

GLOBAL CONCEPTS



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G.A.M.E. NEWSLETTER

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MANNY'S CORNER

2004: Making A World Fit for Children: G.A.M.E. Third Conference.

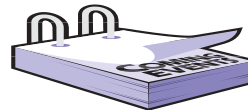
The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child remains one of the Global and Multicultural Education Center's major projects.



The Child Rights Steering Committee, which is planning the conference, is made up of a broad range of nongovernmental and child-connected organizations as well as several students from UMKC. The G.A.M.E. planning committee members are committed to promoting the human rights of children and ensuring that there is a strong voice in the Kansas City metropolitan area for children's rights. The Global and Multicultural Education Center has focused on educating the public as well as advocacy. Considering 192 nations have ratified the convention, there is an urgent need for the U.S. commitment in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the immediate U.S. ratification of this convention.

During the four years since the first Kansas City conference March 31-April 2nd, 2000, G.A.M.E. has provided a second conference in September 2001, an interactive workshop and a series of speaking engagements in 2003, with the purpose of providing awareness and educating the public on building "A World Fit for Children [the U.N. CRC]. The United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City has also moved to focus on a

"children theme" for the United Nations Day event in October 2004. Such an effort by the UNA-GKC demonstrates the need to promote one of the significant human rights issues facing the international community. We invite all GAME members and friends who wish to actively participate in this effort to call or send an email to info@kcglobalconcepts.org.



Local, National and International Events

March 4, and March 11, 2004, Making A World Fit for Children: U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. Communiversity Course; 7:00-9:00 p.m.; All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 4501 Walnut, Kansas City, MO. For more information call 816/753-2372.

March 12, 2004, CRC Committee meeting. 4:00 p.m. UMKC Administrative Center, Hyde Park Room.

April 15, 2004, Harmony Week Luncheon. 11:30-1:00 p.m. Downtown Marriott.

April 19, 2004, United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City Regional Meeting. World Food Programme. All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 7:00 p.m.

May 2, 2004, 2:00 p.m. GAME Board of Directors meeting.

June 7-July 20, 2004, Argentine Fulbright-Hays Seminar on Childhood for K-12 and Community College Teachers. University of Kansas, Center of Latin American Studies.

June 14-June 25 2004 The University of Kansas African Studies Institute, Lawrence, KS. Bailey Hall, Room 109. For more information visit www.ku.edu/~csc.

Sept. 17-18, 2004, 3rd U.N. CRC Conference. More information in the next issue.



Book Review

With G.A.M.E.'s focus on "Making a World Fit for Children" in 2004, in this issue we focus on a review of: "UNICEF **Annual State of the World's Children 2004: Girls Education and Development**".

The State of the World's Children, as the report states, "girls' education is one of the most crucial issues facing the development community." The goals of development included in the United Nations Millennium Development includes reducing poverty, eliminating barriers between male and female, and ensuring an equal elementary and secondary education for both boys and girls. Non-discriminatory education is essential and makes a crucial difference in the development agenda the State of Children Reports. Emphasizing the "disparities" of gender education, UNICEF makes an urgent plea to end discrimination against girl's education. The report warns that without progress in girl's education the world will fail to meet the international development goals. Disparities in gender education have short changed millions of girls all around the world, it is a major cause of high illiteracy. Gender discrimination has hampered a fundamental right to education and has left millions of girls and women uneducated and unable to be a positive force in the international community. Universal education should provide equal access for both genders. Eliminating disparities requires not only investing money but "energy and enthusiasm, commitment and concern, focus and intensity – is a strategy that will protect the rights of all children to a quality education, and a strategy that will jump-start all other development goals."



The development agenda for 2015, known as the Millennium Development Goals, among other things, is to reduce the poverty in half and significantly improve health by the designated date. However, the Millennium Development Goal of reducing the gender gap in elementary and secondary education was set to be achieved by 2005. The report makes it clear that due to persistent and often subtle gender discrimination that runs through most societies, the inability to provide equal treatment continues. If nothing is done to accelerate change in gender disparity, as it exists in education in many countries, particularly sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific (where 83 percent of all girls out of school live), will fail to meet the 2005 development goal.

"... there is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls."

Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General



Resource Kits

In order to facilitate successful global and multicultural education, G.A.M.E. has been compiling resource kits for use by classroom teachers and interested community organizations. Kits available for circulation: **Kit 1, Middle East**, Containing items ranging from turban, embroidered shirts, to publications and maps on various Middle Eastern countries.

Kit 2, China, Containing background information, maps, posters, lesson plan, art, masks and miscellaneous articles.

Kit 3, Ghana, Containing background information, maps, posters, lesson plan, art, masks and miscellaneous articles.

To use the kits, please call Manny at 816/753-2372. Fax 960-1546.



July 19 to 23, children from 100 countries will come together at the 2004 Tunza International Children's Conference on the Environment to discuss issues of critical importance to the world. The delegates will study, deliberate, and publish their unique positions on Oceans, Rivers and Waterways; Living on the Edge of Extinction; Indigenous Healing Ways; and Energy Policy. Assembling at Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut, USA, these 600 young people, ages 10 to 13, will speak out on what needs to be done to save our environment.

The delegates will participate in a variety of sessions, workshops and field trips. They will present their findings to be published to the world.

On Day Three, Tall ShipsÆ from around the world will tie up at the Save the Waters Eco-Village near the college. The delegates will board these historic vessels to share their thoughts with the people from Ships to Save the Waters, an environmental organization founded by Pete Seeger to restore the Hudson River and make it accessible to all.

This Conference is the 5th International Children's Conference on the Environment sponsored by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). A first, for this conference, will be the use of the Internet to connect young



people together during the pre-conference, concurrent session, and post-conference stages. Children from all over the world will be invited to collaborate on the special topics during the school year leading up to the conference.

A UNEP objective is to distribute the delegates' findings to the governments and peoples of the world. To this end, we will sustain the children's passions and interests in the environment through building relationships with traditional and electronic magazine publications. Other post-conference activities will be conducted over the Internet.



Announcing

The G.A.M.E. Communiversit course titled: *Making the World Fit for Children*, two Thursdays, March 4 and March 11, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at All Souls Unitarian Church, 4501 Walnut. Contact <gbrown831@comcast.net>

The Children's Defense Fund has published its scoreboard scores of the 108th Congress based on the key important legislations during 2003. The scoreboard is part of the organizations ongoing analysis and advocacy for children. To check your congressman or senator's score, visit CDF's web site at <www.childrensdefense.org>.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child has the same meaning for people in all parts of the world. While laying down common standards, the Convention takes into account the cultural, social, economic and political realities of individual states so that each state may seek its own means to implement the rights common to all.

Join the World: Become a member of G.A.M.E

The strength of any organization depends upon the level of support and financial resources provided by its members and friends. G.A.M.E. is no exception. Please use this form to join us today.

Membership form

Date: _____

Patrons \$ 30.00 _____

Family \$ 15.00 _____

Individual \$ 10.00 _____

Organizations/schools..... \$ 25.00 _____

Name _____

Address _____ City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: Home: _____, email _____

I would like to contribute an additional \$ _____ for educational use of the organization.

Your membership and contributions are tax exempt.

We thank you for your support.

Our Mission Statement: G.A.M.E. assists in the enhancement of knowledge of global interdependence and awareness and appreciation of our common humanity

GLOBAL CONCEPTS

**Newsletter of the Global
and Multicultural Education
Center (G.A.M.E.)**

A non-profit organization

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