Director of Cabinet of the Under-Secretary of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights from 2007 until 2013. He led the process for Mexico's admission to the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Australia Group and the Nuclear Supplier's Group. Ambassador Sandoval-Mendiola is a career diplomat since 1992. He holds a Law degree and has undertaken postgraduate courses in International and European Economic Law, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.



Mrs. Salwa "Sally" Shatila Kader, Founder and President of the International Federation for Peace and Sustainable Development.

Mrs. Sally Kader is a world-renowned advocate for peace who founded the International Federation for Peace and Sustainable Development 16 years ago in 2001. IFPSD is a successful non-profit and non-governmental organization, with thirteen chapters around the world including its headquarters in New York City. IFPSD is represented in 5 continents and 17 countries. Mrs. Kader promotes cultural diversity and protection of cultural heritage, interfaith dialogue, children's rights, human rights, women empowerment, and the elimination of human trafficking. Mrs. Kader has been recognized by heads of states, and recipient of several awards for her advocacy from Europe, Middle East, US, and Far East. She regularly hosts events at the United Nations and all over the world. She is regularly featured on TV and major publications across the world for her work and causes that she believes in. She also sits on a number of boards with a wide range of advocacy groups

and committees and is an honorary member of the Parliamentarian in the Middle East and Africa region to end violence against women. She is also a member of the American Women Judges Association and the International Women Judges Association. Mrs. Kader was born in Beirut, Lebanon and holds a Bachelor's Degree in History and Archeology from the University of Lebanon and a Master's Degree in History from Central Missouri State University. She also pursued extensive coursework in comparative religion, communications and conflict resolution at Harvard University, the University of Baghdad and Lebanese University.



Professor Judy Kuriansky, Ph.D. at Columbia University Teachers College and Main UN NGO Representative, the International Association of Applied Psychology and the World Council of Psychotherapy. Prof. Kuriansky is an international clinical psychologist, is an Honorary Professor at the Beijing Health Sciences Center in China. At the UN, she has been an advisor to the Deputy Permanent Representative of São Tomé and Príncipe, and past Chair of the Psychology Coalition of NGOs accredited to the UN. In that role, she partnered with Ambassador Caleb Otto of the Palau Mission in the successful inter-governmental campaign to include mental health and wellbeing in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She has also advocated about psychosocial resilience at the 2015 World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction that led to the Sendai Framework. She has extensive experience providing psychosocial support and trainings after disasters, e.g., in Haiti, Japan, China, West Africa during the Ebola epidemic, and most recently in Jordan regarding the Syrian refugee crisis. She has also co-developed a Girls Empowerment Program in Africa and hosted events for US Doctors for Africa and Voices of African Mothers. An award-winning

journalist, she has been a television news feature reporter and radio advice host and writes for magazines and newspapers worldwide. Her book topics range from healthy relationships, to "Ecopsychology: the Intersection of Psychology and Environmental Protection" "Living in an Environmentally Traumatized World: Healing Ourselves and Our Planet" and the recently released, "The Psychosocial Aspects of a Deadly Epidemic: What Ebola Has Taught Us about Holistic Healing."



Ms. Meredith O'Connor is a Hofstra University Marketing and Public Relations Student & a Teen Pop Star, Anti-Bullying Icon & a Celebrity Youth Activist for UN Women's Planet 5050. Ms. O'Connor has radio hit songs that are loved by millions. She is a proud born and raised New Yorker. In addition, to her classes at Hofstra, she has also taken film classes at NYU, as she is passionate about higher education. Her songs have been featured on Teen Nick and Disney all with a positive uplifting message, and many of her fans have claimed her music changed and even saved their lives. Ms. O'Connor has sold out concerts all over the world, and she shares her story, and why the cause is so important to her to help others. As a child, she had faced excessive bullying and abuse by her peers, verbally, emotionally and physically. It is her mission to let people know that they are not alone, and to embrace what makes them stand out to begin with. She supports the goal of transforming pain into passion, as her song "The Game" was written after her first hit song brought her to Internet fame. She wrote the song The Game to address the issues she faced as a child, and her uplifting songs help to provide hope for her fans that relate to similar circumstances. She has a passion for sharing the

importance of providing mental health support and helping those who battle it from overcoming hardships. She will have a movie coming out, directed by Ilyssa Goodman titled *Playing the Game* based on her own life, with themes of PTSD, and an anti-bullying message. Expected co-stars include Garrett Clayton, with a release time of the second quarter in 2018. Ms. O'Connor is an NGOCSD-NY Honorary Adviser for Youth Leadership.



Ms. J. Paige Propper-Sanborn, Managing Partner of GAFYA, LLC & Co-Founder of the Zariki Nursery & Primary School in Tanzania. Ms. Propper-Sanborn is a Georgetown University graduate with a Masters in Child Development and Family Studies and a Masters in Child Psychology. She has a passion for children, education, health and wellness. She is a Child Life Specialist, and a play therapist. She has taught Diabetes education and developed & implemented child development and educational programs for pediatric Hematology/ Oncology patients and their families at leading pediatric institutions like Harvard and Stanford. She was invited to present her findings internationally at the ECCO 9 conference in Europe and at the National Brain Tumor Association. In 2001, she began a private practice and worked with families and school districts advocating for children with special needs and emotional struggles. In 2009, Ms. Propper-Sanborn worked for Mazzerella Media to produce special needs and health-based educational videos and in 2010 she and her father opened the Zariki Nursery and Primary School in Tanzania for children in the Mwaburugu region. Every year, she brings teachers and volunteers to the school to provide life skill courses and teacher trainings. In

2014, she started Going Global Educational Collaborative and traveled the world for 4 months with her children learning and filming about cultures. Using her 2014 experience, she is now working on a concept program for schools with an innovative broadcast lens under the name Mon Jamii. Ms. Propper-Sanborn a Managing Partner with GAFYA where she is consulting for a company called Bridg-it, there she bridges her diabetes experience, her knowledge on social-emotional education and her K-12 education world. Bridg-it is working with schools in the US to help provide social emotional awareness programming and address the growing bullying problem, but with her expertise, they are expanding to other verticals. Her focus at GAFYA is on life skills and disease prevention programs where she has helped forge a significant partnership with Bridg-it to use their patented smart technology to safely and easily provide wellness programs and educational initiatives for children and adults in multiple countries around the world. Today, GAFYA is working with physicians from Joslin Hospital and leading diabetic educators globally where they are building a global diabetes awareness and education platform for communities and countries everywhere. Ms. Propper-Sanborn is an Honorary Adviser of the NGO Committee for Sustainable Development-NY, and an active participant in NEXUS Youth Summit, Cavendish Global impact investment group and ICV impact investors' foundation.



Mr. Bruce Knotts, Director of the Unitarian Universalist Association, UN Office & Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee. Mr. Knotts has earned his BA from Pepperdine University and MA from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia; worked for Raytheon in Saudi Arabia (1976-80) and on a World Bank contract in Somalia (1982-4), before he joined the Department of State as a U.S. diplomat in 1984. He had diplomatic assignments in Greece, Zambia, India, Pakistan, Kenya, Sudan, Cote d'Ivoire and The Gambia, where he was Deputy Chief of Mission. While in Cote d'Ivoire, he served as the Regional Refugee Coordinator for West Africa covering 16 African nations, but focusing on the refugees from the conflicts in Sierra Leone, Liberia and in Cote d'Ivoire. This was the assignment where he had his most sustained contact with the UN system. Mr. Knotts evaluated programs and recommended funding for UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, WHO and many NGOs working with refugees in West Africa. He worked closely with several UN Special Representatives and observed UN peacekeeping operations in Sierra Leone from 2000-2003. He retired from the Foreign Service in 2007 and joined the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) as its Executive Director at the beginning of

2008. Mr. Knotts has been a chair of the UN NGO Committee on Human Rights since June 2010. He is the President and CEO of the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security and a member of the NGO UN Security Council Working Group. In December 2013, he was elected to the Executive Board of the UN NGO Committee on Sustainable Development.



Mr. Paul Feuerstein, MA, STM, MSW, Founder and President/CEO of Barrier Free Living. BFL has the largest domestic violence program for people with disabilities in the country. He authored "Disabled Women and Domestic Violence: Notes from the Field" for a textbook Service Delivery for Vulnerable Populations: New Directions in Behavioral Health (Springer, 2011) as well as other articles. He serves as a member of the Steering Committee of the New York City Domestic Violence Residence Coalition; board member of Homeless Services United; member of the Human Services Council's Priority and Strategy Council and a member of its Equity planning group; and Co-founder and former Chair of the Disability Network of New York City. He is collaborating with the Institute for the Healing of Memories (IHOM) in Cape Town, South Africa and is the founding Chair of the Board for IHOM North America. He is the Dean of Multi-Vocational Priests for the Episcopal Diocese of New York and Co-chair of the Diocese of New York's Domestic Violence Task Force.



Ms. Fatma Ismail, Business Marketing and Finance student at College of Staten Island and an Egyptian American. Her parents were immigrants from Egypt. Ms. Ismail was born and raised in New York City. She was top of her class in middle school and High school. She was involved in school activities that included Volley Ball, Track, and many other clubs. She was also part of the National Honors Society and graduated High School with scholar's Merit. Ms. Ismail is a distinguished student who hopes to graduate college and attend Business School. She is very much looking forward to her future as she is diligently studying to work on Wall Street, but hopes to open up her own Consulting Firm in the future. Ms. Ismail is very involved in her community. She is passionate about helping others through communication and action. She dedicates her time and volunteers at Nursing Homes and Religious Temples. Ms. Ismail is a positive and strong woman who wants to aid people that suffer from bullying, abuse, and religious and cultural oppressions. She believes that people who suffer from similar causes as such can be helped through continuous support from family, and especially their community.



Mr. David A. Kirshbaum, U.N. Representative for Nonviolence International. Since 2005, Mr. Kirshbaum has been working for Nonviolence International, an international human rights organization, and in 2014 was asked to serve as their U.N. Representative in New York City. He grew up in Los Angeles, California, and completed a double major in Psychology and Religious Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara, and then an M.A. in Clinical Psychology at Pepperdine University in Los Angeles. After serving many years as a psychotherapist for the Severely and Chronically Mentally Ill, he went to India to study the relationship between psychotherapy and Yoga. This led to an interest in human rights in relation to mental health. There he has been focused on international disarmament of small arms and promotion of the Culture of Peace and Nonviolence Program. Because of this work, he led a coalition of peace and human rights groups in the creation of a Peace Issues Thematic Cluster to build Cultures and Communities of Peace that represent the peace perspective in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, which the UN created to guide its work from 2015 to 2030 to "Leave No One Behind."



Ms. Sophia Angelica is a Rutgers University Journalism and Media minoring in Creative Writing Student & a Youth Human Rights Activist. New York born and 19 years old she embraced her Argentinian ancestry by learning Spanish in her mother's bilingual acting classes, where she found her passion for the arts and in particular, music. Ms. Angelica began writing as well as performing at the early age of 9, and at the age of 13 she appeared in her first television show, "Good Day New York" on Fox. She combined her vocal talents together with her acting ability by being the voice of the "singing rabbit" for Dora the Explorer on Nickelodeon. Recently, she was cast by the Cleveland Playhouse in the "Care Program Monologues", a project created in order to help youth struggling in volatile school environments. She has performed at many cause-related events at the United Nations and other major venues and is constantly re-booked to perform at annual events, award shows and festivals. Her main goal is to help youth overcome bullying and the many obstacles they may face with her motivational original songs. Currently, she is working on a new, contemporary album,

where she stresses the importance of using music as a platform for positivity and inspiring other to be themselves. On June 7th, she will be launching her next anti-bullying music video, where she will also be performing live some of her newest original songs.



Mrs. Lisa Picker, a Registered Medical Assistant and Activist for Hope, In Memory of Liam. Mrs. Picker has worked in private practice at Mercy Hospital in St Louis, Missouri for over 33 years. She spent the first 13 years of her career in pediatrics, pediatric cardiology, oncology and psychiatry. The past 10 years she has been triaging in adult medicine. She is married to her husband, Michael, for 24 years. They have two daughters, Zoe age 22 and Chelsea, age 33. Her son Liam was bullied and took his own life at age 18 years, he was their only son. Liam was a gentle soul, always putting others first. He developed a love for the Japanese culture at an early age. He was an accomplished tennis player, but his greatest gift was music. He was a self-taught pianist and composer. His original composition, "Winter" debuted at Carnegie Hall on December 19, 2016. Liam's story was featured on KSDK News in St Louis entitled, "A Song for Liam." Liam's story has many layers and it is not for the faint of heart however, it is a story that needs to be told. Mrs. Picker was recently invited to be the keynote speaker at Mercy Hospital's conference on Mental Health and Suicide Awareness. Passion and purpose is a powerful force and she plans to continue sharing Liam's story

in the hope that together we can bring change, that the innocence and wonderment of childhood would be slowly restored. "The world was never meant for one as beautiful as you." In memory of Liam Michael Picker.



"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"