



Guidance

FROM THE HONORABLE

Minister Louis Farrakhan

on Courtship, Marriage & Family
Workbook

COMPILED BY MUHAMMAD MOSQUE 46 EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Guidance from the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan
On Courtship, Marriage and Family Workbook

This workbook is a compilation of columns of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan that published by the Final Call Newspaper. These articles deal with courtship, marriage, family, divorce and many other related topics. None of the words of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan have been altered. The only thing added to the body of the articles are the questions, that are provided by the reader to answer personally and discuss with others. Why has this workbook been created? One, because there is a GREAT need for the words of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan inside and outside the Nation of Islam on these topics. Lastly, is he not the Bread of Life in our midst? Since he is, how could we not organize his words in a matter that would allow many to feed on them and change their lives. We pray that you read his words, share his words and more importantly implement them in your personal life.

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“I want to see successful marriage in the Nation of Islam and among Black people.”

~Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

Foreword

“O people, keep your duty to your Lord, Who created you from a single being and created its mate of the same (kind) and spread from these two many men and women. And keep your duty to Allah, by Whom you demand one of another (your rights), and (to) the ties of relationship. Surely Allah is ever a Watcher over you.”

Holy Qur'an 4:1

The Holy Qur'an lays the base for the foundation and construction of a Nation. Not just any nation but a Nation whose citizenship is comprised of men, women and children engaged in divine regimens that are designed to produce within them the reflection of Allah (God). Among the highest order of such practices is the institution of marriage. This institution is so important that it is placed second only to Allah (God) in the hierarchy of importance in the society of those who believe in Allah (God). Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) shares that marriage is one half of faith. On the surface this statement impresses the importance of marriage if one is to accomplish full faith in that which he or she believes and strives to practice. However, if one is to extract the deeper meaning and unlock the full power embedded in marriage there must be a proper study of the subject.

Increased study not only increases an individual's knowledge on a particular subject, but it also affords the individual the opportunity for deeper understanding which increases the success rate in a particular field or endeavor. When you want to become more proficient in the medical field you increase your study and practice in medicine. When you want to become greater in a particular science you acquire more knowledge and engage in the appropriate practice of such science thus increasing the probability of greater success. How can we become more successful in marriage without engaging in the proper and consistent study of this divine institution?

Consider these words from Brother Jabril Muhammad: *“Let us reflect on the fact that whenever we are brought into the knowledge of that which we previously did not know, changes are produced in us. The revealing of a secret—meaning, knowledge concealed from us—about the most vital kind of information, which, at the same time is about that which we—the dearest of the dead—yearn, with all our being, yearn to know and understand, this will of necessity produce the*

greatest change in those people. Such people, potentially, can produce the greatest change in the world."

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad and the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan teach that Allah (God) created Himself. After His self-creation and a protracted period of self-study He recognized a specific part of Himself as the best part. It was from this best part of Himself that He created woman. It is important to note that there was no sun, no moon and no stars in the universe at that time. It was only after bringing into existence and engaging in a union with His woman that these other powerful elements of the universe were created. Let's think over that. Could it be that there were elements of this first union that were so powerful that it helped to unlock formulae that gave birth to all that we see in the Creator's magnificent universe? If so, what blueprints lay dormant in our lives due to our inability to extract power from the divine institution of marriage?

The scripture reads *"...and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?"*

Allah (God) and His Christ have raised one from among the children of slaves in the western hemisphere in the personage of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. He fulfills the messianic role written of him as the one who was taught the Book and the Wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel, yet he shares it freely. Minister Farrakhan has published millions of spoken words and written words easily accessible to all, over the past four decades. All we have to do is avail ourselves to this vital information to become the beneficiary of the favor of Allah (God).

We thank Student Minister Willie Muhammad of New Orleans for his diligent work in researching and compiling articles and writings into a course of study to aid our Nation in producing strong marriages. Our Brother's effort is like the string of a pearl necklace organizing and drawing together pearls of wisdom to display the value and beauty of Allah (God) through His servant, The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. Let us take up this course of study with the mind of a student who wishes to become a master.

Brother Robert Muhammad
Student Minister of Muhammad Mosque No. 64
Austin, Texas

Before Your Begin Reflection

This workbook is filled with guidance from the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan on courtship, sex, marriage, family, divorce and many other related topics. Before you delve into the material write down what you desire to learn and gain from reading this his words, answering the questions and completing the exercises.

Promoting Positive Relationships Between the Sexes:

The Basis of Proper Male/Female Relationships - Pt. 1

[Editor's note: The following text is excerpted from "A Torchlight for America" by the Honorable Minister Farrakhan.]

Neither male nor female can fulfill their relationships to each other until they are first properly connected to the source of all creation, which is God. This is why the divorce rate is so high, and the dissatisfaction rate in relationships between the sexes is even higher.

The natures of male and female are different, but they are meant to complement each other. In the absence of knowledge, the different natures of male and female can work destructively against the self and against the union of both. The fundamental knowledge that is absent in male/female relationships is the knowledge of how we should relate to God and each other.

It is our disconnection from God that is at the root of failing and improper relationships between man and woman. This is a very deep problem in the relationship between black men and women. One of the major crimes perpetrated against us when we were brought into slavery was that a true and proper relationship between us and God was severed. The slave master stood in the place of God and made us relate to him as master in the place of God. To this very moment, no matter how much we say we believe in God, Jesus and Muhammad, many of us subconsciously relate to whites as master, and "God" is just a word that we use. Every human being has the potential to be a reflection of the Most High, but we also have the potential to be the very opposite. We have taken the lower desires of self, the urges and the lusts, and made them our god in place of the true God. Sometimes we talk about wanting to be right, however, until we earnestly desire to be right, we will never move toward right. We have to earnestly desire righteousness for righteousness' sake, not for the sake of some reward or for fear of some punishment

- **Question 1:** What does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan contribute the high divorce rate to?
- **Question 2:** If you were to research the lists of reasons given for a divorce, NONE of them would include the factor that the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan states. Why do you think this is so?
- **Question 3:** What causes the natures of the male and female to be destructive?

- **Question 4:** The Honorable Louis Farrakhan writes, “It is our disconnection from God that is at the root of failing and improper relationships between man and woman.” What can we do to help properly reconnect ourselves to God?

Being righteous will give us peace of mind and power. When we act in accord with what is right we can lay down at night with the peace of mind that comes from knowing we haven’t done anything or anyone wrong. This is where the true and real power of our minds comes from. The ability to focus on something and summon the power of our being to bring into reality our vision, in this time period, is truly based upon our striving to be right.

After a negative relationship, part of healing has to be that we be removed from the environment that facilitates our doing wrong. Most of us are not strong enough to fight against wrong influences when we remain in a wrong environment. It behooves us to make a change when we face circumstances like this.

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- **Question 5:** What must we do if we desire to have a peace of mind and power?

- **Question 6:** What are the benefits of being right?
- **Question 7:** What is one step we can use to help us heal from negative relationships?

It's counter-productive to flirt with trouble. A woman who wishes to stay away from fornication or adultery cannot spend too much time around an old boyfriend. He will only want to use you until he is reformed. He may try to get you in the wrong place, at the wrong time, under the wrong circumstances, so you will do the wrong thing one more time. After you do the wrong thing, you feel dirty. God is trying to make a new mind in us. If we are fortunate enough to hear and accept God's truth, it will take root in us and wrong won't seem right anymore.

In the Holy Qur'an it reads, "We certainly sent messengers to nations before thee, but the devil made their deeds fair-seeming to them. So he is their patron today, and for them is a painful chastisement." (Surah 16, Verse 63) We

have lost the criteria for judging our own actions because the standard of good has been confused and evil has been made to look "fair-seeming."

- **Question 8:** Explain why it is counter-productive to flirt with trouble?
- **Question 9:** What has caused us to lose the ability to judge the correctness of our own actions?

The human being has a grand purpose. It is wrong to take a woman or a man just for pleasure. Responsibility goes along with intimacy. Caring and sharing goes along with intimacy. Every time you engage in intimacy without responsibility, without caring, without commitment, without sharing, without honest communication, it lowers your self-esteem, self-respect and your self-worth until you begin to see yourself and others see you as a person without value. This is because every time we submit to our lower desires, we actually are beginning to make nothing of ourselves, while Allah (God) wants to make something of each of us.

If we cannot be strong alone, then we have to be among those who are strong. If we attach ourselves to strength because we desire to be strong, then we shall become strong. Allah (God) is the source of strength, goodness and purity. So your first connection should be to God, then connect with the strong and keep away from the environment that produced your weakness lest the forces of weakness and death destroy the new life that is trying to bud in you. When we are strong enough, then we can go back to the environment of our weakness with the strength to change it.

You don't need a mate until you find out who you are and what you need and hope to achieve in life. When thoroughbred horses are mated, the breeders carefully examine the stud and the mare with an eye for what they hope to breed from the two. We can learn a lesson from the mating of horses. We should learn that in order to get what we want in a relationship, we have to first understand who we are and how to identify in others that which we need to help us in our development into Divine.

Eliminating rape & molestation

Two million women are reported to be beaten by their spouses each year. Three-quarters of a million women are estimated to be raped each year. The resulting psychological damage is of enormous magnitude because you corrupt a nation when you corrupt a woman, which is why God set up strong laws to protect women and to protect the family.

Rape is the murder of the essence of a female. It's no wonder that many women who have been victimized by rape or incest have difficulty in relating to men and their own families. Women are created to provide heaven, consolation, comfort, peace and quiet of mind to their mate. What she provides she is meant to give freely, but men must earn the right to this gift. When a woman is raped she may never again be able to give of her essence, unless God intervenes to heal her. When the nature is killed, only God, Who created our natures, can revive it again.

After a woman is raped or molested, there is often no such thing to her anymore as a decent man. She could lose all faith in men and become a lesbian,

which is very prevalent, or a prostitute or a free-for-all woman who will give herself to any man who asks.

We regard crimes against women as extremely serious. Rape and child molestation are not only crimes against the individual, they are truly crimes against the society and nations. The people must be taught properly and given guidance for conducting themselves among their fellow man. Then, if they refuse to abide by the laws that are designed to protect women and the family, harsh punishment can be given.

In Saudi Arabia we have a society that is relatively free of the pervasive crime and many of the violent crimes that plague America. The strong Islamic law and exemplary punishment of transgression of the law has helped in making Saudi Arabia a country with less crime and savage behavior than any other nation on earth. In my travels to Saudi Arabia I have actually seen open safes, with untold amounts of money, yet no one would dare to attempt a robbery. Merchants can merely cover their merchandise with a cloth while they go to pray, without the fear of being burglarized. This is, in part, because the punishment for such crimes - the threat of losing a limb or your life - is so severe that no one wants to take a chance.

In order to correct savage behavior, knowledge must be imparted to the people and the society's institutions must be corrected. This would give the people a fair chance to become civilized. Then, for those who still transgress the law, harsh penalties including the death penalty can be justifiably used.

However, this society has failed its people. The institutions are failing the people. Therefore, knowledge has to be imparted and the institutions must be corrected before the death penalty can justifiably be established. When you have a society as wicked as this one is becoming, where the behavior of the people is so savage, the strong law Moses applied to Israel must be used to bring the people out of savagery until love of the law could be nurtured. That same strong law of the time of Moses may have to come to America.

For those who have suffered a sexually violent crime such as rape, incest or molestation, healing starts with justice. The problem is that very few women raped in this society get justice. The worth of women has to be restored, at all

costs. The woman's worth has to be reestablished. Women must help to reestablish their own value by never giving themselves to any man unless there is love and commitment. And society must do a better job of teaching the people the value of human life, and correct its economic, penal, educational and spiritual institutions.

- **Question 10:** What are the consequences of engaging in intimacy without responsibility?
- **Question 11:** How does the violent act of rape negatively impact the essence of a woman and who has the power to revive it?
- **Question 12:** How can savage behavior be corrected?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Promoting Positive Relationships Between the Sexes:

The Basis of Proper Male/Female Relationships -Pt. 2

(Editor's note: The following text is excerpted from "Torchlight for America" by Minister Farrakhan, published in 1993)

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

None of us is worthy to judge another based on their sin. While homosexuality is not approved by God, and since none of us are without sin, we don't have the right to cast stones against another manifestation of sin. Jesus taught that when we offend in one law, we offend in all. Since we are all sinners, and all of us have fallen short of the glory of God, then we are really unfit to judge one another.

However, we must not allow the standard raised by God, as given to us through the mouth of His prophets to be destroyed, and say, "well, anything goes." To adopt a mindset that whatever you do is alright, as long as it is between "consenting adults," is wrong. It is written in the scripture that no effeminate would see the Kingdom.

We must change homosexual behavior and get rid of the circumstances that bring it about. We must change all behavior that offends the standard of moral behavior set by God through His laws and prophets.

As a civilized society, we should look with compassion on the sinner while abhorring the sin. It is wrong to preach that Jesus is a saviour and redeemer and in the same breath speak so harshly in our judgment of an aspect of sin that we may not be guilty of personally, while we offend the law of God in some other respect. This is why the people have been so hard on the preachers whose actions are far less than the standards that are preached. Many of us preach the standard raised by God as though we have no weakness at all. We must preach the standard for guiding human behavior, but we must do it in a manner that allows the public to see that we too are striving to live up to that standard

- **Question 1:** Why are we unfit to judge one another?
- **Question 2:** What guidance does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan give to us that would help us learn how to uphold the standard of God, without being self-righteous or feeling guilty for doing so?

Promiscuity & Premarital Sex

We must respect and honor women if the nation is ever to be great. When we do not have a proper appreciation for women, this is reflected in women's roles in the society. Women should be active in every field of endeavor except those that degrade them. Why is it that a woman who is exceedingly beautiful must model filth and indecency? Why can't she model something beautiful and righteous instead of being a saleswoman for filth? Why is it that if she is a singer we end up seeing more of her bosom than hearing her voice? The righteous are sick of the degradation of women. The maintenance of women as sex objects is destroying the society.

Two-thirds of Black children are born out of wedlock and half of today's Black youth are raised in a home where only a mother is present. One-fourth of America's young girls become pregnant by their sixteenth birthday. Clearly, the relations between men and women have become rampantly irresponsible. Women are being used, and allowing themselves to be used, as sex objects. This moral problem, in part, is undermining the cultivation of proper family life.

We breed hostility with the thoughts we carry during promiscuous relationships. We have sex for recreation instead of its divine purpose of procreation. The thought we have in mind is not wanting to have a baby. So now in our communities violence is prevalent. Carjacking is prevalent, and we wonder what the world is coming to.

Think back to when you were producing the children of this world. You didn't tell the woman that you would stand by her if she had a baby because you love her. The minute she told you she was pregnant you didn't want to see her anymore. She then puts the thought of murder in her womb in response to your callous treatment of her and her pregnancy. Then, you leave her abandoned and embittered with a baby, your baby, to take care of. So she brings forth and raises a child after her own thinking, and we wonder why today's youth are so rebellious.

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- **Question 3:** What are some of the effects of having sex for recreation instead of procreation?

- **Question 4:** How do a woman's thoughts during pregnancy affect the child growing in the womb?

More than half of female-headed families do not receive child support or alimony. This problem is most acute among Blacks where 83 percent of our female-headed households do not receive assistance. The irresponsibility in our treatment of each other is reflected in the children that we produce.

When we place a plant in a different pot, often that plant goes into shock. Imagine how children are affected when they are abandoned or consistently moved into different homes or different environments. When the relationship between husband and wife becomes cold, what happens to the children? We produce a hard generation of children by our not understanding or caring about the dynamics of how thoughts are transmitted during sex and during pregnancy. We must learn to act responsibly in the male/female relationship, for the sake of ourselves, our mates, our children and our future.

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- **Question 5:** What contributes to a mother being unable to form a proper bond with her baby?

Abortion

Some of us are pro-life and others are pro-choice. I am both. I'm pro-choice in that women should have the right to choose to whom they will commit their lives. So don't regret bearing life from that one to whom you have made a commitment. I'm not for any woman or man having the luxury of pleasure without responsibility. There is a procreational aspect to sex, and it's the neglect of this aspect that gains us disapproval in the sight of God. No one should be free to kill the fruit of the womb not understanding that what you are producing could be the answer to your own prayers and those of your forebears.

Nearly 15 million babies were aborted in the '80s, according to the Center for Disease Control. The annual rate of abortions is currently 1.5 million per year. For every four babies conceived, three are born and one gets aborted. And this does not account for so-called illegal abortions.

Most women do not realize what they're carrying. We have to bear the responsibility of our actions. This is why no woman should lay down with just anyone. Don't let biological need force you to do something that you will regret later.

My mother tried to abort me three times. Although she eventually decided to have me, the effect of her thinking is on me. However, God has used that effect for His purposes.

When you think to kill during pregnancy, you produce after your thoughts. And we wonder why the children are so rebellious and violent.

Today's youth are much more violent than their counterparts were in the period prior to Roe versus Wade. We must ask, what contributes to this difference?

It now takes two working parents to provide for most households. In most instances, today's working mothers cannot bond properly to their newborns. Instead, the babies bond to a plastic milk bottle, rather than the warmth of mother's bosom. Parents give their children away to day-care centers to warehouse their children during the day while the parents are at work. Today's

children are bonded more frequently with teddy bears and plastic bottles--cold, heartless things--but rarely to a human being.

The unwanted financial burden a newborn can bring and the coldness that exists between the parents fills the atmosphere with desires for abortion and neglect of the children. Callousness and the thought of murder permeates the atmosphere, sanctioned by the government through Roe versus Wade, and justified by the economic need for both parents to work, that removes the mother from forming a proper bond with her babies.

As my mother lay dying on her bed, she told me while cradling her womb, "Son, I thank God for what He allowed my womb to produce." She prayed that God would forgive her for even trying to kill such a precious child. The womb is a sacred house, a sacred place where you and God, or you and Satan, operate to produce what you see walking the street.

Society should not promote abortion. This is equal to the promotion of murder and recreational sex when the recreational aspect of sex should be special and reserved for those who have made the proper commitment.

However, I am not in favor of letting the product of rape or incest come to term. Abortion is justified in these cases, along with those instance where the mother's health is at risk.

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- **Question 6:** Why shouldn't society promote abortion?

- **Question 7:** In what instances does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say abortion is justified?

- **Question 8:** What can be done to reduce women from feeling that legalized abortion is their only protection from negligent men?

The penalties for negligence by the male in fulfilling his obligation to support his children should be better enforced. This measure would help reduce the feeling on the part of some women that they must have legalized abortion in order to protect themselves from negligent men. However, the government has the responsibility to its citizenry of creating jobs so that today's fathers can support their families.

Avoiding non-marital sex relations should also be promoted by parents, teachers, the clergy and members of the artistic community, even though this measure is perceived by some as unrealistic.

- **Question 9:** Should non-marital sex be promoted even if people perceive that this idea is unrealistic? Why?

- **Question 10:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

UNDERSTANDING: *MALE and FEMALE* DEVELOPMENT

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

It is written in the Qur'an that Allah (God) has ordained **struggle** for each of us.

Struggle – *to try very hard to deal with a challenge, problem, or difficulty; to make a great physical effort to achieve or obtain something.*

This Divinely ordained struggle is to manifest the dormant qualities and characteristics which when manifested cause us to glorify Allah (God), our Creator. Allah (God) says in the Qur'an that He never lays on a soul a **burden** beyond its scope.

- **Question 1:** Why has Allah ordained struggle?

Burden – *a load being carried; a difficult or worrying responsibility or duty; to give somebody a task that is difficult to deal with or something worrying to think about.*

Whenever there is struggle, there is a degree of pain. Wherever there is a burden being carried, there is stress that demands great **endurance**. Endurance demands that we continually expand our threshold of pain so that we might endure to the end. Pain is necessary for growth, development and for the manifestation of character.

Endurance – bearing anything; lasting quality; duration.

Pain, though not welcomed, along with work and endurance are necessary for success. This is the reason why Allah (God) puts in our bodies centers which gives us **pleasure**.

- **Question 2:** What can we do to better prepare ourselves to endure the pain we will encounter as we strive to be successful in our lives?

Pleasure – a feeling of happiness, delight or satisfaction; gratification of the senses, especially sexual gratification, recreation, relaxation, or amusement, especially as distinct from work or everyday routine.

The pleasure aspect of life is the reward for going through the pain of struggle. This is why Allah (God) says, ***"After difficulty comes ease."*** In the ease that comes after difficulty, is the joy or pleasure of relief from difficulty – relief momentarily from struggle and the heaviness of the burden.

Allah (God) in creating the woman said in the Qur'an that, ***He created her as a consoler and a pacifier for the man. He created her as a soul in which the man might find peace and quiet of mind.***

She then in her person represents the joy and pleasure of his life. Consequently, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that, ***the only heaven for man is found in a woman.*** There are many things in life that give the human being rest, ease, comfort, consolation, and pleasure. Sometimes, there is the comfort of a touch or a massage; the comfort of a hot bath; the pleasure of good

company; the pleasure of a good musical or cultural experience; the pleasure of seeing one's creative mind manifested into concrete reality as the created object gains for its creator recognition, honor and praise. Along with these things, there is the great pleasure that comes from a sexual relationship or sexual intercourse.

- **Question 3:** What were some of the purposes of Allah in creating the woman?

As we mature, we learn of the pleasure centers in our bodies. In this world, it is pleasure in the area of sex that gives the human being the greatest trouble. There is a natural yearning or instinct to be around the opposite sex. In the kingdom of the lower animals and creatures, there is a natural period of heat in the female in which these creatures will copulate for the express purpose of the procreation of their species. This is the nature in which Allah (God) has created all living things. So it is with the human being. These periods of heat in the female are to be understood and handled properly by mothers and fathers. The mothers must teach the young females how to get through these difficult periods of heat without destroying their future. Mothers must sit with their teenage and pre-teenage girls to help them understand what their bodies are going through and what effect these changes are producing in them.

The fathers should sit with their sons to discuss this period in their development to help them to understand what is happening to them; the changes that are taking place, and the urges and impulses that suggest certain actions to their minds. If there is no father present, the uncles or the male members of the church or community should assist the young men in their development.

- **Question 4: What can parents do to help prepare their sons and daughters as they begin to develop and become aware of the sexual side of their nature?**

During this time of heat in the female, she inclines more toward the male for attention and affection primarily from her father, her uncles, her older brothers, and close male friends of the family. If these males do not understand what this is in the female, they can and oft-times do take advantage of such condition, thus, ruining the lives of these young girls. Mothers, fathers, teachers, preachers, and elders are tried severely during this time period in the life of a young adult. Our desire should be to improve the moral character of the young adults by helping them to understand the nature of the male and the female. This is the prerequisite to proper action and the giving of proper guidance during this crucial period of male and female development.

Please discuss this article with your teenage and pre-teenage children.
Thank you for reading these words.

- **Question 5:** Honorable Louis Farrakhan said, “During this time of heat in the female, she inclines more toward the male for attention and affection primarily from her father, her uncles, her older brothers, and close male friends of the family.” What can happen if the males around her do not understand this stage of her development?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

The Seriousness of our Word
By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

This is a question given to the Honorable Elijah Muhammad by his Teacher and this is his answer.

Have you not learned that your word shall be bond regardless to whom or what?

Yes. My word is bond and bond is life and I will give my life before my word shall fail.

Why do the majority of people who believe in Allah (God) trust in Him completely? It is because whatever Allah (God) says, ***He performs according to His Word***. There is one thing that is impossible for Allah (God) to do and that is, it is impossible for Him to lie. He has ultimate power to do whatever He wills. Therefore, whatever He causes His Prophets to say under His Guidance and Direction, we can put complete faith and trust that His Word or Promise will be fulfilled for He never breaks His Promise.

It is written in the Bible that the heavens and the Earth will pass away before one jot or tittle of the Word of Allah (God) will fail. What an excellent record Allah (God) has. He has made us in His Image and after His Likeness.

Therefore, we should strive to be like Allah (God) by striving hard to make our word bond that we may develop trust and confidence in all our relationships.

- **Question 1:** Why do the majority of people who believe in Allah trust Him completely?

In the Qur'an, Allah (God) calls our nature Islam (submission to His Will). He gives us the ability to submit to His Will, but, He also gives us the right of choice. We can choose to obey or disobey. Whenever we give our word we should try to be like our Creator. We should be found striving to live up to what we say. Our word is so important, that we should think carefully before giving it. However, after giving our word, we should do all within our power to make our word bond. In practicing this most important principle, we build trust and confidence in all our relationships.

The most important relationship is our relationship with Allah (God), and, as Muslims we take an oath in our prayers when we say, ***"My prayers, my sacrifice, my life and my death are all for Allah (God) the Lord of the Worlds."***

We must strive to live up to this most important oath. If we are faithful to the oath that we have given to Allah (God), then, it follows that our oath or our word will have significant value with others.

It is this characteristic of living up to our word that produces trust, dependability, and earns its possessor the respect of those who may even be our enemies.

- **Question 2:** What can we do develop trust and confidence in our relationships?
- **Question 3:** What are two actions the Honorable Louis Farrakhan says we should do when it comes to our word?

When we give our word, under all circumstances and conditions, both Bible and Qur'an teach us that we should always say, "***If it be the Will of Allah (God) or Insha' Allah.***" We have no power over the next fraction of a second of our lives. So, in all matters, we must remember Allah (God) and say, I will see you tomorrow, if it be the Will of Allah (God) or I will do this or that, if it be the Will of Allah (God). However, we should never use the phrase Insha' Allah (God), or be it the Will of Allah (God) as a cover for our deceit in telling people that which we have no intention of doing. If we intend to keep our word, then, Allah (God) may help us to keep our word, but, if we have no intention to keep our word, but, use

Allah's (God's) name as a cover for deceit, then, of course there can be no help coming from Allah (God) to make our word bond. And by doing this we earn Allah's (God's) displeasure. Our yea must be yea, and our nay must be nay unless our yea or nay is based on poor information or falsehood. So, with better information or truth, we may change our answer or our determination, but, by and large we all ***must strive to make our word bond***.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that a hypocrite is one who says from the mouth that which is not in the heart. When we give our word or promise and fail to perform after our promise, we destroy the confidence in us of those who depend on our word. In fact, the Qur'an teaches, ***it is the devil who promises and fails to perform after his promise***. Look at how many of us are in league with the devil on this point. Therefore, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught all of His followers to strive to make our word bond. He teaches us that bond is life and whatever we give our word to do and fulfill it, we actually give life to that which we have given our word to.

Question 4: What does Allah in the Holy Quran tell the believer to say when he/she gives their word?

- **Question 5:** What should we never use as a cover?

- **Question 6:** What happens when we fail to keep our word or promise?

No word or oath is more important after our word to Allah (God) than the oath that we give to one another in marriage. The marriage vow is called a marriage contract. A contract is an agreement between parties to do certain things or to fulfill certain requirements or duties.

A contractual agreement is only meaningful if the parties live up to that to which they have agreed. Breaking the agreement brings about the death of the contract.

This is how important our word is in building any relationship. Sometimes we say things that we really intend to do, however, as we are generally forgetful, it is always good that we have a reminder. In marriage each partner is a natural reminder to the other of the word that both have given to Allah (God) and to each other in the company of our family and friends. What importance do we attach to our oaths, or vows, or our word?

As Allah (God) is our greatest benefactor and He says that He would not even consider us were it not for our prayers. Yet, we have to be reminded that prayer is our duty to Him.

What about the word that we have given to each other that begins our journey toward union? Should not we remind each other of our word? Should not we strive to live up to our word? Every time we make our word bond we breathe life into the institution of marriage. Nothing sound can be built on a lie. The whole universe is constructed on truth. Falsehood has produced nothing in this wonderful creation. Therefore, falsehood can never produce the good that Allah (God) intended in His establishing the institution of marriage.

Some of us take offense at being reminded of our word because there are times that our desires lead us away from fulfilling our word. So, in the marriage we have to be mindful of how we remind our mate of his or her failure or shortcoming in living up to our word, for the reminder itself can produce friction. However, if we are humble of heart no matter how the reminder comes, if it is truth, we must bow to the truth and act accordingly.

- **Question 7:** What other oath besides to Allah are of the most importance? Why?
- **Question 8:** What quality would help us become better at receiving a remainder about our defaults in aspects of our duty?

The characteristic that made Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H.) so highly esteemed among the Arabs, even before His Prophetic Call, was His great trustworthiness and His sense of fairness and justice. Therefore, He was relied upon to settle disputes and quarrels. So, when Allah (God) chose Him, He chose a man that had earned the respect of His own tribe and other tribes because of His great characteristic of faithfulness. This is why before He was chosen, by Allah (God) to be His Messenger, He was called Al-Amin, the Faithful, the Trustworthy.

Writing bad checks, signing contracts and willfully neglecting to live up to its terms, making bills and failing to pay them gives us a record that marks us as untrustworthy. When people have no confidence in the word that we give, we cannot build sound or good relationships. Since Allah (God) created us as social beings, then, it is incumbent upon us to form good relationships with others and the best way to form a good relationship is to be found living up to the word that we give or the oath that we give in the performance of our duty.

In the journey of union with Allah (God) and with our mate, fidelity and infidelity is based on a word that we give. It is a wonderful thing to be faithful. Faith is that which marks the believer in contrast to the disbeliever and hypocrite. Remember, every word given is tested and in testing the quality of our oaths or words given we learn about ourselves. Are we liars or are we truthful? Are we faithful or unfaithful? Are we trustworthy or unworthy of trust?

In the Qur'an it reads, ***"Do men think that they will be left alone on saying, We believe, and will not be tried? And indeed We tried those before them, so Allah will certainly know those who are true and He will know the liars."*** Sura 29, verses 2-3

When **we** read this article, let us look into the mirror of our word and our actions corresponding to our word. What grade would we give ourselves if there were a word, contract or bill paying report card? Wouldn't it be wonderful if we would strive to be like Allah (God), our Creator, by marshaling the force of our being to make our word bond. Let every believer strive to do this in every transaction that we make.

Remember, death comes to every relationship when our word begins to fail. Death comes to the marriage contract when infidelity enters the house. Please read and discuss this article with your mate, your family and the family of believers.

- **Question 9:** What is the best way to form good relationships?
- **Question 10:** What causes death to enter into a relationship?
- **Question 11:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

What is the Purpose for Sex in Marriage
By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

The institution of marriage allows the lawful sexual union between male and female in the eyes of Allah (God) and society. Since both, male and female should dedicate their lives to the Will of Allah (God) and the great struggle in the journey of the meeting with Allah (God), and, the great struggle of the union of the two, then the pleasure derived from sex is Divinely given to enhance the union as well as to re-charge the electrical energy of the male and the female that they might continue the great journey and struggle of life. These two, properly motivated, allows the sexual union to be a life-giving experience not only in procreation and continuance of the life of the species, but, it is invigorating as well as life giving to the marriage and the struggle of these two to become as one.

To look at marriage as only the legalization of the sex act is to put our minds on a level that will not bring the best out of the experience. To become extreme in our view that the sex act is only for procreation and not meant by Allah (God) to give pleasure to married couples is a view that is not in accord with the Will, Plan and Purpose of Allah (God). These pleasure centers in the human being, used properly and in accord with the Will of Allah (God), brings comfort, ease, consolation, rest, reward and joy to the souls that are working hard to fulfill their Divine duty and obligation.

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- **Question 1:** What institution allows for the lawful sexual union between male and female in the eyes of Allah?

- **Question 2:** What is the negative impact of only viewing marriage as being a legalization of sex?

- **Question 3:** What does the Honorable Louis Farrakhan say is an extreme view of sex?

What is the purpose of sex in marriage?

1. Procreation of human species.
2. Reward the struggle of the two to become one with the joy of the pleasure of each other's complimentary nature.
3. To give rest, relaxation and new energy to the male to continue the great mission of being producer of mastering the earth and its laws as he strives to become Khalifah or one who stands in the place of Allah (God) at his level of development. The female in energizing the male and giving him this comfort, consolation; giving him peace and quiet of mind as a rest period between struggle is also satisfied and is pleased because she has given rest to him to work for Allah (God), her and the family. Therefore, she is rested in herself. This is the Divine Purpose of Sex in Marriage.

Satan, however, has taken this natural gift of Allah (God) and made mischief with it causing us to go after pleasure without struggle; without the burden or responsibility of being what Allah (God) created us to be. We have become pleasure seekers without responsibility and misusing our pleasure centers thus becoming slaves of pleasure.

This has given rise to the misuse of women and the misuse of what Allah (God) gave them for the man so that she becomes a prostitute – sex for hire, he becomes a pimp – using her and the need of the male for pleasure as a means of livelihood.

The lust for pleasure is causing the abuse of children, male and female, and the misuse of our bodies. As a result, we are living in a morally degenerate world. We are paying the price for this moral degeneracy through the plague of AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, which produce the destruction of the male and female and the destruction of our future.

- **Question 4:** What are the purposes of sex in marriage?
- **Question 5:** What has Satan done with the natural gift of Allah? Explain.
- **Question 6:** What has this misuse of the natural gift of Allah given rise to?

This is why we must return to Allah (God) and seek to know His purpose for what He created and use everything of creation in accord with His purpose for it. Then, and only then, will we find the genuine peace, joy, and happiness that we seek.

It is written in Psalms, ***"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"***

The unity of the brotherhood gives us another kind of pleasure.

It is written in the Qur'an that, ***when we become one with Allah (God) we will be well pleased with Him and well pleasing in His sight."***

There is tremendous pleasure in being one with Allah (God). There is tremendous joy in knowing that we are pleasing in His sight. Let us strive for the real pleasure of life that comes from duty to Allah (God); duty to ourselves; duty to our mates; duty to our families; duty to our community.

Let us seek real pleasure that comes when we know that we have struggled to obey Allah (God); we have struggled to bear the burden of the great responsibility that Allah (God) has placed on our shoulders; we have accepted the difficulty factor of life knowing truly that after difficulty comes ease.

Please discuss this article with your family.

Thank you for reading these few words.

- **Question 7:** Why must we turn to Allah to find the true purpose of sex?

- **Question 8:** How does the unity of brotherhood and sisterhood give us pleasure?

- **Question 9:** Where does the real pleasure of life come from?

- **Question 10:** How can discussing this article with our family help us?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Allah's (God's) Choice of Jesus

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

The most interesting decision of choice made by Allah (God) is His choice of Jesus

The method by which Allah (God) chooses His Prophets and Messengers is the best example of how we should choose our mates. Allah (God) has a purpose in mind, and, He chooses the person and people best suited to fulfill His aim and purpose. A man without an aim or purpose in life is not in a good position to properly choose a mate. I know that females also have aims and purposes for their lives, and in this world, sometimes, the man will subordinate his aim, and works hard to help his wife to fulfill her aim. However, when both are in love with Allah (God) and filled with the desire to see His Will come to fruition, then, both will use their gifts, skills, and talents toward the fruition of Allah's (God's) Will. In this case, the woman helps the man in his aim and purpose for Allah (God) and both are fulfilled in carrying out the Will of Allah (God).

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- **Question 1:** What is the best example for us to choose a mate?

Allah (God) knows the heart. So, it is true, He knows best where to place His Message in order to fulfill His purpose. Since we do not know the heart, the process of courtship and becoming as fully acquainted with the proposed mate as we can is absolutely a necessary prerequisite to form a good and proper union. This is why sex before marriage is forbidden; the beauty of its expression, and the pleasure derived from it can cloud our ability to make the proper discovery to aid us in making a proper choice. ***This is why the Law of Allah (God) is so harsh on fornication.*** Since Allah (God) ***hates divorce***, but, will permit it, His Law is very hard on that which clouds the mind disallowing us to make a proper selection of a mate. This alone should teach us the power of sex and its extraordinary effect on our hearts and minds. It can absolutely interfere with our ability to make a good decision.

- **Question 2:** Why is the process of courtship necessary?

- **Question 3:** Why is the Law of Allah so harsh on fornication?

When we intake excessive amounts of alcohol, we become a liability on the road. Therefore, ***we must not drink and drive***. When we ingest certain medications, we are told we should not drive or make any important decisions until the effect of this medication wears off. This is the great power of sex in clouding the mind, thus, interfering with that rational mind that will allow us to make a good decision. In some marriage ceremonies it is stated that we must enter into this union with a sober mind.

Sober - habitually abstemious in the use of alcoholic liquors; temperate; not intoxicated; straightforward in character; serious; plain or subdued; not garish; devoid of frivolity, excess, exaggeration, or speculative imagination; characterized by self-control or sanity; reasonable.

It is also clear statistically that sex before marriage must have a negative affect on proper union because well over 50% of all marriages end up in divorce. This should tell us that there is something that we are doing in marriage that is wrong. One of the signs of the decline of any nation or civilization is its rate of divorce.

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- **Question 4:** How can sex before marriage negatively impact ones ability to make a good decision when it comes to selecting a partner?

How did Allah (God) choose Jesus?

Allah (God) knew Jesus before He came to birth. He knew Him before He was conceived in the womb of His mother. Jesus was chosen thousands and thousands of years before He was born. Some scholars say that He was chosen from the beginning when Allah created the heavens and the earth and put the universe on an evolutionary course toward perfection. Some Christian scholars say that Jesus was born into the world to perfect the creation of Allah (God). He could not perfect creation until He perfected the human being. It is only when human beings obey the Will of Allah (God) perfectly that we will be able to bring into existence a perfect civilization.

This perfect civilization of perfect peace is referred to in the Bible and Qur'an as the Hereafter.

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- **Question 5:** What is the only way for us to bring into existence a perfect civilization?

Although Jesus was chosen of Allah (God), this did not prevent Him from being maligned, evil spoken of, falsely accused, persecuted, brought before the Roman courts and finally sentenced and put to death. At a certain point when one of the disciples expressed to Jesus his strong desire to see His Father, He said, ***"Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me,***

Philip? He hath seen me hath seen the Father: and how sayest thou then, shew us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me..." John Chapter 14 verses 9-10.

This is a marvelous statement made by Jesus, but, this statement of what Jesus suffered teaches us the hardship of the journey to become one with Allah (God). ***There is similar hardship entailed in the journey of struggle of two human beings through the institution of marriage to become as one.***

In the Bible, the second Adam who is this Christ Figure also needs help. The help that He needed, He had to make suitable or fit to be His helpers. These were His disciples who, through their trials, tribulations, and struggles became Apostles; and through them a church, a community, and/or a nation was to be formed that would be wedded to Christ. As in the beginning, the woman was made fit for the man to fulfill his obligation to Allah (God); so, in the last days, a body of people will be made fit to be the helpers of this Messianic Figure.

In the New Testament it reads, ***"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the savior of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything." Ephesians Chapter 5 verses 23-24.*** This is setting up a ratio and proportion. As the nation is to Christ, the woman is to man. This church, community, and/or nation is formed by Allah (God) to help the Messiah in His Mission. This church, community, or nation is referred to as the Body of Christ. This church, community, or nation will have to go through trials, tribulations, struggles, persecution, some members of this body will be imprisoned and some members will even be put to death in the struggle to become one with Christ; even as the female and male will have to struggle to become one with Allah (God) and with each other.

According to the Bible, woman is made from man, and, according to the Qur'an both male and female are made from a single soul or essence. So, the woman is a part of man; therefore, to mistreat, abuse, disrespect or to be unkind to her is really to be all of that to ourselves. It is written, ***"What Allah (God) has joined together let not man put asunder."***

Allah (God) today is joining the man with the woman in a Divine Union and the church, community or nation is being joined with this Messianic Figure in a Divine Union, but, this effort toward union or unity will be tested by Satan. Therefore, it is written in Second Thessalonians Chapter 2 verse 3, ***"For that day (Judgment) shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition."***

What Allah (God) puts together let not man (the man of sin) put asunder. Satan's world desires to separate a good man from a good woman and vice versa, and, he certainly desires to separate believing Muslims or Christians from their Head which is Muhammad, the Mahdi, the Christ Figure or the Messiah. These are not three or four different persons that the three monotheistic religions are looking for; it is really two human beings under the title of Mahdi and Messiah. These titles tell us of the great work that they are to perform. We are to be called out of this world to be married or wedded to this Messianic Figure. The Bible teaches, ***"For many are called, but few are chosen." Matthew Chapter 22 verse 14.***

There will be, according to scripture, only 144,000 fit to be stars, laborers or helpers of this Messianic Figure in His work of redemption, salvation and establishing the Kingdom of Allah (God) on earth.

We become agents of Satan and most hateful in the sight of Allah (God) when we deliberately try to break into or break up a marriage and a home, or break up a union between a believing person and his or her God. This is why the death penalty is given in the Mosaic Law to fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals, and lesbians. Why? Because Allah (God) desires to make a great family and to make a great nation.

Although Allah (God) has given such a harsh law to these types of sin, today His Mercy and Forgiveness covers us, and, He promises to purify us from all of the things in our behavior that displease Him.

In a future article, I hope to deal with the problem of homosexuality, lesbianism, and its affect on the development of family.

Moses, in making a great nation for the glory of Allah (God) had to put a strict law into force to protect marriage, family, and nation. This is why we have said that the best yard stick to judge any action, plan, program or thought is to

ask the question, does it strengthen the male and the female in their growth?
Does it strengthen the bond of marriage and the integrity of family?

Brothers and Sisters, it is incumbent upon us to work through our difficulties as we struggle to become one. It is my fervent hope and prayer that Allah (God) will grant us wisdom, knowledge and understanding that will cause us to rise above our emotions and natural urges that we might be wise in the process of selection, so that marriage will once again be looked upon as that most important of all institutions that is the foundation of family, nation, government and all systems that work for the benefit of man and mankind.

Thank you for reading these words. More next week if it is the Will of Allah (God).

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- **Question 6:** How does the suffering of Jesus relate to the struggle of the institution of marriage?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

The Proper View of the Woman in Building the Family

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

The origin of this present article stems from a brief encounter that I had with a wonderful Baptist preacher who had allowed me the honor and the privilege of speaking to the people from his pulpit. I was speaking on the need for the reform of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in their view and treatment of the female.

I mentioned that Paul said that the woman should be quiet in the church. This has been taken to mean that in church life, she should have nothing to say. In some religious orders in Christianity, she is forbidden to come up on the rostrum, or to sit in the place where the pastor sits. I said, "I disagree with Paul. He was a great Apostle, but, he certainly is not Jesus. And nowhere in the Gospels concerning the Words and Acts of Jesus do we find justification for the Words of the Apostle."

I said to my Christian family, "If Mary, the Mother of Jesus, entered the church, would you tell her that she could not come and stand on the rostrum and speak to us—a woman so exalted and revered by Allah (God)?" Then, I turned and said to the Pastor, "Would you tell your mother that she could not come up here? The pastor quickly said to me, "She could not come up here."

I was shocked. It was then that I realized even more so why there must be reform in our thinking concerning the female. What is so holy about the rostrum of the church that the mother of him who teaches the Word should not approach such place? Yet, Jesus, in whom was The Spirit and Presence of Allah (God), would be approached and embraced by those women who closely followed him? Is the rostrum or the pulpit more sacred than the person in whom is the indwelling spirit of Allah (God)?

Dear and beloved Christians, it was a woman who attended the birth of Jesus, yet, Christianity does not begin at his birth. There were women who ministered unto Jesus—washing His feet, comforting him and following him, yet, Christianity does not begin with his ministry, but Christianity begins at a place called Calvary, where, according to the scripture, this Messiah was put to death. It

is there, at that time, at that place, that Christianity begins. And, who was present at that place? Most of his disciples had run away except John, and he was at a safe distance, but, it was his mother Mary, and another Mary, who were at the foot of the cross when Jesus uttered these words, *“Woman, behold thy son.”* It was women at the tomb who saw that the tomb was empty, and ran to tell the Apostles that Jesus was risen.

If anyone should have a high place of honor in the life of a Christian, in the life of a Muslim, as well as in the life of a Jew, it should and must always be ***Mother***.

The pastor and I disagreed on this point, but at the end of the service we hugged each other. We disagreed, but never ever were we disagreeable. I hope that this attitude toward the female among certain segments of the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish family will change.

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- **Question 1:** Why does the world of religion need reform of its view of and treatment of the female?

Prophet Muhammad said, *“Heaven lies at the foot of mother.”* When a companion asked Prophet Muhammad, “After Allah (God) and His Messenger whom should we honor most?” the Prophet answered, *“Your mother.”* The companion asked “Who next?” The Prophet answered, *“Your mother.”* The

companion asked again, and, the Prophet answered, "*Your mother.*" The companion asked a fourth time, and, the Prophet answered, "*Your father.*"

There is a scripture in the Bible that raises the question, *“How beautiful are the feet of him who publisheth peace?”*

When one has been gifted with Divine Revelation and Divine Guidance, submission to Him is a requirement in order to bring about a life of righteousness and peace. Therefore, being at the foot of the Messenger, or Publisher of Peace, means being in submission to such one; and, it teaches us of the beauty of complete surrender to one who comes directly from Allah (God) to guide us in His Way. Therefore, the Qur'an teaches us to obey Allah (God) and His Messenger.

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- **Question 4:** What does it mean to sit at the “feet of him who publisheth peace?”

Next to obedience to Allah (God) and His Messenger is obedience and honor to our mothers. A mother who is in submission to the Will of Allah (God), at her feet, in obedience to her instructions is that which will allow us to build a heavenly life.

The female is the corner stone of family life. In my humble opinion, there is not enough honor and respect paid to females. I have found more respect for the female practiced in the Native American culture than I have found practiced in the three branches of the religion of Abraham: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Why is this? Ever since Adam's fall, which, according to the Bible, was produced by his acquiescence to Eve, the female has had to carry the burden of having been the instrument through whom the devil caused the fall of man. As a result of this, women have had to carry the burden of *the thought* that she is the natural tool of the devil. Because of this thought, she has been persecuted in most of the societies of the earth, although, not necessarily for the same reason.

Before the coming of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the Arabs were engaged in *infanticide*, which is the killing of female babies. It was thought that having a female child was something of a Divine Curse. In many societies on this Earth, there is no rejoicing when a female child is born. In some cases, this is tradition. In certain cultures and in other instances, it is due to the misunderstanding of scriptures and the Divine Role that women have as co-workers with Allah (God) in the making of the human being. In order for a new and better understanding of society or world to come into existence, we must have a better understanding of the value and importance of the female in building marriage and family. And, the importance of the female in building a New World Order.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to us that his Mission was the resurrection of a mentally dead nation and the bringing into existence, through us, an entirely new and beautiful people. In fact, he said that we would become the most beautiful people that the world has ever known, by the permission of Almighty (God) Allah.

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- **Question 5:** What has caused the improper view of the female?

- **Question 6:** What is needed for a new world or society to come into existence?

Several years ago, when I made weekly radio broadcasts on behalf of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and his Teachings, I would say, *“My beautiful Black brothers and sisters.”* One day, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to me: *“There is no beauty in one who disbelieves in Allah (God).”* So, if we are to be made the most beautiful people that ever lived, it means that we will ultimately become the most obedient to Allah (God) because of our profound belief and trust completely in Him. Also, it will be because we truly love Allah (God) with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. This and this alone is *the origin of true spiritual beauty*.

- **Question 7:** How does Allah (God) see beauty?

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to us that as the earth is 75 percent water, and 25 percent land, 75 percent of His Mission is with the female. His words correspond exactly to the saying of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), that *mother* is honored three times before father is honored once.

Why is this so? *It is only when we have produced a reformed female, filled with the love and spirit of Allah (God) that we will be able to produce a superior nation.* Likewise, the female is so important because she is the first nurse and the first teacher of the child.

There is a saying, *"The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."* If Satan's hand is on the female that rocks the cradle, then through that hand, Satan rules the world. The converse is also true. If Allah's (God's) hand is on the female that rocks the cradle, then Allah (God), through that female, will bring into existence and rule the new world.

We can see that the present world in which we live is ruled by Satan. All of the efforts to protect the female from Satan's hand have failed. Therefore, through the female, Satan's power is shaping the children of the present world order. This is why a knowledgeable, God-fearing, spirit-filled woman is the Base of Allah's (God's) New World Order and The Kingdom of Heaven. For, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us, ***"Where there are no decent women, there are no decent men. For, the woman is the mother of civilization."***

How, then, can the woman take her proper and rightful place without exposure to that knowledge which will cultivate all aspects of her being? In order for the female to produce a great future for us, *she must be filled with the desire for knowledge*, specifically the knowledge of Allah (God) and His Word. Any society that deprives the female of the deepest aspect of the study of the Word of Allah (God) is a society that will not approach the potential of its greatness. For, only when we have a highly spiritual and moral woman, educated, cultivated, cultured and refined, will she be able to bring into existence a civilization bearing these same fine qualities and characteristics.

To prove the importance and the value of a righteous woman, in the Qur'an it is written concerning Mary, the Mother of Jesus: *"And when the angels said: 'O Mary, surely Allah has chosen thee and purified thee and chosen thee above the women of the world. O Mary, be obedient to thy Lord and humble thyself and bow*

down with those who bow. This is of the tidings of things unseen which We reveal to thee. And thou wast not with them when they cast their pens (to decide) which of them should have Mary in his charge, and thou wast not with them when they contended one with another. When the angels said: Oh Mary, surely Allah gives thee good news with a word from Him (of one) whose name is the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, worthy of regard in this world and the Hereafter, and of those who are drawn nigh (to Allah).'" (Surah 3, verses 41-45)

These verses of scripture teach us that Mary was chosen by Allah (God) above all the women of the world to be purified by Him. She was commanded then to be obedient to Allah (God), humble herself, and bow down with those who bow down. Mary, in being obedient to Allah (God), was purified by Him to bring forth into the world the Messiah that would change the condition of human beings and reconcile a fallen human being once again to our Creator.

This is the value of the female. This is the value of a righteous woman. She is more precious than silver and fine gold. In fact, there is nothing in the earth more valuable than a virtuous woman. This is the value of obedience or coming to the foot of mother, for only at the feet of a righteous mother will we learn the heavenly life and bring into existence that which is called The Kingdom of Allah (God).

From this day forward, whenever you look at a female child, you are looking at one who has the potential of bringing into existence a World Saviour. Mary grew up among righteous guardians. The Qur'an teaches us exactly the process by which a righteous child is brought into existence, and specifically how Mary was brought into existence.

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- **Question 8:** What does the female need to be able to produce a great future?

- **Question 9:** Why is the female more valuable than all of the precious materials found in the earth?

- **Question 10:** How can we use this article to gain a proper view of the female?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

THE SACREDNESS of the FEMALE

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

THROUGHOUT THE EARTH the female has and continues to suffer the abuse of men and the abuse of societies that have not clearly understood the extreme importance and tremendous value of the female.

In many societies when a female child is born there is great disappointment and the female is looked down upon as someone so much less than the male, which leads to abuse, the lack of proper care, education, and cultivation of her gifts and talents, and lack of appreciation to Almighty (God) Allah for the gift of women.

The Holy Qur'an teaches us that both male and female have the same essence or come from the essence or being that is Allah, the All Wise God. He has given both male and female complimentary natures which, if acted on properly help each mate to attain to fulfillment, perfect peace, and full development or perfection.

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- **Question 1:** What has caused the abuse of women throughout the earth? Give examples.

- **Question 2:** What can the male and the female do to help attain fulfillment, peace and development?

The disrespect of women is the reason that the earth and the world is in the condition that it is in. There cannot be a new world except that there is a new and better understanding of the female, which will give us (men) a clearer understanding of self and above all a clearer understanding of Allah (God). In the Bible, Allah (God) declares, "Behold I make all things new." The Honorable Elijah Muhammad has taught us that we cannot bring in a new world except that we accept a new idea that will give us a new way of thinking and that new way of thinking based on an idea and word that comes directly from the Supreme Being will give us His Sight. We need to see life, creation and Allah (God) as He sees Himself and sees His creation. If we can begin to perceive reality as Allah (God) perceives it, then, and only then will we treat Allah (God) and His creatures as they ought to be treated.

It is written in the Holy Qur'an, Surah 2, verse 138, "(We take) Allah's (God's) colour, and who is better than Allah at colouring, and we are His worshippers." Since, it is the light of the sun which gives all things their color, then, we who follow the Light (Truth) sent down by Allah (God) begin to see or perceive reality as Allah (God) perceives it. We take His Colouring, which is His View.

What is Allah's (God's) view of the female? She is the manifestation of His attribute of mercy to the world. She is undeserved kindness to us, for, through her we are extended through the generations. It is only through her that we live

again, and again, and again. It is only through her that we continue to move toward the true perfection that Allah (God) desires for His creation. She is the cornerstone of the family and therefore is critical in the whole process of nation and world building.

Allah (God) speaks to us saying that, **we should reverence the womb that bore us**. According to Random House Dictionary, reverence is, "a feeling or attitude of deep respect tinged with awe, veneration; a gesture indicative of deep respect; an obeisance, a bow, or curtsy."

I repeat, **we must reverence the womb that bore us**. Since, the womb of our mother is sacred, then, this teaches us that the womb of every female is also sacred, for it is from her womb that all the Scientists, Prophets, Sages, Messengers, Kings, Rulers and Gods have come and will come.

According to Random House Dictionary, sacred is, "devoted to some deity or to some religious purpose; consecrated; entitled to veneration or religious respect by association with divinity or divine things; holy: regarded with reverence; secured against violation, infringement etc; properly immune from violence, interference, etc." How many women see themselves and their wombs as sacred? If the womb is sacred then the passageway through which the seed of life enters the womb is also sacred.

In the Bible, St. John, Chapter 10, verse 9, Jesus says, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." Jesus is to Allah (God) as the passageway to the womb. Jesus is the Eternal Door to Allah (God). Therefore, as Jesus is sacred so is the passageway to the womb also sacred, because it is the eternal door to the womb.

That which is sacred must be safe and not violated. Women all over the earth, due to an improper view of self have violated themselves and allowed men and society to violate them.

It is unthinkable that a person of righteous bearing would go into a mosque, synagogue, church, or cloister and profane that which is sacred. Any person who violates the sacredness of the house of Allah (God) is considered uncivilized, savage or a heathen. We know it is improper to violate the sacred house of Allah (God), and, as Muslims we are exhorted by Allah (God) to protect all houses where Allah's (God's) name is remembered. How much more sacred is the womb of our mothers and the wombs of our female children and the wombs

of the females in our society? How much more protection should be placed on the female? How much more should she and we guard her chastity? How much more should we be taught and encouraged not to violate the sacredness of the channel that leads to the sacred chamber where Allah (God) Himself works with women to bring about the answers or solutions to all human problems?

- **Question 3:** How can a new view of the female specifically benefit men?

- **Question 4:** Where can the world go to learn the knowledge that would help it develop the new view?

- **Question 5:** How has the Teachings of the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad helped you in your view of the woman?

From this day forward, everyone who reads this article is responsible to act in accord with its truth. We must never mistreat women, abuse women, or beat our wives. We must treat women with the greatest of respect and honor believing that they are sacred. The female, believing that she is sacred, should never allow herself to be violated, disrespected, and dishonored and must never violate and dishonor herself. If the female will see herself as sacred and, if we, the males, will see our females as sacred, then, perhaps we can reverse criminal tendencies in our children and bring forth from this sacred chamber called womb, children in the image of Allah (God); children made like the Great Prophets, Sages, Kings and Rulers of righteous bearing.

Prophet Muhammad gave us the criterion to judge the best of men. He said, "The best of you is he who is kindest to his mother and his wife."

THIS CRITERION SHOULD NOT ONLY apply to our mothers and wives, but, to all our female children as we move toward basic nation building through the institution of marriage.

The process of marriage begins first with a natural attraction to some physical characteristics of the male and the female which please each other. This natural attraction then leads to a desire to be closer to that person whom we are

attracted to, which leads to communication to get to know each other beyond the physical points of attraction.

- **Question 6:** What has the Honorable Louis Farrakhan asked readers of this article to do from this day forward? What will you personally do to carry out his desire?

- **Question 7:** What criteria does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan give that can men to become better in the way they view and treat women?

PREMARITAL SEX IS FORBIDDEN

Among the righteous, those of high moral values, premarital sex is forbidden. In this world premarital sex is the order of the day and anyone who forbids premarital sex is looked at as archaic, old fashioned, and not thinking in the best interest of the individuals. However, fifty percent of all marriages in America end up in divorce. Therefore, we need to take a careful look at the approach to marriage and weigh it by the standard given to us by Allah (God), the Best Knower, through His revelation of the scriptures that are among every people.

Premarital sex is discouraged among the righteous, because it interferes with the pursuit of knowledge of the parties who are attracted to each other or who must determine whether this attraction that has led to communication will give us a sure knowledge that this is the mate that they are willing to devote their entire lives to. Sex is powerful. It is a natural hunger in the male and the female even as the desire for food and water.

This desire for sexual expression if fulfilled before adequate knowledge of the individuals is gained clouds the mind and disallows us to make the best judgment that we are capable of making. Sexual expression is so powerful that it can cloud our minds from seeing anything but the pleasure that we derive from sexual expression. Then, the participants do not enter into a marriage contract with a sober mind. When we are drunk from the passion of the fulfillment of pleasure this impedes our ability to make proper judgment. A drunk driver with faulty judgment can end up being a menace to society. Drunkenness impairs judgment. Therefore, we are asked not to drink and drive. Allah (God) however, demands that we do not drink for in all things good judgment and proper decisions are what bring blessings to our life. We are the sum total of the decisions that we make. Bad decisions lead to the destruction of the life force. Good decisions lead to fulfillment of the aim of life. Most marriages are made on the basis of sex and, therefore, when the sex drive diminishes there is nothing of substance to hold the marriage together, because it was made from a physical, rather than a spiritual desire.

- **Question 8:** Why is premarital sex discouraged amongst the righteous?

- **Question 9:** What are the benefits of good decisions and the consequences of bad decisions?

Among the righteous courtship is chaperoned. This is done to keep the parties who are attracted to each other from entering into premarital sex, which then stops the process of courtship. In the word courtship is the word court. By definition we mean a place where justice is administered and a place where the process of finding the truth which forms the basis of justice and judgment.

When two people are courting they are bringing evidence to either support their intention to be engaged, or evidence that they should look in other

directions. This process of finding out as much as we can about each other is necessary in forming good and proper judgment.

The individuals are the jury that must render a decision and the individuals must become the judges that ultimately make the decision that he or she is the right one for me. Cross examination is a part of court procedure, which allows direct testimony to be challenged to see if the persons are telling the truth, for it is only truth that will permit us to make good judgment. The more truth we know about each other, our characteristics, ways, strengths and weaknesses, it is the more right we can be in making a decision if we should become engaged to be married or not.

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- **Question 10:** What is the courtship process?

- **Question 11:** How can the courtship process be used to help build strong marriages?

- **Question 12:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

The Value of the Female

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

Why are women important? Why is women's participation important for the creation of a Millions More Movement? To go right to the heart of that, no movement is going anywhere without the woman.

I would like to share with you some of what I was taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad of the value of a woman. I am hoping that the word that God lays on my heart and mind to speak to you will resonate in your hearts and minds, that you will begin thinking on a higher level about who you are and how valuable a woman is in the sight of God.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that the first act of creation after the Self-Creation of God, He studied Himself, knowing that it was painful and difficult. He studied Himself and brought from Himself a second self. The female, according to the Bible, is a part of the man. But she is more than a part of man, the woman is the second self of God. Sisters, if you know why you are as you are, it makes it better for you to be yourself.

You are not the woman of man; you are the woman of God. The more men grow to reflect God, then the hearts of women will calm down and you will be more at peace. You are not at peace today. You are very disappointed, disillusioned and hurt by us, because you expected something and did not get what you expected. An illusion attracted you, but reality woke you up. Were you wrong to expect? No. Why do you expect something from a man? The Holy Qur'an deals with the nature of things, because no person can rule unless you understand the nature of that, which you are trying to rule. You must understand your own nature, in order to develop self-mastery.

- **Question 1:** Why are women, disappointed, disillusioned and hurt today?

What is the nature of the woman and what is the nature of the man? The Holy Qur'an says, "Men are the maintainers of women." It is the natural role of a man to work hard and produce what is necessary to maintain a woman and the children that are produced from that woman. As a maintainer, he is a protector, provider, and he is supposed to guide. You cannot guide a woman with sex, and if a man is dumb enough to think that sex can guide a female, then the marriage falls apart and the relationship tumbles down. Guidance comes from the brain, not from any other part of the body. Guidance must manifest wisdom and since you are the second self of God, then the man must bring to you wisdom and truth that is from God, because the only thing that can maintain the woman of God is the word of God, rightly brought from a man who is in the image and the likeness of God.

When a man works hard to maintain support, guide and protect his wife and family, what comes up out of his wife is a natural desire to console, comfort and give that man peace and quiet of mind. When you fall in love, it makes you want to serve. You do things to please, whether it be in a meal, the way you fix your home, or the way you fix yourself. You try to make it nice for him because he brought that out of you by being what he is supposed to be.

But when he acts the fool, he shuts you down and you do not have any desire to console, comfort, cook or clean for him. You don't even want to rear his children, especially if they look like him.

- **Question 2:** How can proper guidance benefit a man's relationship with his wife and positively impact the atmosphere of his home?

Sisters, something has happened to us, as men, and something has happened to you, as women. Something terrible has happened to men because we can attract you, but we cannot hold you. We can give you children, but we do not know how to help you rear them. We can make money, but we are rather selfish. Women have been greatly misused and abused. It is so painful that we live in a world that has raised sex to the level where we get lost in a pleasure that was to create a heavenly existence. The more we get lost in it, the more painful our life becomes. So, having raised sex to the degree that a Satanic mind has raised it, men have lost respect for the second self of God and the second self of self. Men, then, use women for pleasure and discard women as you would a wrapper from a cookie, cake or candy. It was sweet to you, but you cannot use the wrapper, so you throw it away.

The worst part of this sexual madness is that fathers have sometimes abused their daughters; uncles have sometimes abused their nieces; grandfathers have abused their grandchildren; and cousins and brothers have abused their sisters. When a woman is innocent, a virgin, and is raised in a wholesome environment, she loves purely. The first love of a girl in a wholesome environment is the male image of her father. She wants to serve and she loves to be hugged by her father because it gives her a sense of safety and security because, by nature, you desire to be made secure. The man's nature is the same. He desires to be made secure. A woman is made secure in a good man and a good man is made secure in God. So you have a natural sequence, as the Bible teaches: God is the head of man, man is the head of woman, and woman is the head of a child. When this natural order functions properly, there is joy and peace.

- **Question 3:** What are some of the negative impacts of the Satanic mind's misuse of sex?

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said, "Civilization is measured by the woman." If you want to take the world down, the place of attack is the female. If you want to build a world up, you start with the female.

One day, one of the companions of Prophet Muhammad asked, “After God and His Messenger, who should we honor next?” The Prophet said, “Your mother.” He said, “Who after that?” Prophet Muhammad said, “Your mother.” The companion asked again, “Who after that?” And Prophet Muhammad said again, “Your mother. Then next, your father.” A woman is three-times the value of a man, because she brings forth life. Women teach and train the offspring. So, if you are an ignorant, unlettered and foolish woman, you will make a foolish people. So when somebody wants to take the world down, they destroy the value of knowledge in a woman.

How could the Taliban say that they are Muslims and deny education to a female? When you deny education to the female, you are denying it to a nation. When you deny education to a man, you have denied education to an individual. When you deny it to a woman, you have denied it to an entire people. That’s how valuable a woman is.

We have to recognize that something went wrong with us. In *The Final Call* (Volume 24, Number 44), the infamous Willie Lynch letter is reprinted. Every one of you should study this letter because he wrote this letter in 1712, yet 300 years later, what he wrote and what he carried into practice still exists among the Black, Brown, Native Americans and, even now, you can see it reflected among Caucasians. You are very independent as a woman and some women are quick to say, “I don’t need a man for nothing!” And you are not lying. You go to work every day. You bring your money home. Some women are foolish enough to keep a man while he is making excuses for why he cannot work. She speaks to him as she speaks to her child, because she is taking care of him. How did the roles get reversed?

Willie Lynch, a White Caribbean plantation owner, said: “Both horse and niggers are no good to the economy in the wild or natural state. Both must be broken and tied together for orderly production, for an orderly future. Special and particular attention must be paid to the female and the youngest offspring. Both must be crossbred to produce a variety and division of labor. Both must be taught to respond to a peculiar new language, psychological and physical instruction of containment must be created for both.

“You can’t sleep, because if they are left in their natural state, they might kill you in your sleep. They sleep while you are awake and are awake as you sleep.

They are dangerous near the family house and it requires too much labor to watch them away from the house. Above all, you cannot get them to work in this natural state.

“Therefore, both the horse and the nigger must be broken, breaking them from one form of mental life to another. Keep the body and take the mind.

“You must keep your eye and thought on the female. Keep your focus on the female, but concentrate on the future generations. Therefore, if you break the female mother, she will break the offspring in its early years of development and when the offspring is old enough to work, she will deliver it up to you, for her normal female protective tendencies will have been lost in the original breaking process.”

Here is how they did it. They desired to reverse nature. Instead of the female being dependent on her natural male counterpart, the slave master wanted to make you completely docile and dependent on him. He did not want any Black or Brown woman to depend on her man. When he reverses nature, a female is produced that will be independent of that male figure, but dependent on the slave master, and a male will be produced that will be dependent. The female that you produce will be independent of the male image—just like women today.

Today, our girls are independent, while our boys are broken. Women have broken their male children, unknowingly, but this is the way the slave master fixed you. Willie Lynch said, “Take the female and run a series of tests on her to see if she will submit to your desires willingly.” These are White people who know the nature of things, plotting the destruction of an entire people by taking the female down. He said, “Test her in every way because she is the most important person in the making of a slave.”

Sisters, if you are the most important in the making of a slave, then you are the most important person in making a people free. That is why there can be no Millions More Movement without women playing a proper, equal and even dominant role.

Willie Lynch wanted to destroy the male image in the woman’s eyes completely, so she would not look at any man in her race with honor and respect. He said, take a strong nigger man and have that woman and her child watch. You

take two strong Black men. The first one you tie his hands and legs to a horse on both sides, then set that nigger ablaze. As the fire touches the horses, they start running in opposite directions and pull the Black man apart.

The woman is horrified and so is the child. Then, you take the second strong nigger male and you take a bullwhip. You do not kill him; you beat him until he is nearly dead and you make her watch this. She will go into a frozen psychological state because the man that nature tells her to look to for maintenance and protection, she cannot get it from him because she saw a White man pull a Black man apart and beat another Black man within an inch of his life.

Then, Willie Lynch says, “Now, you have reversed the roles. For the fear of the young male’s life, she will psychologically train him to be mentally weak and dependent, but physically strong.” You have trained your boy children and men to be docile in order to live. You broke the man yourself. Your girls grow up psychologically independent, so the female trains her female offspring to be psychologically independent. So, we have the nigger woman out front and the nigger man behind and scared.

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- **Question 4:** How have the methods of Willie Lynch impacted Black male and female relationships today?

 - **Question 5:** What can Black people use to break free of Willie Lynch’s methods?

So when you get married, he seems like a man. He's handsome and has really attracted you, but he has already been broken. After you marry him, you realize he is weak and so you start looking somewhere else, only to find somebody else who is in the same state. You run from one man to another, and you end up disappointed with this man, disappointed with the next man, and disappointed with the man after that—so why not stay with the man you have and help make him into a man?

It may be easier said than done, but Sisters, we have to break the cycle and the reversal of nature because it is the reversal of nature that keeps you very, very unhappy and disappointed as a woman. You are not a lesbian. You may have a woman who you are with, but you are not a lesbian. You are just so upset with men and so hurt by men that you would rather lay next to a woman who shares your pain. But the moment a real man comes along, you'll get up out of bed with that woman.

Every Black leader who has ever tried to reverse this process has been falsely accused, maligned, brought to jail, beaten, and even put to death. White people, in order to rule, must keep the process the way they made it so that you will always look to the Caucasian. As a woman, your nature is to be made secure. If your husband works downtown and is bringing home money, you are very happy because you know the bills are going to get paid, and he will be able to get you the little things you need or want.

But let him tell you, "Honey, I went to sleep last night and an idea came to me for a business and I think I'm going to leave corporate America and go into business for myself." His first opponent is right in the bed next to him. "You're going to leave your good paying job to go out on some foolish idea to go into business for yourself? Who do you think you are anyway?" You criticize him. Your nature is to be made secure and you are not sure that he will be able to make you secure by going into business rather than staying on the White man's job. So in the house, there is a tug of war between the male and the female.

God created a woman's form to be appealing to a man's eyes. You can call him holy, you can call him divine, you can call him prophet, you can call him saint, you can call him apostle, but if he is a man, your physical form is appealing to his

eyes. The Holy Qur'an says you were created to give him peace and quiet of mind and to be a consoler for him, so every aspect of you reflects this. But that beauty of you is not for every man to see. The beauty of you is for that special individual who has earned the right to be consoled by what you offer. But Satan said no.

How were women dressed 60 years ago? They covered from the top all the way down. It was not considered proper to wash your underwear and put them on a line in your backyard so that your neighbor can see what your underwear looked like. A Black man in the South would get killed simply for looking under a White woman's dress on a clothesline. If the enemy saw him, he would know that not only would he look under her dress on a clothesline, but he was angling to get under her dress in real life; so he would kill the Black man just for that.

Over the past 60-70 years, look at how women have been taken down; and when you go down, you take us down because the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said, "Where there are no decent women, there are no decent men, for the woman is the mother of civilization."

When World War II came, he took women out of the kitchen. Most of you today do not know how to cook, but you want to get married. When he put you in the factories, as the men went to war, women became the top bread-winners. As men came back from the war, society was changing and they had a new style of clothing for the women. Long dresses were out, and gradually the hemlines rose and he began taking your clothes off. In the Book of Revelations, there is a description of a beast, with a woman dressed in scarlet sitting on top of the beast, because the beast is going to use the woman to attract the man to his destruction.

Then gradually, your clothes start coming off and the dances and music began to change. Now that he has taken you down like this, your attracting power has nothing to do with the way you think. Your attracting power is your sex and your willingness to give yourself to a man. Music is now all about sex. In order to groove to a beat, the body is moving, but what you are doing is the sex act standing up.

When you go to the disco or a party, what is in your mind? We can tell what is in your mind by how much flesh you are showing. You may say, "This is just the style," but you are not creating any style. Satan is creating the style to take you

further and further down, so that civilization now is in a degenerate state because the woman is in a degenerate state, and there are no holy men. We have been ruined and so have you. So, Sisters, the Millions More Movement is about repairing the damage that was done to us through slavery.

- **Question 6:** What methods have Satan used to take the woman down and what impacts have his methods had on her, her home and her family?
- **Question 7:** What is the nature of the man and the woman?

You can be disappointed with your man, but if you keep beating him down with your mouth, you will always be disappointed. In his nature, he knows he is supposed to be the boss even though he does not have what it takes to be the boss. But, Sisters, if you really want to have peace in your home, learn how to handle your man in his ignorance and foolishness, because when God said, "Let us make man," He needs your help. If you do not help God, you will not find a man that will satisfy your soul. We need your help. We need your support.

So, are you willing to be a part of the Millions More Movement? Do you want to reverse the condition in which the enemy has put us and go back to the natural way? If you do, then let's go to work.

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- **Question 8:** What must the woman do to produce and maintain peace in her home?

- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

The Abuse of the Female

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

According to the Holy Qur'an, the Hereafter is described as a paradise with 70 virgins. This description can be interpreted to make men willing to become martyrs and kill people for political purposes, in order to go to heaven immediately so he can get to be with 70 virgins—but this is the wrong way to understand such a beautiful picture of the Hereafter.

The Old Testament says, “A virtuous woman is more precious than silver and gold.”

In Islam, we cover our women, because the female body is a natural attraction to a real man. Allah (God) formed the female that way. Human beings procreate because of the attraction between male and female. A woman that covers herself is not trying to attract a man on base principles. Women have had enough of men being attracted to them because of the beauty of their forms, face and hair rather than the intelligence of a creature of God that He created for a serious purpose.

When the slave-master destroyed us as a people, his aim was first and foremost to destroy the Black male so that the White male would become the master of the Black female and then take her all the way down. It became acceptable for us to be whores and pimps because then we as a people were constantly lowered because we have lowered our respect for the female.

Women are beautiful and the female body is attractive, but a real man cannot think sane thoughts with the female form on his mind. Girls look at television, watching beautiful Beyonce with her beautiful body, but her moves are so provocative. The child does not know anything about sex, but sees that adults approve of those provocative dances, and begins to imitate Beyonce. As young as four and three, girls are learning to shake their bodies in vulgar dances, yet no one seems to be speaking to this as the destruction of potential virtue.

Some men have become so sick that they try to push themselves in a sexual way into a baby, splitting them. Fathers are sexually abusing their daughters,

along with uncles, brothers, cousins and even aunts; and now the lesbian craze is in. We are so undervalued because of our ignorance and lack of the potential for honor and respect.

So some women tell themselves they do not need a man for anything. It is not that our women want to be lesbians, but another woman understands the pain that another woman is going through or being put through in her interaction with men. When they get tired of the game playing, they fall on each other and find more comfort in another woman than they find in a man. But I do not care if you call yourself a lesbian, when a real man comes along, a real man will awaken that spark in you because you are a real woman—a beautiful woman, but a very abused woman.

If a virtuous woman is more precious than silver and gold and you wake up in a place where there are 70 virtuous girls who have never been touched by a man, where did you wake up? You do not have to physically die to see that paradise, but you have to die as a n---r. You have to die as the creature that the White man made. When you wake up from that death, you will want to see virtuous women, because the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said, “Where there are no decent women, there are no decent men, for the Black woman is the mother of civilization.”

Women are being programmed, not for the Kingdom of God, but for the kingdom of sluts. I am appealing to church leaders to begin to stand up and ask our women to be better and to protect them when they desire to be better. We should not allow any man to destroy that kind of virtue.

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- **Question 1:** What kingdom are women being programmed for today? Give examples.

The number 70 represents infinity. So when a martyr has given his life, he is really saying he is giving his life to produce a world in which women are virtuous and men are respectful. If you saw 70 virgins in the paradise promised by God and there are men there before you, then those men have not defiled those women. So you do not go to that paradise with vulgar thoughts in your mind.

It is one of the most beautiful pictures of paradise on earth, when women are in a sanctuary where no man will dare molest them. Women are under protection. If the female is not protected, then the destruction of the nation comes through the woman, since the elevation of the nation comes through the woman.

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- **Question 2:** Western media, enemies of Islam and immature Muslims have interpreted the “70 virgins in paradise” parable as literal. What explanation does the Hon. Louis Farrakhan give of this statement?

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad gave us a law that no man strikes his wife. How are you going to beat the woman that produces your future? Men should be ashamed to abuse women, but most men who beat and bruise women yet want sex with them the same night they beat them. Men want to beat women

like they are inanimate objects, like trees or a lamppost that a dog will lift its leg to; like women do not have feelings.

Do you think after you beat up a woman that she really wants to give herself to you? Why would you want to take pleasure from someone to whom you have given so much pain?

We are a sick people and there is no way we can expect White people to show respect to us and submit to our desires when we are so fractured and broken as a people. But no one wants to address the real problem: respect for authority. Who is the Supreme Authority of this creation? It is our Creator. Does the Creator have a right to expect from us respect, honor and obedience?

Many of us drive automobiles, which come with an owner's manual in the glove compartment when we bought it. If we really want to get the best out of our vehicles, we have to follow certain guiding principles in the owner's manual from the maker. Some of us use beauty products, which have instruction on the bottle. If we fail to pay attention to the instructions, we may lose our hair.

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- **Question 3:** Is domestic violence permissible in Islam?

So since the Creator is the author of our existence, should not He have the right to give us instructions and should not we respect His right to guide us in how to use the life that He so beautifully and wonderfully gave to us? The Bible and Holy Qur'an both contain instructions on how to use the life that Allah (God) has given. Scriptures are not romantic stories of foolishness; they offer many wonderful guiding principles. In our ignorance, we defile our bodies, but there is a consequence for rebellion against God, Who is the highest line of authority.

In the nature of the man, Allah (God) put him in authority. He may not have the wisdom of how to exercise authority, but God put it in his nature. In the old marriage vows, we would recite: "Do you take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband, to honor and obey him, cherish him, etc., until death us do part." But in order to hold authority, men have to possess the wisdom of how to exercise that authority. Ignorance and authority is very destructive. So a woman cannot obey a man simply because he is a big, strong man if he is not intelligent.

The way the enemy has crafted this society, Black women are the majority of the students in college, while most Black men are on street corners. Women are studying law, medicine, marine biology and engineering, while men are studying physical education.

Women cannot honor, respect, obey and cherish a man who does not understand what it means to be a man. So our family life is being destroyed. Our marriages are falling apart and the only way men think we can maintain strength in the house is by physical force.

Brothers, as men, if you govern your life by the moral standard of the Teachings, then your wife has some justification to respect and honor you. If you grow in the wisdom of the Teachings, your wife has some right to obey you. But you cannot expect obedience to ignorance. That is against the law of nature and intelligence.

When men have an outside interest in another female, and they have made a vow to their wives; and because there are so many women with so few men, men feel that they can play with women, who do not respect marriage. In the Islamic world, adultery is punished by death penalty. Allah (God) gave Moses a law that the fornicator and adulterer should be stoned to death, because marriage is the cornerstone of family. Family is the cornerstone of nation and

anything that will interfere, corrupt or destroy marriage and family is ultimately a disease that will undermine and sink that nation.

Your wife may believe your lies about your whereabouts at first, but eventually you cannot fool your wife when another woman interferes in her house. She knows something is wrong; your touch does not feel the same. When she confronts you with actual facts, you become a master liar and manipulator. You put on a macho front and threaten her. But either you are going to come clean or you undermine yourself by lying.

She argues with you because she is hurting. She feels betrayed. She does not mind calling you out of your name. Your children are listening. When the fight is over, the children talk to each other about what you called each other. If the father smacks the mother, the children tend not to take their father's side. The woman brought them into the world. They are on her side because nature tells them to be on her side. Babies will throw their bottles at their fathers for hitting their mothers.

While it is natural for a man to be attracted to the beauty of a woman, Brothers, we must restrain ourselves to protect our marriages and families. The face of the enticing beauty of women is a great test, which most of us fail. Men believe there is free pleasure, but there is no free woman. Every woman costs money and it costs money to play. To play with your wife, family and the future of that family is self-destructive and almost suicidal behavior.

In meteorology, the study of weather, there are cold fronts and warm fronts, there is warm water and there are clouds that have all of these different dynamics that produces clashes. There is thunder and lightning, and then there are storms. When you bring a strange woman or a strange man into your house, you are creating the dynamic of a weather change in your house.

Usually, meteorologists will tell you it is going to rain so you get your umbrella and raincoat. But when you are creating storms in your house, you are never prepared for the weather that you have created. Your wife does not want to cook anymore. The house starts getting dirty.

Even though the Holy Qur'an says a man can take up to four wives, I would not do that if I were you. Allah (God) is the Best Knower, so I would not use that verse before you use another verse that says, "One is better for you if you but

understood.” Don’t run out playing with women. When you play with a woman, you are playing with fire, Brother, and it will burn you. And most of you are burned today.

Question 4: How does adultery impact a person, a family and a community?

The Bible teaches that Christ is the head of man; man is the head of woman; and woman is the head of children. Christ is the head because his wisdom is coming down through the man, through the woman, then through the children. This produces a peaceful home. It does not mean that there is not going to be problems but, if God is the head of your house and men respect Him and follow His guidance, then our wives have a chance to honor, respect and possibly obey us. But right now, most of us have lost moral authority in our own house.

To have moral authority does not mean that you are just living a moral life. It means that you are working hard to bring home the money to take care of your family. The more your wife helps you to make ends meet, the more your voice gets diminished. The Holy Qur’an says that men are the maintainers of women, not that women are the maintainers of men.

- **Question 5:** How can one identify if a man has Christ as his head?

- **Question 6:** What does it mean to have moral authority?

But the White man has built a world that makes it difficult for men to be maintainers of their families. While husband and wife may both have degrees, men may not always make enough money to provide the lifestyle that they both desire. So, the wife has to work. There is a compromise there because the wife is working and more than likely she is making more money than her husband.

When the woman is earning more money than the man, her voice can get very deep. When the man earns less, haven't found a job or haven't had a job, his voice starts getting higher. He is home washing dishes. This role reversal is created by the clever, social engineering and manipulation of the enemy. He is creating circumstances to break up our homes and destroy our families, so that we will never rise as a people.

Only when we can control those kinds of circumstances can we reverse what the enemy is doing to us and causing us to do to one another. Men may have authority by God, but they do not have it by the wisdom that he has or by the actions that he takes. So when a woman violates a man's authority, he does not have any recourse because he does not have the wisdom to control her with wisdom. That's when he beats her and that's when murder can enter a woman's heart for her husband.

We have to make the change within ourselves, then we can force a change in others; but the change does not start with the enemy. The change starts with us. The Holy Qur'an says, "God will never change the condition of a people until they change within themselves."

Are we willing to do that today, Brothers? Go home, Brothers. Leave the strange woman alone. Cut that relationship off and go home to your wife who is the mother of your children. If you do not want to confess, she already knows anyway; but just tell her: "I thank you for standing by me, baby, in my foolishness but I am going to turn over a new leaf and I need you to help me."

The Holy Qur'an says, "Corruption has appeared on the land and the sea on account of what men's hands have wrought that He (Allah) may make them taste a part of that which they have done so that they may return." The Nation of Islam has undergone a period of corruption because we took the domestic life of Prophet Muhammad of Arabia (Peace be upon him) or our Messenger, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, as a rule for our lives. But Allah (God) directed what

those two men of God did, while immorality and lust directed what most other men have done.

Allah (God) allowed it to happen so that the Nation of Islam would get caught up in the consequences of corruption, but He is not bringing the full weight of what we have done. He will make you taste a part of it so that we may return to a righteous path and the Restrictive Laws of Islam.

If your marriage is failing and these divorces keep climbing, that is a social indicator of decay. We have to be examples for our sons and daughters. These young boys will be good if they have good guidance and good instruction and a good example. These young girls will be good if their mothers were the right examples for them. Allah (God) is going to judge us all on how we used or misused our influence.

We need to change. We need to stop the masquerade and showboat of Islam, where we look holy but act very unholy. The real person is behind the mask, but we need to take the mask off and look in the mirror and see ourselves for what we are and then take steps to truly beautify ourselves again.

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- **Question 7:** What can communities do to help prevent the rising rates of divorce?

There has been great upset in the Islamic world over a Danish newspaper printing a degrading cartoon of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). There is no Muslim of this planet that can tolerate someone maligning or besmirching the image of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who brought this dynamic truth, the Holy Qur'an to the world. We are displeased, but when a disbeliever makes a caricature of our Prophet, he is only manifesting ignorance and a lack of understanding of that which he is mocking. But the greatest defilers of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are those who claim him as their prophet.

The Muslim world is a caricature of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). A caricature is the gross enlargement of characteristics for the purpose of mockery or fun. Do you think the Prophet would be happy to see Shiite and Sunni Muslims slaughtering each other in Iraq? That is a caricature. The Muslim world is corrupted with conduct that the Prophet taught against: kings and rulers bringing in women and liquor from Europe, getting drunk in their palaces, coming to America and spending millions of dollars in gambling places and on prostitutes. This conduct is a caricature of the Prophet. We have to come back in our own house and end our caricature of Islam.

Many of you look so beautiful in your uniforms and regalia for coming to the mosque. But as the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said during one lecture when our Muslim Brothers from the East were sitting on the rostrum, they are not here to see that you are clothed in a long, white dress or a long, black dress; they are here to see if you are clothed in the principles of your religion.

We have fallen a long way and it is time to recognize that. The outside world already recognizes it. They already know. They are waiting for us to catch up to what we have shown them. There was a time when you could not go in any ward where Black people live and you could not find a Muslim with the *Muhammad Speaks*. There was a time when Black women, even though they never came to a mosque, felt safe when they saw a Muslim because they knew we would protect them. There was a time when gang violence would never rear its ugly head because the F.O.I. was strong.

But today, when the light goes out in the house, there is nothing for the people to hold on to. So should the show go on? Should the masquerade ball continue? Or should we say that the masquerade is over and let's go home and

recommit our lives to Allah (God) and the righteous principles that we know we have been taught; recommit our lives to our spouses and children.

- **Question 8:** What do disbelievers show when they make a caricature of the Prophet?

- **Question 9:** How are those that claim Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) the greatest defilers of him?

If we would come together as a family, husband and wife, we will start pulling the children back and then holiness will replace the broken spirit from broken marriages and broken homes.

- **Question 10:** What can we do to help replace the broken spirit in our homes?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Men of This World Do Not Desire A Righteous Woman

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

The greatest gift to any man is a virtuous woman.

A man who has such a woman by his side is the most blessed of men, for her virtue is a covering for him and her virtue ensures his future. Our future is made for us by the female. Since sin destroys our future, virtue and righteousness protects and ensures our future, so, wise men in every age have cherished the virtuous woman, and have fought, bled and even died to protect her honor.

In this world, however, the purity of a young woman's love is so overwhelming to a man that many men of this world seek and do work to destroy that purity because of our mental, moral and spiritual state.

Since the fall of Adam, man is only a caricature of himself. David the Psalmist writes, ***"Ye are all Gods, children of the Most High God."*** Satan has so reversed what Allah (God) intended for us to be that that word would now be, ***"Ye are all dogs, children of the most low Satan."*** It is this state that the man is in that has driven the female away from him and even made her in some instances hate the very presence of a man. The women who meet with men, who may be desirous of an elevated conversation, usually find the words and actions of the men demonstrating that their minds are below their waists or navels. This is very disheartening to a good female.

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- **Question 1:** Why is the greatest gift to any man a virtuous woman?

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that, ***"Seventy five percent of His work was with the female."*** Therefore, He strived mightily to make something of the Black woman. He taught her how to sew and cook, how to rear her children, how to take care of her husband, how to keep a clean home, and in general He taught her how to act at home and abroad. His desire was to produce a very high level of civilization coming through a reformed female. He took great joy in seeing our women come from a low state or condition constantly improving themselves. He taught them about loud raucous behavior and laughter. He loved to hear the refined speech of the female. He wanted her highly educated, cultivated, and refined. He taught the female how to walk, sit and stand. He showed her, her mother's dressing room that she had not seen in 400 years; meaning He showed her the styles of the righteous women of the East from whom she is a descendant. He loved to see her speaking with firmness to men and never being forward in the presence of men. He hated sisters to speak to men with soft, sultry speech. He taught her, as well as the male, according to the Qur'an that both should lower their gaze when they are in each other's company. He dressed the female in such a way that men could not know the beauty of their form, but, would only become acquainted with the beauty of their faces and their expressions so that the male would not be physically attracted to her alone, but, spiritually attracted to her as well.

It seems that men in the world today do not wish to marry a woman of this character and quality. In fact, when they see women of this quality their aim is to see how easily they can break these women down, to cheapen them in the man's eyes and bring her to disgrace in her own eyes.

Question 2: The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that 75% of his work was with the woman. Why?

- **Question 3:** What did the Honorable Elijah Muhammad teach the Black woman?

- **Question 4:** Why are both male and female taught to lower our gaze?

If a man were righteous, then, he would desire a righteous woman.

When I was a young man, the boys would love to be around young girls who gave themselves away freely; and, when they were together, this kind of girl would be the subject of slack talk, slander and derision; however, when they wanted to find a girl that they could fall in love with, it would be the one that was not an easy gain.

Because of the destruction of the Black male and the preponderance of the female, this gives low-minded men a big field to play in.

Instead of the husband encouraging their wives to be covered and sharing her beauty only with him, there are some men who love for their women to be on display for other men to see what should only be shared with him.

There are many women today who are taking care of men because they oft-times have better paying jobs. Women are better trained and oft-times better qualified. They have nice cars, homes or apartments, nice furniture, but, the thing that is missing in the home or apartment is a responsible man who is a provider and maintainer. So, some women go looking for a man and oft-times is taking care of him. There is no woman who could honor and respect a man that she is caring for. To her, he is like her little boy. This is why the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's work is so difficult, for, He is not a leader to lead us to jobs, justice and equity alone, but His mission was and is the resurrection of us from a state of mental, moral and spiritual death. This is absolutely the hardest job that any human being can have; to transform a mind that has been broken to such a degree that the divinity of the male is hardly seen, even in those of us who achieve much "**success**" in this world.

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- **Question 6:** What is the hardest job of any human being to have? Why?

I thank Allah (God) for the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and His 44 years of dedicated sacrifice, suffering and hard work to raise the Black man mentally, morally, and spiritually from the condition that 400 years of slavery, free labor and injustice have put us in. When we speak of repair or reparations, it will take much to repair the damage that our former slave masters and their children have done to the Black man and woman of America and the world. No wonder the Apostle Paul said, ***"Be ye not conformed to this world, but, be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."*** We cannot renew the mind of the male and female until we uproot the idea that now rules our minds and replace it with the ideas of Allah (God).

- **Question 7:** What would it take to renew the mind of the male and female?

The scholars and scientists of this world do not have a clue as to how to bring about the transformation of human life, particularly the life of the Black man and woman. This is why we Praise Allah (God) for His presence in Master W. Fard Muhammad, and, the great work of reform, resurrection and transformation

that He began that we are attempting to continue and bring to a new and higher level today.

- **Question 8:** Why was/is the presence of Master Fard Muhammad necessary?

To the men who read this article, cherish a virtuous woman. To the men of the Nation of Islam, seek a female from the class that is producing such women and be good men and husbands to them. Thank you for reading these few words. More next week, if it is the Will of Allah (God).

- **Question 9:** Why did the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say to the men in the NOI, seek a female from the class?

- **Question 10:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother
By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

"Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother." This quotation was spoken by Prophet Muhammad, Ibn Abdullah, 1,400 years ago in his great work of reform and civilizing of the Arab people in the days of their ignorance. This quotation is applicable to us as well today. Heaven represents a state of peace where the citizens of heaven live in accordance with the laws, rules, statutes or commandments of Allah (God). This is also called in scripture the Kingdom of God. Again, it is called the hereafter. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the hereafter means ***here*** on the earth ***after*** the works of Satan are destroyed. Some Islamic Scholars say that the hereafter is a continuation of this life. Only, it is lived on a higher plane.

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- **Question 1:** What did the Honorable Elijah Muhammad teach us about the Hereafter?

In the Qur'an there is a chapter referred to as the elevated places. In the Bible, Allah (God) says, ***"My thoughts are not your thoughts. My ways are not your ways. I am from above while you are from beneath."***

It is our disconnection from the thoughts and ways of Allah (God) that cause us to live the hellish life and existence that the people of our planet presently experience. If we believe that heaven lies at the foot of mother, what kind of mother is it that heaven lies at her feet? It is a mother whose heart, mind, and soul is fixed on Allah (God) His Thoughts and His Ways that are found in the Words of Allah (God) in the scriptures of the Bible and Qur'an. In order for heaven to be at the woman's foot or mother's foot, mother has to be in complete submission or surrender of her life to the Will of Almighty (God) Allah. This becomes exceedingly difficult if the woman is not in the charge of or in the company of a righteous man. Mary was blessed to be this kind of virtuous woman because she was prepared from the womb, but, she was also under the authority of a righteous male figure.

The value of a virtuous woman is more than the value of the wealth of the earth, but, the female and the value of her as a virtuous woman has been devalued by the societies of the earth. To devalue the currency of any nation weakens that nation financially. When the price of gold as a standard of value goes down, then we cannot purchase what we could at the rate when gold had a higher value. The devaluation of the female and the devaluation of virtue in the society has caused us to live on a plane that is far beneath that which we are capable of.

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- **Question 2:** What must a woman/mother do in order for heaven to be at her foot? What makes it difficult?

This is why every religion and every society must reevaluate how we look at the females in our society. To think of her as only being valuable for procreation and pleasure is devaluing her. To think of her as not being talented or gifted, that she may be an equal sharer in the development of the society, nation or civilization, is to devalue her. To make her a sex symbol is to devalue her. To show her off before the world in an indecent manner is to devalue her. Rubies have no consciousness and do not know of their value. Neither do diamonds, sapphires, and emeralds. It is we who place a value on these stones. In this world, the man has not given or placed a proper value on the female, and thus, has caused the female to devalue herself. The behavior of our women and our girls demonstrate the thinking of a devalued human, for woman to accept to be displayed or kept in an inferior status is to accept the devaluation of herself by the men of this world. ***Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother.***

No wonder the earth has plunged into hell and the pit into which we are falling appears to be bottomless. This means that there is no limit to the depth to which we (men) have caused the woman to fall. ***Heaven begins with a virtuous woman.*** This is why a virtuous woman is more valuable than precious stones. We all want peace in our lives. We all would love to see the people of the earth act better by one another, but, it is clear by our stumble and fall and by the hatred that exists between man and man, and between man and woman that we do not know the way to peace.

Paul says in his writings, ***"What then? Are we better than they? No, in no way; for we have before proved both Jews and Greeks, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulcher; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; Destruction and misery are in their ways; And the way of peace have they not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes."*** Romans Chapter 3 verses 9-18

- **Question 3:** Why must every religion and every society reevaluate how they look at females in our society?

Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother. This is why the Prophets of Allah (God) worked so hard with women. This is why they put protection on the woman. This is why men will fight, die and kill to protect women. Any man that will not fight for the respect and protection of the female is no man at all. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad wrote that the farmer protects the field that produces his crops. He uses pesticides and insecticides to kill the enemy of his crop. How much more should we be in protecting our females, who are the producers of our nation? It is in the nature of a man to kill that which breaks into his family and goes after his wife and his daughter. It is also in the nature of the female. Too many of our men are languishing in prison today for killing someone that has interfered with his wife, girlfriend, or daughter. When we as men are in a right state of mind, we will go to war with anyone or anything that devalues or destroy our families.

If the female is unprotected, disrespected, and devalued, then, what comes from her womb is the same. ***Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother.***

- **Question 4:** What did the Honorable Elijah Muhammad mean when he wrote that the farmer protects the field that produces his crops?

Look at the disgraceful styles of the clothing of our women. Did not you know, my dear sister that your bodies were made to excite the sexual nature of the man? It is difficult for a man to think decent thoughts with a disrobed woman in his sight. To walk the streets with your flesh showing, with the beauty of your hair showing, and parts of the body that attract a man to you on display, this puts the man's thinking on a low level. Therefore, his conversation will follow his thoughts.

Allah (God) asks the woman in the Qur'an to lower the garment over her bosom and cover her adornments. The breasts of a woman are an adornment, parts of the female body are an adornment, her hair is an adornment. Allah (God) asks the female to cover not because he desires to make a slave of the female, He wants her to be protected from the insults that come from a man who is attracted by their adornment of the female. He wants to protect her from a man whose mind is low down. He wants to protect her from involvement with such a man. He wants to protect the man from the weakness of his own nature that he will not be an agent of Satan in the devaluation of the female. ***Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother.***

My dear sisters, you can be beautiful and covered. This is better for you if you but knew. Cover yourselves so that men will not be attracted by the beauty of your body, but, through righteous conversation let them be attracted to the beauty of your mind and your spirit.

Would not you like to replace the hell that is on the earth with a heavenly life? Would you not like to see your children grow up in a more peaceful environment? What will you give to see such a heavenly state come into existence? The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that, ***"He would give all that He has and all within His power to see such a day when Satan's world will be destroyed and a better world come into existence."***

Every one of us as men should say with Him that, ***"I will give all that I have and all within my power to produce a heavenly life for myself, family and the unborn generation yet to come."***

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- **Question 5:** Why does Allah ask females to cover her adornments?

- **Question 6:** What are the benefits of covering?

Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother. This means that we must help in the production of a righteous woman. As men, we must know that the little girls that come into this world come in pure and we as husbands, father, brothers, uncles and cousins must commit ourselves to protect the purity of females that we come in contact with, particularly fathers, uncles, and brothers, for, oft-times it is family members that are destroying the virtue of our young girls.

Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother. We will never have a heavenly life until we have Godly females who love Allah (God) with their heart, soul, mind, and strength, and, who will never come down from the elevated place that Allah (God) desires for the female. If she is elevated in consciousness, filled with the Word and Spirit of Allah (God), filled with the knowledge of self and Allah (God), then, when she is with child we can expect that she will be like Mary, a good mother. Heaven lies at her feet, which means that children must be in submission to the Godly woman to let her shape and mould them into good boys and girls. The scripture teaches, ***"Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it."*** Then and only then can we produce the heavenly life on earth. Then and only then can we as a nation ascend to that elevated place and witness the Kingdom of Allah (God) on earth. Then and only then, we will be in the Hereafter where there will be no vain discourse and every where we look we will see and hear nothing but peace, peace, peace. ***Heaven Lies at the Foot of Mother.***

Next week, if it be the Will of Allah, "Men of this world do not desire a righteous woman."

- **Question 7:** What does the statement “Heaven lies at the foot of mother mean?”
- **Question 8:** What is the key to having heavenly life?
- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

How to Give Birth To a God

By The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

My subject is dedicated to all the Sisters that are here today and it is really dedicated to my dear Brothers. I have been working on this subject for over 15 years and it crystallized for me two weeks ago and I started this series of lectures. I am so proud of this series of lectures that, if I died tonight, I would feel that I have done my job; that if you get these series of lectures, I do not need to ever talk again. For what is in these lectures, be it the Will of Allah, will be enough for you to get up out of this condition, totally, completely and forever. And the key to getting up out of this condition is our woman.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to us, "Where there are no decent women, there are no decent men, for the woman, particularly the Black woman, is the Mother of Civilization." The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to us, "No nation can rise any higher than its women." In the Book of Proverbs, Solomon said, "A wise child maketh a glad father, but a foolish child is the heaviness of its mother." If you have an ignorant woman, more than likely she will produce children after her own kind. Whatever you are, that is what you produce. If the Nation is going to be elevated, the woman has to be lifted up. If the Nation is going to be a wise Nation, then our women have to give themselves to the acquisition of knowledge. If the Nation is going to be reformed and made better, then the Black woman today has to give herself up to be reformed.

As long as our women are in this low condition, they will always produce men in a low condition. Our women reject men like that. We are not what our women are happy over. We are not what our mothers are pleased with. But, mothers, your children are yours. Society has to take its part, but you have to take the full weight, because the scripture says, "Train the child up in the way it should go and when it is old, it will not depart from that way." If you put the right things in children, then society cannot take them out. But the right things have been absent from the mind of the Black woman and the Black man, so from generation to generation, we keep on repeating history. We do not make a new step.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that 75 percent of his work was with the woman, only 25 percent with the man—because when you teach a man, you teach an individual, but when you teach a woman, you teach a nation. When you reform a man, you only reform an individual, but when you reform a woman, you reform a nation. So, how important are you, Sisters, to the future of Black people? How should you look upon yourselves and how should we, as men, look upon a woman?

- **Question 1:** Why did the Honorable Elijah Muhammad place so much emphasis on the woman?

Marriage is a key institution, if we are going to build a strong family. If we are not concerned about family, then we are not concerned about our people and our Nation. If we have a weak family, we have a weak Nation. If we have a strong family, we have the potential for a strong Nation. Strong family is only built upon a strong relationship between the male and female, called husband and wife. The union of male and female in Arabic is called, “nikah,” which means “the uniting.” When two people agree to marry, they are not agreeing that they are, in fact, married. They are agreeing that there are things in both of them that are mutually compatible and they both desire to go down life’s road together. They both solemnize their intention in a marriage ceremony, which does not say that they

are, in fact, united, but it solemnizes their intention to struggle for that unity. Unity is a word so easily spoken, but it is a difficult thing to achieve. The union of sperm with ovum that began our life was a very difficult journey and process. It is only a sign of how difficult it is for a male and female to intend to be one and then work at it, until you make it so.

Prophet Muhammad, Peace be upon him, said, "Marriage is half of faith." This is very powerful. If marriage is half of faith, then what is faith? "It is the substance," as Paul says, "of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen."

Faith is that hope, that spirit that makes an individual journey toward his Creator, to find oneness with God. That is the real aim of life itself, that you come from sperm mixed with ovum and you begin a journey, and that journey does not stop when you come forward out of your mother's womb. It does not stop when you get a Master's degree or a Doctorate degree. It does not stop until the soul of the one who is born into the world becomes united with the essence of his Creator and they become as one. Then, the Qur'an says, "Oh soul that is at rest, well pleased and well pleasing." Well pleased with God and well-pleasing to God, that you struggled with all of the vicissitudes, trials and tribulations of life to become one with God and you finally made it. That is a blessing. Marriage is half of that journey and any man or woman that will quickly walk out on marriage, you will quickly walk out on the struggle to become one with God.

The journey to God is fraught with danger. So many people say they love God, but to walk toward God, you have to walk through difficulty, opposition and struggle with yourself to overcome weakness in yourself. Sometimes you give up, because the greatest struggle of all is the struggle to unite with God. Second to that is the struggle to unite with your mate that you have chosen. If you can make it with your mate, 10-1, you are halfway on your journey to God, so says Prophet Muhammad. This is a struggle that is not easy. It is not laying in bed and enjoying each other sexually. Marriage is the sincere struggle of two souls to unite, not two bodies. Bodies can unite instantly, but it is the soul uniting that makes the body uniting really joyful.

When the two parties in a marriage become dissatisfied with each other, the spirit of love is reduced according to the level of argument. The more argument in the marriage, the more dissatisfaction. The more dissatisfaction, the

more the loss of the spirit of love. Where there is no love left, there is nothing on which to base a marriage.

One of the worst things that can happen in any marriage is for a man to become an abuser of the woman, either mentally or physically. It is one of the most wicked things that we can do, Brothers. I do not care how uptight she gets you, Brother, it is better to walk away than to beat a woman. This is serious. The reason we are in the condition that we are in is because the woman has actually been abused. She really does not know what true love is.

- **Question 2:** Why is marriage half of our faith?
- **Question 3:** What happens when both parties in a marriage become dissatisfied?

Once in your life, Sisters, you have your virtue. After your virginity is gone, you cannot get it back again. You can only love perfectly once. Only God can bring it back the second time and make it as sweet as the first love, or sweeter. But without God, when you get a woman that has been used and abused, she never gives the man the second time what she gave the man the first time who abused her. It is the same way with a man, when he has been hurt by a woman.

After that, it becomes a business deal; it is more a contract and proposition. A little light love and passion, but it quickly fades. This is the way we live and into this kind of circumstance we bring our children. Half of us who have children, they are accidents. There is no plan on our part to have a child. It happens as a result of passion.

You have children, but you do not want them. They are accidents that happen on a lust-filled night, not a love-filled night, because if it were real love, you do not want to get rid of a baby for the man you really love. When you really love a man, the greatest thing you could do is to bring him again, reproduce him, into the world, nurse him from your breast and make him better than the man that you fell in love with.

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- **Question 4:** How has our lust for one another affected our reproduction?

We have been ruined as a people, and there is no sense in talking about liberation, Brothers, "Let's get a gun and shoot White folks or the racist institutions of America, etc." and then come home and degrade our women, use them and throw them out like toilet tissue. Then, you really do not want liberation, because liberation is a process; it is not a one-generation event. You liberate to a degree, but only the womb of a woman can advance the cause of liberation. No matter what you gain in your lifetime, she can produce a child for you that will go further than you, with your desires and her desires at the root of that child. But when she is destroyed and does not know what to do with the life that is in her womb, then she will eat the wrong foods, like we do. She will drink the wrong drinks, smoke death, put crack in her veins, while forming the brain cells of a new life. She is killing the future for you, because you do not know how to protect the future, because you are only a one-dimensional, pleasure-seeking animal who lives for today and does not make any thought for tomorrow.

Jesus said, "Take no thought of what tomorrow is going to be," but tomorrow is built on today. Sisters, you are today, but you are our tomorrow. If you do not take care of yourself today, then we have no tomorrow. You do not need a man to love you, in order for you to love yourself and do good by yourself.

When a woman is pregnant, what covers the womb while she is in the period of gestation will also become a part of a predisposition of that unborn child. Every thought is chemistry. Every thought produces a chemical manifestation of itself, which can be a poison to the system, which travels in the blood and into the brain of the baby that is being formed.

We have children today who are painful to their mothers and fathers, because of the rebellion of Adam and Eve, symbolically. When you rebel against God, you pay a price and the price of rebellion is death. The form of death is the fact that you produced a life that cannot live beyond 40, because death pervades our community. It is not only the White man putting death in our communities; we gravitate towards death.

Lying and murder is in the womb. We project it from our minds onto our wombs. So the baby comes out with a predisposition to lie, steal and murder. You have produced a generation of liars, thieves and murderers who are now consuming our own flesh and blood, as though they were programmed like robots to destroy their own community and family.

We did this. We did this by not caring for the woman. We did this by calling her a b---- and treating her like a b----. We did this by calling her a dog and turning the process of making a god backwards. She produces little dogs, because you made her what you call her. And Sisters, you are so bad today that you perpetuate your own destruction.

- **Question 5:** Why does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say that sisters are perpetuating their destruction?

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us, and the Holy Qur'an bears him witness, that we are supposed to reverence the womb that bore us into this world. To reverence the womb means to hold the womb with deep respect and awe, because the womb is majesty. It is the laboratory where God, Himself, operates. Allah (God) neither begets nor is begotten. If He is the Living, then how did He get here? The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches that Allah (God) created Himself out of triple darkness, which means that the space or universe was a womb for Him. Then, He went back into that womb of darkness of space and, in His Mind, He saw the sun, said, "Be!" and brought it out of the womb of space. The sun, moon and stars are here and they all came from nothing. That is how God uses the womb. That is why He called the universe "she." The universe is pregnant, always bringing forth new things. How dare you think you are nothing,

Sisters, when God blessed you with a double womb? He blessed you with a mind that is a womb and He blessed you with a physical reality that is a womb. Then, He makes you a co-operator with Him, an assistant to Him, if you will, in forming that which is in the womb.

- **Question 6:** Why are we taught to reverence the womb that bore us?

As men, we have to realize that the sperm we carry is the future. The head of the sperm is like a computer, with all kinds of information of past eons engrained in it. Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." There is a record of everything that is created, and that record is in the sperm. When the sperm is emitted, it has the potential of growing to master this universe, but it has to be nurtured properly.

When we are young, sometimes we already are ruining our lives. We have to understand our connection to the future. Teenagers have to start building the tissues, blood and bones of their bodies; that is the future of our people. If you love your people, you do not want to produce a weak specimen. You want a strong child. You cannot have a strong child if you are putting poison into your bodies. This is a sacred vessel.

When we smoke, the thousands of poisons in the cigarettes become a part of us, therefore it becomes a part of the sperm. As smoking and drinking weaken the human being, smoking and drinking attack the head of the sperm, in which is carried the genetic coding. So, wise scientists continue to feed us cigarettes, alcohol, crack, marijuana, pork, de-natured food and canned goods that do not have any life in them. The more we ingest and digest these poisoned chemical products, we begin to kill, not only our brain power and beauty, but we kill our future.

- **Question 7:** Why is the head of the sperm compared to a computer?

- **Question 8:** Why do the wise scientists continue to feed us poisons?

- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

No Discipline, No Love

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

[Editor's Note: This article originally appeared on August 8, 2000, Vol. 19 No. 40]

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

There is a scripture in the Bible that teaches that Allah (God) is Love. The creative force out of which He created the heavens and the earth is the awesome power of His Love. In that great display of love, Allah (God) regulates the affairs of His Creatures by means of law. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the ***first law is motion*** and the ***second law is order***. Out of Allah's (God's) Love, He puts all things in motion, and, out of His Love, He gives order to that motion by means of law.

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- **Question 1:** How does Allah regulate the affairs of His creatures?

The Sun in our universe is the great example of freedom, for, its light gives life to all things within its sphere of influence and also warmth. There are nine planets in our solar system and each planet's affair is regulated by the **Law of Light** that disciplines each planet giving it an orbit in which to rotate, from which it can never escape. In the Bible, Jesus uses these words, "***I am the Light of the World.***" He was made by Allah (God) to glorify Him, and, the Light of His Wisdom gives life to those whom His Wisdom touches, and, the warmth of His Love comforts those who are touched by His Light.

The Qur'an refers to Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), "***As a Light Giving Sun.***" This teaches us that Muhammad in His Person, is the Light of what Allah (God) brought through Him called Qur'an, another name of which is ***Al-Nur – The Light***. Muhammad in the beauty of His Light and Life and in the warmth of His Love, by the permission of Allah (God), gives spiritual life to all those who accept His Guidance and follow His Way.

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- **Question 2:** Why is the Sun a great example of freedom?

It is not an accident that the companions of Jesus were called His Disciples. In the word disciple we have the word discipline. A disciple is one who is in the process of being disciplined or is disciplining his or herself according to the Teaching and Way of a Master.

Oft times, in the Bible Jesus rebuked His Disciples.

REBUKE:

To criticize or reprove sharply; reprimand: to check or repress.

Why did He do so? He rebuked them because He loved them. Therefore, in His rebuke was correction because He wanted them to be as Allah (God) desired. We can never be what Allah (God) desires of us without correction, rebuke and exhortation. Therefore, the Bible teaches us, ***“Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it.”*** We cannot teach or train without correction and rebuke. There is no student of any teacher of any discipline that is not corrected in order to grow into the perfection of that discipline. The more correction one is given, the greater is the demonstration of love.

The Bible teaches, ***“Whom the Lord loves, He chastens much.”***

CHASTEN:

To punish, either physically or morally; chastise: to restrain; moderate: to refine; purify.

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- **Question 3:** Why did Jesus rebuke His Disciples?

Children today are growing up in homes where there is no discipline because there are no rules. Children today do what they please and their parents, mothers in particular, allow this license not realizing that their unwillingness to train the children up in the way they should go will bring great pain to the parents in the future. A train that is on a track is disciplined by the track.

The engine pulls the train. Likewise, the parents should be the example of what the parent hopes for in the children. The parents are the engine that pulls the child along the track. Whenever a train jumps the track, we have what is called a wreck or disaster. The lives of our children are being wrecked, and disaster is in their future if we do not love them enough to lay down rules that we encourage our children to live by.

As we look at society today and we see the police armed to the teeth with bulletproof vests as they go about their duties, it is as though they are in a huge cage with violent beasts that they must protect themselves from as they try to establish some degree of order by means of enforcement of law.

If there is no discipline in the home, is there a chance for discipline in the school? Many teachers who have given their lives to the idea of educating the young are giving up their profession because they lack the methodology and psychological training that would allow them to produce discipline in their classrooms. So, the schools today resemble psychiatric wards in mental hospitals. The poor teachers oft times give up their profession and take other means of employment because teaching is impossible in an atmosphere where there is no discipline.

There was a time when discipline was administered in the church, but, today in most churches there is no discipline. People come to listen to the preaching; listen to good singing, giving their tithes and offerings and then they go back to the life-style that they are living. Very few pastors, ministers and imams will rebuke their parishioners to make them better Christians, better Muslims, or better Jews. If there is no discipline in the home, the school, and the church, then, the streets become a jungle and the police become the so-called tamers of the wild beasts of the street. ***This is a loveless society.***

- **Question 4:** How does the absence of rules affect our parenting and our children?

- **Question 5:** Why does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say we live in a loveless society?

When children come out of a home where there is no discipline and go into a home where there is discipline, you will find that they like being where there is discipline. There is a human need to be disciplined, and, therefore, to discipline is a human right. As parents, we must have the right and the authority to discipline our children. As teachers we must have the right and the authority to discipline our students. As pastors, ministers, and imams, we must have the right and the authority to discipline our membership. If we do not do our job out of love for those in our care, the judge, then, has to do his or her job and give our children time in prison or sentence them to death because we did not love them enough to train them properly when they were young. Society is robbing the parents and the teachers of the right and the authority to discipline the children and the students. I know that there is child abuse and there must be laws to protect children from abusive parents, but, spanking a child to correct it is now considered abuse, however, when several policemen snatch a man who is shot four or five times out of a vehicle and repeatedly stomp him, the public is told, "Do not rush to judgment, wait until the facts are in," even though we know we are looking at raw, vicious brutality.

If the police can kill a human being and it is called justifiable homicide, is there not a time in our homes that a parent is justified in spanking or disciplining their children? Is there not a time in school when teachers are justified in disciplining the students?

This society has gone mad, and, because of its madness with all of its magnificence, it is spiraling downward into the abyss of hell.

We must create a movement to take back our God-given rights and the authority that Allah (God) gives us to make a better human being through love that is shown by our willingness to bring order into the life that we put into motion by means of rules, laws and the imposition of punishment when we willfully disobey those rules and laws. These rules and regulations are designed to train us up in the way that we should go. May Allah (God) bless us to receive the Light of His Love; the Warmth of His Love; and, the Beauty of His Discipline.

- **Question 6:** Give personal examples of how a lack of discipline affected us negatively?

In the Bible, David said, ***“Thy rod, and Thy staff they comfort me.”*** There is no child who will not be comforted by the proper use of the rod and the staff. We, as parents, must come back to Allah (God) and let Him be the center of our lives that we may grow in wisdom to become the disciples of Jesus, the disciples of Muhammad, rather than those who love to call the names of these Great Ones, but, refuse to be disciplined or discipline ourselves according to the Word of Allah (God).

In the Bible, the early Christians were called by Jesus and Paul, “little children.” When we come into the Light of Knowledge and Faith we are like babies. We do not have the ability to discipline self. Therefore, discipline must be imposed on us until we are able to discipline ourselves. Mothers and fathers, it is our duty to discipline our children. Teachers and professors, it is our duty to discipline our students. Ministers, preachers, imams, and sheikhs, it is our duty to discipline those who are under our charge. If we exercise the right of authority in the proper manner, we will make a better home, school, church and a better society.

Where there is no discipline, there is no love.

- **Question 7:** Why did Jesus and Paul call Christians “little children”?
- **Question 8:** Give examples of how those responsible for exercising authority, can do so in the proper manner?
- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Family from The Perspective of Children

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

Allah (God) says in the Qur'an that each creature is created in need. Therefore, Allah (God) is the supplier of all needs. Allah (God) is independent of His creatures, but, He created all of His creatures to depend on Him. Allah (God) supplies the needs of all of His creatures through what He has created. Each creature has the duty of doing something for its self. This is the nature in which all living things are created.

Every human need is a human right. When we are born into this world we are ***complete*** yet ***incomplete***, therefore, we have needs. All human beings have a need to be made secure or to feel safe. As we grow in life, our needs may change, but the need to be made secure will follow us from birth until death. The baby is secured in its mother's womb, but when it comes into its new environment it cries because it is insecure. The baby is secured by the love and warmth from the mother's body; it is secured by the milk that flows from its mother's breast; it is also secured by the loving care of a mother who makes sure that the needs of the baby to be fed, to be changed, to be in a clean and safe environment is met. All of this must be provided by the mother, with the help of the father.

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- **Question 1:** What does it mean to be born in this world complete yet incomplete?

Love is a human need. Therefore, to be loved is a human right. To feel the warmth of a loving embrace is a human need. It is a human right to be encircled by the love of a mother, a father, a sister, or a brother who love each other. To have a sense of family is a human need. Therefore, to have a family or to be apart of a family is a human right. We are born into the world knowing nothing, but, we are born into a universe filled with knowledge.

- **Question 2:** What is the difference between a human need and a human right?

Allah (God) gives us a curious nature and has placed within us a hunger to learn what is in our environment and to master what is in our environment. To learn, or to grow in knowledge is a human need. Therefore, the attainment of knowledge is a human right. Every mother and every father should strive to provide the tools of learning for the new life, for, it begins to learn from the moment it leaves its mother's womb. Each child is gifted from the Creator with a very special gift that is unique to itself, but, these gifts must be discovered; must be cultivated; must be exploited for the good of the individual, the family, and the nation.

America and the industrial nations are concerned about human rights violations in the under developed or newly developing nations of the earth. However, with the criteria that we have mentioned, all nations in some way or

another are in violation of the human rights of the people, for, all nations in some way interfere with the attainment of the needs of the human being.

Children desire validation from their parents. "*How do I look mommy?*" "*How did I do daddy?*" No matter what the child does, it desires to be approved by those who mean the most to it: **(1) Mother (2) Father (3) Sibling (4) Friends and Playmates.**

Children need encouragement when they falter that they may do better. The misuse of language and/or the harshness of language in rebuke can hurt the emotional and psychological development of the child. Remember, the need to be made secure is with us throughout our lives. So, as we grow, what it takes to secure us mentally, spiritually, morally, economically, and politically is always at work, even in the home. The child wants to know that we are aware of its presence. Even though consciously the child may not be aware, subconsciously, it wants to know that its rights even as a child are respected and protected in the family environment when dealing with parents, guardians and when disputes arise among the siblings.

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- **Question 3:** Why is it important to give children encouragement even after they falter?

The need for justice at all levels of development is that which helps to make the human being secure. Each child looks to the parents to settle their disputes with justice. When disputes arise in the family, it gives the mother and the father

a chance to teach and instill family values, moral values and also to build good character in the children. All of the aforementioned are needs. All of the aforementioned are rights. ***Some of us think that disciplining our children is abuse, but, everything in creation has its affair regulated by law.***

In the home there is a need for rules, regulations or laws. Rules and regulations are a human need, and to deny our children the discipline of rules is to deny them that which ultimately will make them secure. ***There must be rules in the home. There must be rules that teach us how to relate to one another properly in the home. There must be rules of respect for parents, children, self and one another that are taught in the home because everywhere we go we will find existing rules and regulations. Where there are no rules, there will be no order. Chaos will be the result. Where there is chaos, it will bring to an end the activity or the life of the home, school, community, nation, and the world.***

Having discipline in our homes is not abuse of our children. We learn to respect rules in our home so that when we go to school and meet with the children in the neighborhood, rules of social behavior if taught, accepted and practiced in the home means that our children will be more apt to accept and obey the rules of society, then, jail or prison will not be an end for us. ***The respect of rules and regulations starting in the home could mean the end of prisons.***

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- **Question 4:** Why is discipline in the home necessary for our children?

Children have a need for attention. *"Look at me." "Listen to me."* These are not words coming from the lips of the children this is written in the nature of the child.

We must be careful in disciplining our children. There is a line, which if crossed in disciplining our children could be labeled as abuse. In a world that is prophesied to come to an end; where human beings are suffering loss and enduring great levels of stress, as parents, as teachers, as leaders, as preachers, as foremen, and as authority figures, we must be careful not to take out our stress on those under our authority, thus violating their rights. More and more there are children killing their parents, killing their teachers; workers killing their foremen, or bosses; spouses killing each other because of abuse and violation of rights.

I believe this is why Jesus said that, ***"Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom ... and the mother-in-law will be at variance with the daughter-in-law ... and they of a man's household will be his worst enemy."***

Corporal punishment is not abuse if it is done with moderation, with the thought in mind of correction and not the thought of afflicting pain, but, to bring about change in the behavior to make a better child and a better human being. Punishment must always be in accord with the violation, and devoid of anger. The love that we have for our children is the reason why we punish them because our desire is to make the child better.

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- **Question 5:** When is corporal punishment not abuse?

In today's society the rights of parents are gradually being taken away and although this is supposed to be a Judaeo-Christian society, the Bible's teaching of how to rear the children is being ignored and uprooted. The Bible says, **"Spare not the rod and spoil the child."** It also teaches, **"Train up a child in the way he should go and, when he is old, he will not depart from it."** The Qur'an is the best companion of this scripture because it gives us guidance on how to train the child. If we as parents coming into the knowledge of Allah (God) are instructed by Jesus in these words, **"Except you become as a little child, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God."** If we follow these instructions, they will give us a greater understanding of how our minds, and our children's minds should be in listening to instructions that we may be trained in the Way of Allah (God).

These are areas that must be studied and approached with wisdom. Every child is not the same, but, every child hungers to be disciplined. The teachers that we remember most are those who were firm, yet, just. ***Where there is no discipline, there really is no love.***

PARENTS TOO BUSY; CHILDREN NEGLECTED

When we do not get sufficient attention as a child, we act in a manner to get attention and sometimes this results in anti-social conduct or behavior. When the need for attention and validation is not supplied in the home or in the school, and we find that we have a gift or talent, that sets us apart and gives us attention, we have a tendency to focus on that talent and give all of our time to that talent, gift, or profession because it has given us the attention, acceptance and validation that we missed coming up as children.

As Black people growing up in a society where we feel rejected by the larger society, and, are mistreated by the larger society, we grow up with a mentality desiring attention and validation from the members of the larger society. When we discover a gift or talent that sets us apart from the rest of our un-validated people that gives us attention from our former slave masters and their children, we give all of our time to that talent, gift or profession because it has given us the attention and acceptance that we have not experienced growing up Black in White America.

Sometimes when we marry and have our children, we choose our gift and our talent and its ability to create wealth over the needs of and our duty to our wives and children. Oft-times as we become **"great"** in our profession, getting the

attention and validation for our gift, skill, or talent, we may find that somewhere along the line we have lost our balance and neglected our duty to our wives, and our children. While we bask in the adoration of our fans, patients, students, clients, and congregation, we may find that we have lost something more precious than what we gained in the world, because, in our blindness, we did not look at life and the needs of our children and our wives from their perspective, and, therefore, failed in our duty to them. This is why people whom we look up to, that have everything in life that we think we would want are very unsuccessful in marriage, and very unsuccessful in parenting their children.

- **Question 6:** How does the need for acceptance and validation affect us in society?

In going through life, we really cannot see until we can see from the perspective of others. When there is argument and we try to see from the side of the person with whom we have a disagreement or variance, as you would want them to see from your side, more than likely seeing from the other person's perspective can cause us to arrive at a balance and accomplish the reconciliation of our differences.

Our children will not voice their opinions or share their perspectives in a home that it is ruled by fear, and they will never say to the parents what they really feel. If our homes are ruled by love, and governed by the principle of

justice, then, we will encourage our children to speak to us so that we may know how they think and what they see and feel. We then have the task to either help them to see better, or in listening we may find ourselves at fault and we correct ourselves.

- **Question 7:** Why should we rule our homes by love instead of fear?

This is why the principle of atonement works so well in the home, if we allow our children to point out to us where they see or feel we have treated them unfairly or handled them improperly. As parents, we carry the pride of parenting and oft-times the arrogance of parenting disallows us to listen to the child's perspective. In this type of home, the old adage is, "***A child should be seen and not heard.***" Suppose those in authority over us as grown ups feel that we, under their authority should be seen and not heard, and if we voiced our grievance and were punished by those in authority, we would then say that we are living under tyranny and some of us would plan or take part in a revolt. This is the same spirit that will come into the hearts and minds of the children in the home by disrespecting their rights and by not allowing our children to share their feelings and thoughts with us as their parents.

This attitude of not listening will lead to a hostile attitude in the children toward their parents. A gulf then develops between the children and the parents that oft-times is never bridged. If the children in the home do not find the attention, the love, the validation and the sense of family that they need, they will

take to the streets and find what they have missed in the homes in what is called ***the gangs***.

- **Question 8: What are some of the reasons children turn to gangs?**

As a parent, teacher, preacher, politician or leader, ***those under our authority have rights that must not be ignored by those who have authority***. Children have ***rights***. Parents have ***rights, but, parents have authority***. How authority is used is critical to the development of those under our authority. Using our authority to trample on the rights of our children is a violation that there may not necessarily be a law on the book of society for which to punish us, but the law of justice is written in the nature of creation, therefore, at some point, we will have to face the fact that we have not looked through the eyes of our children and have not listened to the cry of those under our authority.

We think that providing for them a home, food and some of the amenities of life is all that we have to do to expect complete submission from our children. When we understand that they too have rights and try to see from their perspective and be balanced in sufficing their needs, we will produce better human beings, better and stronger families, a stronger, more just, and peaceful society.

Remember, those in authority are the custodians of our needs and the guardians of our rights.

Thank you for reading these few words.

- **Question 9:** How should we use our authority over those who are under our authority?

- **Question 10:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY For Our Failure

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

"Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of men, The King of men, The God of men, From the evil of the whisperings of the slinking (devil), Who whispers into the hearts of men, From among the jinn and the men." Holy Qur'an (Sura 114 verses 1-6)

There are no parents who are free of mistakes or errors in the rearing of their children. It is sad that we can go to colleges and universities to receive degrees that tell us that we are qualified to work in our various fields of endeavor, but, the most important endeavor, which is the building of human life through the skill of parenting does not seem to matter in our quest for the acquisition of knowledge. There are no courses offered in high school or college that will allow us to become proficient in this skill. Yet, all of us will eventually become parents. Doctors who make mistakes or errors can leave their patients permanently wounded or even dead. Lawyers who make mistakes can cause their clients to suffer great loss, even the loss of life. Builders who make mistakes can cause what they build to crumble and fall.

What happens when we make errors or mistakes in the rearing of our children?

In my travels promoting the ***Million Family March***, I am seeing the beauty of American cities and the billions and trillions of dollars that are being spent to make these cities some of the most beautiful and attractive that can be found anywhere in the world, but, all of these cities are peopled with persons who are the victims of mistakes and errors in the stewardship of their lives, either by their parents, teachers, pastors or the institutions of the society in general.

To see a human being made in the image and likeness of Allah (God) lying under a bridge, or keeping warm on a cold winter's night on a grate with a cardboard covering; then, to see the many, many homeless persons in America, the derelicts, the malcontents, the prisoners, the social misfits, those who suffer mental illness. This society has misplaced values and priorities. This world places more value on things than on people. More money is spent on things than on the

proper cultivation of the people. Parents are abandoning the responsibility of rearing their children to go out into the workplace to make money to buy things, leaving the children to be nurtured by the filth and ignorance that is bombarding their minds through television, radio, magazines, and newspapers. There is no doubt in my mind that parents generally love their children, but, our overwhelming ignorance disallows that natural love to become a creative force that would guide the development of our offspring. Therefore, parents look at their children and say, "***I did the best that I could,***" but, they also often ask the question, "***Where did I go wrong or what did I do wrong?***"

- **Question 1:** How has this present society misplaced its values and priorities? Give examples.

There is no child, or grownup who reads this article, who in thinking back on their childhood does not remember some injustice done to them by their parents that marked them and stays with them even though they have reached maturity and beyond, but, the remedy for all mistakes is found in the verses of the Qur'an that opened this article, "***I seek refuge in the Lord of men.***" The word Lord, or Rabb, in Arabic means nurturer or nourisher. All of us as children have sought refuge in our mothers, because all of us have been nurtured or nourished by our mothers, and, each of us when we felt troubled in our infancy or youth

sought refuge and comfort in our mothers. This is why, next to the worship of Allah (God), and, obedience to His Messengers and Prophets, the honor and respect of mother is of prime importance. Yet, all of our mothers have made mistakes in rearing us. All of them in ignorance have neglected some of our needs that would have made us more psychologically and emotionally secure.

In our growth and development, we outgrow the need to seek nurturing from our mothers, then, we look at the "**King of men**." If we take the "**King of men**" to mean the political leaders that govern the political life of the individual or the nation, we grow to look at our leaders and to seek refuge in them from those things in society that ill effect our growth and development. Yet, we are dissatisfied, for, none of our political leaders; none of the rules and laws that politicians made to govern our lives has offered us the total security and peace that our nature cries out for. There is no mother, no teacher, no politician, and no leader who has led or taught us and has not made mistakes or errors.

A mistake is an unintentional departure from what is right; an error is an intentional departure from what we know is right. These errors and mistakes hinder the full growth and development of the person, so, we outgrow the need to seek refuge in our leaders, political and otherwise, but to seek refuge in the "**God of men**" is the ultimate place of refuge, for, no matter what mistakes or errors were made in the parenting of our children; no matter how our children were neglected and not corrected, when we get to Allah (God) we have reached Him who is perfect; we have reached Him who suffices all needs; we have reached Him who is the end of all excuses that we make for our failures in life, blaming these failures on those who have stewarded our lives and in some way have failed.

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- **Question 2:** How can we rectify all of the mistakes and errors made by those who were guardians of our rights?

- **Question 3:** What is meant by the whispering of a slinking devil?

- **Question 4:** What is the result of freeing ourselves from the whispering of a slinking devil?

- **Question 5:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

The greatest gift that any parent can give a child is to give that child the knowledge of Allah (God). At some point in our lives, we have all called on Him, oft-times when we are in great trouble. At that time, we promised Allah (God) that if He saved us from the predicament that we were in, that we would straighten out our lives and serve Him for the rest of our lives. This tells us that in nature our duty is to serve our Creator. However, to turn our lives over to Him, and, to feed on the perfection of His Word is to begin the process of rectifying all of the mistakes and errors that have been made by those who have stewarded our lives and have been the guardians of our rights.

- **Question 6:** What is the greatest gift a parent can give a child?

No matter what failure, we as parents have made in the rearing of our children, if, or when our children learn to seek refuge in the "**God of men**," they will be freed from the whispering of a slinking devil that whispers into their hearts from the emotion of our anger, pain, envy, jealousy, fear, grief and, from the whispering of others who try to comfort us in our negativity against our parents, teachers, and leaders, by encouraging us in our condemnation of them. When our children see errors or mistakes in their parents, politicians, leaders; when our children see weakness in leaders, when we seek refuge in Allah (God), the God of men, we will cease to blame others for any failures in our life, but, we will take

the responsibility that Allah (God) gave us when He gave us life, and, that is, to take charge of our lives and to live our lives in accord with the Will and the Way of Allah (God).

Thank you for reading these few words.

- **Question 7:** How can we rectify all of the mistakes and errors made by those who were guardians of our rights?

- **Question 8:** What is meant by the whispering of a slinking devil?

- **Question 9:** What is the result of freeing ourselves from the whispering of a slinking devil?
- **Question 10:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Our commitment to strong marriage secures our nation

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

There is so much going on in the world and what is going on in the world will certainly affect us. We have entered into Armageddon and it will get deeper, wider and broader. It is a war against Islam, and Islam is in revolt against itself because of deviation from Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) from those within the world of Islam who want to bring Islam back to its pristine purity.

Islam will win; that is written. Some may say, “I’m a Christian.” No, you, too, are a Muslim because your nature is to submit to the Will of God. You believe in Jesus Christ and so do we; but mere belief counts for nothing except that that belief is carried into practice. God’s way will rule. The Bible tells us that a government is going to be set up on this earth—not by U.S. President George Bush, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Chinese President Hu Jintao, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi or Russian President Vladimir Putin—but by the Messiah, the Christ Himself.

No matter what is happening in the world, our condition will not be changed substantially by looking at Israel bomb Lebanon or see Hezbollah hold off the mighty Israeli army—which beat the whole Arab world in six days, yet in three weeks is still bogged down with Hezbollah. This is the beginning of the defeat of Zionism, wicked capitalism and all that is against the purpose of God for the true freedom, justice and equality of all human beings.

There is no success in building a nation without the building of family. There is no success in the building of family without the respect and honor for the institution of marriage. However, we are beset with divorce and the problem of infidelity. As a result of divorce and infidelity, hatred is building between mothers and fathers, which is causing children to suffer. We can talk about many things that are important in life, but nothing is more important or sacred than family and the cornerstone of family, which is marriage.

- **Question 1:** How does our commitment to strong marriage secure our nation?

I want to see successful marriage in the Nation of Islam and among Black people. Marriage in Islam starts with the recognition that we are not complete without a woman, or without a man if you're a woman. But the critical part of male/female relationships is in setting up a social context where men and women can meet each other under proper circumstances that do not degenerate into vile speech or actions. Every mosque should set up proper social circumstances for single Brothers and single Sisters to meet each other. The proper setting is not at clubs or places where women are disrobed and men try to pick up a woman for a one-night stand.

- **Question 2:** What does marriage in Islam begin with?

- **Question 3:** What can we do to setup a social context which would allow men and women to meet each other under the proper circumstances?

In Islam, we respect the role of the parents. If a Brother is interested in a Sister who is of age, he does not approach her; he talks to her father. The father is the authority. The wife, of course, is the co-authority and the appeal must be made to the head of that house. If that process turns out well, courtship begins.

In this world, courtship is sampling the goods before buying it; and Sisters, that is a huge mistake on your part to let any man have his way with you and then later you decide whether you will or won't get married. If I pressed most of you who are involved in courtship, I would discover that you have had a sexual relationship.

Once you become sexually involved, it interferes with the process of judgement. Sex is like a narcotic that intoxicates the mind. With certain drugs, they caution you not to enter into any contract, drive your vehicle or mix this drug with alcohol. Sex is like that. When you get involved sexually with a man, under that intoxication, you think you are in love.

- **Question 4:** How does pre-material sex interrupt the courtship process?

In the Bible when Allah (God) wanted to exalt and make Israel a great nation for His glory, He sent down strong law because, if the Children of Israel would grow under that strong law, they would become the foundational stone for a world that respects the sovereignty and righteousness of God and His law.

Similarly, by living the law, we would find greater peace, harmony, love, and brotherhood inside the Nation. Fornication and adultery were punished by death. Why would God, Who is the ultimate in forgiveness and compassion, ask for a woman or man to be stoned to death for adultery? Whenever a married man allows a strange woman into a relationship with him, he has broken the bond and interfered with the life of his marriage. There are huge consequences.

As the war widens overseas, it is coming to the United States. The streets are going to bleed in America and it is only a strong sense of family and brotherly love that will help sustain us. But it can never be if a woman sees another woman coming after her husband or a man sees another man coming after his wife. Then, the brotherhood is broken. A Brother cannot say he loves the brotherhood if his desire for sexual contact with a married woman is more important than the brotherhood that we are trying to build. A Sister cannot say that she loves the sisterhood if her desire for a married man takes precedence over the sisterhood.

In so doing, we are destroying a bond that is absolutely necessary when the attack from the enemy comes against us. We want to know that the person at our right, at our left, in front of us and behind us is really our Brother or our Sister.

- **Question 5:** How would following the Law of God benefit us as a people and as a Nation?
- **Question 6:** How can a weak brotherhood and sisterhood negatively impact us during the time of widespread chaos in America?

Adultery is punished by death because adultery brings the death of marriage and family. Adultery is a termite that undermines the pillars of nationhood. And although with fornication, the person is not married and therefore have not broken any vow, the punishment for fornication under the law of Moses was also death. All of these actions we take for granted are destructive of the process that Allah (God) intended for human beings in our growth to become one with Him.

- **Question 7:** What action does the Honorable Louis Farrakhan point out as being destructive to the institution of marriage? How are they destructive?

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, “Marriage is one-half of faith.” What is faith? The journey of faith is like a child born into the world that grows, matures and evolves to become one with the Creator. When we become one with Allah (God)—as the Holy Qur’an says: “Oh, soul that is at rest well pleasing with thy Lord and well pleased”—you have reached a state of bliss in the human existence after a long process filled with trials.

The life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the life of Jesus Christ were filled with trial, persecution, tribulation, hardship, loss of property, loss of life and

diminution of fruit, but Allah (God) is trying the soul that wants oneness with Him. If marriage is one-half of a journey like that, what kind of a person would enter into a marriage thinking that everything is going to be all right? What kind of sailor are you to set out to sea only prepared to sail if the waters are calm?

If you are a sailor, you sail in all kinds of weather. You try to navigate your ship through the storm and do what is necessary for your ship and its cargo to survive. The ship and its cargo are the man, woman and the family. Every marriage has to go through storms, but if you are only the type of sailor who wants your marriage as long as everything is okay, then your marriage is not going to last long.

Question 8: What can we learn from the lives of Allah's Servants that can help us when trials arise in our marriages?

The Bible says, "This wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign" and Jesus said, "No sign shall be given to you except the sign of Jonah. As Jonah was in the belly of the great fish, three days and three nights, so shall the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth." Wicked and adulterous have equal value in this sentence. You may believe that you are not a wicked person but, if you are adulterous, you are wicked because you undermine trust. You undermine faith

and marriage and begin the process of the destruction of family. Therefore, you become a traitor to the building of a nation.

When you are having sex with a strange woman other than your wife, you are not thinking of yourself as a traitor. But I want to put it in those terms so that we can really see what we are doing to our nation that we claim we love; but more importantly what we are doing to our wives, children and families that we claim we love.

Jonah was in the belly of the whale for three days and three nights. Allah (God) had a job for Jonah to do, but Jonah was hesitant in accepting a responsibility that God was laying on him. So he was running and dodging while God kept allowing circumstances to grip him until finally a great fish swallowed Jonah. In the belly of that fish, he realized that he was fighting something that he could not win against. He had to ask himself if he was ready to stop fighting God and surrender.

The moment Jonah prayed, confessed and became ready to do what God had called him to do, the fish spat him up on dry land. From that moment, Jonah became the great prophet of God.

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- **Question 9:** How are we being traitors to our nation when we forsake a life that is in accord with the Law of God?

- **Question 10:** How does the story of Jonah apply to this generation?

How does that story apply to a wicked and adulterous generation? The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that Allah (God) is calling on us to do a job, not just for ourselves, but a job for humanity. The suffering that Black people have endured has given us a heart that, once the vessel is cleaned and purified and the right word is put in us, we can bring the world up out of its present madness. But first, we have to be brought up out of it.

In Surah 30 of the Holy Qur'an, called "The Romans," the section entitled "A Transformation" reads: *"Corruption has appeared in the land and sea on account of that which men's hands have wrought that He, Allah, may make them taste a part of what they have done so that they may return."*

Isn't that beautiful? Corruption has appeared in the nation on the land and the sea. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad talked about the corruption of the air, land, water, etc. Today, we are all victims of that corruption in government. Judges are corrupt. Businessmen are corrupt. Police are corrupt. Ministers are corrupt. Teachers are corrupt. Parents are corrupt. There is a price to be paid for corruption. In our families right now, corruption is causing us to pay a price. In our families, there is argument, distrust, dissatisfaction, hurt and pain because of corruption.

My Sisters may become angry with me with my concluding words, but I have to tell the truth. In the nature of things, there would not have been a devil on our planet if a scientist had not learned how to separate the weaker germ, the brown germ, from the Black germ. This history is full of symbolism, but yet it is deep because, in the atom, there must be control. It does not become destructive unless you split it.

Allah (God) has given men authority over women. The enemy knowingly broke the Black man and freed the Black woman from the control of the Black man, so that he could become the controller of the Black woman. The White man's control destroyed her and she became the force of destruction for our nation. The Book of Genesis in the Bible says that God created the man first. This is not male supremacy. Then, God created the woman and gave her to the man as a helpmeet. Man was under the direct authority of God and woman was to come under man's authority, but a snake entered the picture and the snake is always trying to destroy the natural controller and usurp the position of God.

One of Allah's (God's) attributes is The Controller. He did not simply put planets in the universe, He put control on them by means of law and as long as they submit to the law and come under control, they have perpetuity.

That is why there has never been a teacher like the Honorable Elijah Muhammad because he was trying to raise us under the control of God, that we could once again get control of our woman. Although women may not like this kind of teaching, women are out of control and because they are out of control, they are sentencing the Nation to death.

In the Nation of Islam through the Muslim Girls in Training and Fruit of Islam classes, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad returned a measure of control to the Black man over the Black woman and she loved it because we had submitted to the control of God and that made it easier for her to submit to our control because it really wasn't our control; it was God controlling our house.

The Bible says that Christ is the head of man; man is the head of woman; and woman is the head of children. But Satan has destroyed that order. As men in the nation, we have lost the moral authority in our houses because of adultery. We have to put the blame where the blame belongs. We have violated our

contract of marriage and our oaths. We have violated our wives and our families. How can we make a strong family again?

To my Muslim and African Brothers, we can talk about having more than one wife because it is written in the Holy Qur'an, but are we qualified for that? If you cannot handle one wife, how are you going to handle two wives? Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) introduced polygamy because of the decimation of the male population, which resulted in too many women becoming widows and children becoming orphans. There was a social reason for polygamy and Allah (God) revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) the time and circumstances under which sex should be applied.

Some men like to read a few verses in the Holy Qur'an that satisfy their salacious desires, so that they can engage another woman other than their wife and break the peace and trust in their homes. After a man destroys the beauty of his wife, especially if she is a faithful woman, then he wants to claim he is a man of God.

But men break women's faith in God by what we do with God. We have ruined our nation. We have ruined our families. Can we get it back? Of course, we can. Allah (God) says: "I am going to make you taste a part of what you have done so that they may return." Return to what? Return to that straight path that gave us moral authority in our houses, which we have corrupted and lost.

Have we had enough of the pain of a broken home, a broken marriage and confused children? If we have, then let us try again to make our word our bond, rebuild our marriages and families, rebuild our broken trust and, in the process, rebuild our nation.

I hope that we will make a commitment to marriage and family and let nothing break up our families. If, as men, we have been in error, then we must confess and ask for forgiveness and do not bring any more corruption into our homes. Sisters, if your actions have driven you to unbecoming actions, then come back to your self and come home to God and let us rebuild our lives and our nation.

- **Question 11:** How can the NOI classes for the training of men and women benefit our people?

- **Question 12:** What can we do to make our word bond, rebuild our marriages, and our Nation?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

ALLAH (GOD) HATES DIVORCE - PART I

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

It is written in the Holy Qur'an that Allah (God) hates divorce. Whatever Allah (God) hates, the righteous should also hate. Hate is an intense dislike for someone or something. The righteous look to Allah (God) for guidance on how best to live, for He, the Best Knower, the Eternal One, knows best what is good for His creatures. The righteous, therefore, must look at what Allah (God) hates and look within themselves and ask the question; why do I tolerate or even love what Allah (God) hates? The more we approve or tolerate that which Allah (God) hates and/or disapproves it brings us into disfavor with Allah (God).

- **Question 1:** Why does Allah hate divorce?

There are many things written in the scripture of the Bible and Holy Qur'an that are loathsome in the eyes of Allah (God). One of these hateful things in His sight is divorce. Divorce goes against the very basic unit of civilization, for divorce breaks up family. Where there is no strong family, there is no strong community or nation. If we study the laws of Allah (God); the strongest punishments are for the breaking of these laws which disturb, break-up, and destroy marriage and family.

One of the signs of the decadence and fall of a civilization is its rate of divorce. Sociologists bear witness that this major sign appeared in every great nation and civilization as a sign of its fall. Likewise, the sociologists bear witness that the divorce rate in America and throughout the world is on the increase. Over 50% of all marriages in America end in divorce. This is extremely sad. The parents are so centered on their pain and frustration with their mates that they do not consider the harmful effect that divorce brings on the children and family. Under the Mosaic law, that which breaks up family: adultery, fornication, and other sins destructive to family are seriously punished, even with death. When Allah decrees a death sentence for a particular sin, this should teach us that the weight of that sin is exceedingly great because that sin is destructive of family.

All laws that are found written in the Bible and Holy Qur'an, if followed, produce strong marriages, families, communities, and nations.

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- **Question 2:** What is sign of the moral decadence of a society?

- **Question 3:** How does divorce negatively impact children?

I have heard recently of many in the Nation of Islam who are seeking or desirous of divorce. This had disturbed me greatly, because it is a sign of a fall. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said that, "The Nation of Islam would fall, but that it would rise and never fall again." If the Nation of Islam is never to fall again and an increase in divorce is a sign of a fall, then the wise among us must check the rate of divorce and stop it in order to stop an ultimate fall. Who of us would like to be a contributor to the fall of our Nation?

- **Question 3:** What can each of us personally do to check the rising increase of divorce within the Nation and in the overall Black community?

What does our vow to Allah (God) mean? What does our vow to each other mean? If our word means nothing, then, we are walking in the path of Satan, for the Holy Qur'an teaches that Satan promises without ever intending to fulfill his promise. A Muslim's word must be made bond.

We are taught that when our word fails life is lost. The life of the marriage is lost if we fail to live up to our duty, obligation, and our word. None of us are perfect. Therefore, our striving to become as one is a very difficult task, but not an impossible one.

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- **Question 4:** What causes the life of a marriage to be lost?

Prophet Muhammad said that marriage is one half of faith. As I studied these words, I came to see that the journey of faith is to take every human being who travels the pathway of faith to an ultimate meeting or oneness with Allah (God). When a believer can say that he or she has become one with Allah (God), that believer has made the greatest accomplishment in life and has become a soul at rest pleased with Allah (God) and Allah (God) is pleased with that believer. The journey of faith and our meeting or oneness with Allah (God) is filled with trials, tribulations, and great adversity, but we are told through the scriptures of the

Bible and Holy Qur'an that Allah (God) loves those who are steadfast under trial; who weather the storms of tribulation that come against their faith.

Allah (God) also loves those who weather the storms that come against their word or vow that they gave to one another to struggle to become as one. Many of us think that when we say our vows we are actually married. To be married means to be united in spirit and mind, and to become completely as one.

- **Question 5:** What is the purpose of the journey to faith?

- **Question 6:** What role does trials, tribulations and great adversity play in the journey of faith?

- **Question 7:** What does it mean to be married?

When we say our marriage vows we are only declaring our intent to struggle to become as one. This is a life long journey or struggle. Many of us are so quick to get in and out of marriage in the same manner that we go in and out of stores shopping for some merchandise, and, when we find a flaw in the merchandise, we take it back to make an exchange. We take marriage and our word to Allah (God) and to our mate as a trivial thing, while, with Allah (God) it is a great and serious thing. Those of us who cannot weather the personal storms that come against our vows and quickly seek divorce will more than likely fail to weather the trials, tribulations, and adversities that come with the journey of faith and soon will drop out of the greatest of struggles for life's true purpose.

The Holy Qur'an teaches us that if it had been a short journey and a near gain all would have gone forth. However, when the journey is long and the gain is not near only those who fully believe will be able to continue. That is why it is written in the scripture that the race is not to the swift nor the strong, but to those who can ENDURE to the end.

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- **Question 8:** What role does trials, tribulations and great adversity play in the journey of faith?
- **Question 9:** Are trials, tribulations and adversity signs that the marriage is not worth salvaging?
- **Question 10:** What do marriage vows symbolize?

- **Question 11:** What would cause one to take his/her marriage, his/her word to each other and Allah as something trivial?
- **Question 12:** How can the Honorable Louis Farrakhan's words in this article help us to become one of those who endure?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

ALLAH (GOD) HATES DIVORCE - PART II

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

Marriage with Allah (God) is sacred and therefore anything that interferes with marriage is strictly forbidden and seriously punished by Allah (God).

Even if the laws of man have become weak in punishing that which is destructive of marriage and family, the consequences of an adulterous generation is the destruction of discipline, order, and ultimately the motion of a civilized society is stopped by the confusion and bloodshed that erupts with the destruction of marriage, family and nation.

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- **Question 1:** Why is marriage the most sacred of all institutions?

The Sacredness of Marriage

When I visited Al-Haram, the Holiest House of Islam, in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, I was struck by the beauty of the worshipers who do not bring anything forbidden by Allah (God) into the sacred precinct of that Holy Shrine.

When we entered Jeddah, as the port of entry, to begin preparation for the sacred right of Hajj or Pilgrimage, everyone's bags and person was searched to be sure that nothing forbidden and un-sacred would be allowed to enter Saudi Arabia through its general port of entry.

Marriage is the most sacred of all institutions for it commits a man and a woman to the struggle to become as one. Whenever any individual approaches the married person with desires of adultery, that person has encroached upon that which is sacred. The keeper of the vow, the male and female, must be like a sentry on post to guard against any intrusion into that which is sacred by that which is profane. This lays an important duty on each mate and that is to forbid the entry into the sacred precincts of marriage anything that is destructive of this institution, even to thoughts, imagery, or fantasy of another individual other than the husband or wife.

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- **Question 2:** What principles can we learn from what the Honorable Louis Farrakhan saw while in Mecca and in Jeddah, that we can use to safeguard our marriages, faith and relationships?

Remember, "as a man (woman) thinketh in his/her heart, so is he/she." When the marriage is not going well the first thought must never be divorce. If the two person and their advisors (parents, friends, imams, pastors, or spiritual advisors) have reached an impasse, then a separation is proper. However, separation is made to give the two persons space and time to reconsider each other and their problems with the thought toward possible reconciliation.

If the differences are so great, after separation and attempt at reconciliation, divorce is then and only then, a strong consideration. During the time of separation no one should be allowed to interfere with the process of reconciliation. The married persons must never permit a stranger or anyone into the sacred precincts of their hearts or mind while reconciliation is being attempted.

As long as there is no divorce the righteous are forbidden to look around and entertain other persons, and, anyone who allows themselves to be entertained by married persons who are seeking a divorce or are separated, is in effect interfering with the possibility of reconciliation. Therefore, these actions are punishable, if not by the law of man, certainly by the Law of Allah (God). What is a vow? According to Random House Dictionary, a vow is "a solemn promise, pledge, or personal commitment; a solemn religiously binding promise made to God or to any deity or saint, as to perform some act, make some offering or gift, or enter into some service or condition. A solemn or earnest declaration to pledge or resolve solemnly to do, to make, to give, to observe etc."

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- **Question 3:** What should never be the first thought when our marriage is not going well?

- **Question 4:** Under what circumstances should divorce be considered?

- **Question 5:** What is the purpose of separation during a marriage? What does this entail?

When a vow is made, the total focus of our entire being is to carry out our word. It involves an intense desire that feeds our will which is the essence of the power of our being to fulfill our commitment. Our word and vows should never be taken lightly. Allah (God) does not take our vow lightly. We should never enter into the institution of marriage thinking of a way out. We should enter into marriage totally committed to work out the problems that arise. The success of marriage is not based solely upon the word "love." The success of marriage is based upon our duty and obligation to each other, which nurtures and strengthens the bond of love.

- **Question 6:** What increases the likelihood of success in marriage?

The Holy Qur'an, as well as the Bible, teaches us that our first duty or obligation is to our Creator. It is He, Allah (God), who created us, and it is He who permits us, in the nature in which He created us, to desire our mates. It is He, Allah (God), who gave us complimentary natures that can only be at peace if these two natures are dutiful to each other, helping to fulfill the needs of each other. If we are dutiful to our Creator, keeping Him first and foremost in our lives, then our duty to Him becomes the mortar that binds us together in marriage.

In the Holy Qur'an, Surah 4, verse 1 it says, "O people, keep your duty to your Lord, Who created you from a single being and created its mate of the same (kind), and spread from these two many men and women. And keep your duty to Allah, by Whom you demand one of another (your rights), and (to) the ties of relationship. Surely Allah is ever a Watcher over you."

- **Question 7:** How does being dutiful to our Creator help our marriage?

The problem in this world is that duty to Allah (God) is not first and foremost. Therefore, the demands that we make on one another may not necessarily be within the nature of our creation. When we are dutiful to Allah (God), observant of the differences in the nature of the male and female, and the rights that nature makes us demand of one another, then, we can attempt to fulfill our duty and obligation. We can attempt to satisfy the demand made on our nature by our mate.

- **Question 8:** What is the problem in this world today according to the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan?

So, it is Allah (God) who has put in our nature a demand. According to Random House Dictionary a demand is, "a request made with authority; to claim as a right" and a right is, "something that someone is entitled to; morally good, just; correct, or true." The Holy Qur'an teaches that the man has rights over the woman, but the woman also has rights over the man. Any demand has to be met or fulfilled in order for a relationship to be maintained. If a demand, whether knowingly or unknowingly, is not met, then there is a consequence.

What is the demand in the nature of a woman? What is the demand of a woman on a man? Since the nature of Allah (God) in the male and female is to submit to the Will of Allah (God), and by submitting to the Will of Allah (God) we are made secure and thus we enter into peace, the nature of the female demands from the male that she be made secure so that she may enter into peace. To be made secure is to be made safe from fear, harm, or danger. This does not only mean physical protection, but the mental security of knowing that the bills are paid, the children are being cared for, and that basic needs are being met, spiritually, and morally as well. This makes her secure, and whether she speaks this from her mouth or not is irrelevant because her nature demands this from the man. If the man does not perform according to the demand of her nature, there is a consequence. If we fail in our duty to her, and that which by right she is

demanding is not met, then, this default in duty begins to erode the bond of love, creating dissatisfaction and increasing argument, which robs the individual and marriage of the spirit of Allah (God).

Love is a deep creative force that is based upon duty and obligation. Allah (God) says in the Holy Qur'an that He loves the dutiful. He loves those who are mindful of their duty and He says, that the best among us is he or she who is most careful of his or her duty to Allah (God). So, it is duty and obligation fulfilled that engenders love and feeds this creative force of love causing it to grow. Love and duty bind us together. It is the failure to live up to our duty that erodes love and begins to dissolve the bond.

What is the duty of the female demanded by the nature of the male? Allah (God) has created us to struggle. He has made man and given man a duty to multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it. He gives to man power, dominion, and knowledge to fulfill his divine duty. When a man works to build a society after the Will of Allah (God); when a man works to be the maintainer of a woman, and who works to replenish the earth, bringing into subjection the laws that govern the earth and its affairs that he may use that power to fulfill the Will of Allah (God), such a man has a natural demand on the nature of a woman, that she should give to him peace and contentment of mind.

This is the way that Allah (God) created our natures to serve each other from the beginning. When a man is in his right state, the demand for consolation, comfort, and solace is completed in the female. These aforementioned demands are still present in both man and woman, whether we are in a right state or not.

The Holy Qur'an teaches that the woman is the consoler of the man. What is consolation? It is to ease the man from the pain and burden of the labor that Allah (God) has imposed upon the man. Allah has given man a female whose duty by nature is to ease the burden on man, to console, to give peace, and quiet of mind, whether he knows that this demand is in his nature or not, if not met, then the power in the creative force of love is eroded, because this demand, duty, or right is not fulfilled.

We are cheating on both sides. We are cheating each other of our just do. We are cheating each other of nature's needs and demands. In the Holy Qur'an, Surah 83, verses 1-3, called, "Default in Duty", Allah says, "Woe to the cheaters!

Who, when they take the measure (of their dues) from men, take it fully, And when they measure out to others or weigh out for them, they give less than is due."

Woe means, "disaster, misery and affliction." This is what married life is today. It is misery, woe, and affliction, because we are cheating each other of the demands of our nature. Cheating in marriage. Cheating one another in our duties to one another, and yet demanding fully of our mates.

Man is the maintainer of woman and she is the consoler of man. According to Random House Dictionary, maintain is, "to provide for the upkeep or support of; carry the expenses of; to keep in existence or continuance; to preserve; retain; to keep in due condition." To console is, "to alleviate or lessen the grief, sorrow, or disappointment of; to give solace or comfort; cheer up." In the Holy Qur'an Surah 4, verse 34 it reads, "Men are the maintainers of women, with what Allah has made some of them to excel others and with what they spend out of their wealth. So the good women are obedient, guarding the unseen as Allah has guarded."

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught me that, "the woman is man's heaven." However, whatever can give us heaven can surely give us hell and since most are getting more hell than heaven, this demands that we look at ourselves to see where we are failing in our duty.

(This article originally appeared in The Final Call, Vol. 14, No.18)

- **Question 9:** What is the demand in nature of a man and a woman?

- **Question 10:** How can we use this article to help us become better at fulfilling our duty?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

The violence and abuse in the home is so great that a teacher or leader of any consequence should begin to look at the destruction of the Black home, the Black family and the Black community and address these concerns with truth.

Why are Black men beating women as women are being beaten today? There are many men in the Muslim world who think that it is okay to beat their wife.

This is not the conduct of a true man of God beating women. A true man of God knows how to handle a woman without beating and abusing her. The problem today is that we, as men, have lost the knowledge of how to handle ourselves, so it becomes exceedingly difficult for us to handle our mate. Yet nature forces us to come together, but we don't know what to do with each other after we come together. We make each other's lives miserable and so wife-beating is on the increase. I don't even want to say "wife-beating," because men aren't marrying women that much today. Marriage is a dying institution.

What is the cause of this? We want to get to the root cause of why domestic violence is on the rise. Not only is this happening in the Black community, it is happening on an increasing scale in the white community and in the community of so-called civilized peoples of the earth. Female abuse and child abuse are not only violent in terms of physical punishment, but sexual assault in the home is on the increase. Men are sneaking up on their own biological daughters and having sex with them. Fathers are abusing their stepdaughters or beating and brutalizing their stepchildren who are male.

- **Question 1:** Why are Black men beating women as women are being beaten today?

- **Question 2:** What can be done to help more men develop into being a true man of God?

Dr. Morris Jeff, author of *"A Crisis in Black Sexual Politics,"* writes, "It is now evident that murders are not committed for the most part by strangers. To the contrary, a person is more likely to be a victim of murder at the hands of a friend, a relative, an acquaintance or a lover."

The Bible opens in Genesis with the story of a family being created by God: Adam, Eve, Cain and Able. The first violence took place between two brothers in the same family. One brother killed the other.

In the Bible, again, you have the story of Joseph and his brethren. Envy, jealousy, enmity and strife caused members of the family to come together to kill Joseph. They agreed, however, to put him in a pit and to sell him off into bondage. These are family members doing this.

Look at the Prophet David and his son Absalom. It wasn't an outsider that became his great enemy. It was someone from his own loins. In the New Testament, Jesus was betrayed by a member of his own circle of disciples.

In the history of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Allah says to the prophet, "Among your wives and your children, there is an enemy for you, so be aware of them."

You have not had an enemy until an enemy rises up right out of your own loins. You have not had an enemy until the woman that you sleep with or the man with whom you sleep becomes your mortal enemy, because those closest to you observe you, learn your weaknesses and then use your weaknesses with your enemy to help destroy you.

Black on Black homicide will most often be a killing of passion, a spur of the moment episode, yet an act definitely with the intent to kill. This act of murder among Blacks today will be triggered by a quarrel or dispute over money, sex, or some third party interfering in some relationship. Both parties, statistically speaking, may have drunk alcohol just before the violent encounter.

The incident can happen at anytime, but it is proven that it happens most near Christmas, or July and August. Why Christmas, when Christians are supposed to be celebrating the birthday of a righteous and holy servant of God? Murder is more likely to take place at this time because more liquor is sold during Christmas

than any other time of the year. This is something that the Christians should be thinking about.

Females have a better chance of avoiding a homicide, though being Black reduces your life chances. Twenty percent of homicides involve women as victims and offenders. A Black female who is a victim of homicide is usually killed by a Black male and the lethal instrument will be a gun and the place will be in the home. When the female kills the male, it is usually in the kitchen, and when the male kills the female, it is usually in the bedroom. Since most females are killed in the bedroom and most males that are killed by females are killed in the kitchen, that means she uses the kitchen knife, the one she uses to carve the turkey. Usually, the bedroom is where the violent male-female arguments take place and usually he has a gun somewhere in the bedroom.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad did not want us with any weapons, not because he wanted us to be defenseless in the face of our oppressors, but because he knew the tendency in us to settle all our disputes with a gun. So, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said take all weapons out of your house. Why? So we can be defenseless? No! He wanted us to build our intelligence to deal with our problems properly and not rely on a weapon to resolve our problems.

Most of the people who are in prison today having killed some friend, neighbor, husband or wife are living with intense regret because they really didn't want to do it, but in anger they did. If the weapon were not there, they might not have done it.

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- **Question 3:** Why did the Honorable Elijah Muhammad forbid us from carrying weapons?

People have all kinds of reasons why they do these things, but most of the reasons that social scientists give are really not adequate. They say it's due to dense population; that overcrowding is the instigating source of homicide. That's an inadequate answer with which we disagree.

We are disproportionately represented in homicide statistics because we are constrained from expressing our will to be in direct control of our own destiny. The Black-on-Black homicide statistics are a barometer of our oppression in America.

We live in a white dominated system that enforces a prohibition against taking aggression out on white people who frustrate and oppress us. In fact, the way you've been taught religion, your mind has been so messed up until you can hardly see yourself shooting somebody white. But you can see yourself in a second shooting somebody Black. The system rewards and legitimizes Black-on-Black aggression.

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- **Question 4:** Why are Blacks more disproportionately represented in homicide statistics?

I want to help you, sisters, understand what you can do for this male who desperately wants to become a man and has all the potential to be a great man. Your problem, sisters, is you really don't know how to handle today's Black man.

What is the demand of nature in the man for you (woman), and what is the demand in the nature of the woman for the man? The Qur'an teaches, "Men are the maintainers of women with what Allah has made some of them to excel others and with what they spend out of their wealth." Men are the maintainers of women. That is a very weighty statement.

Women today say, "I don't need a man to maintain me. I'll maintain myself." These are very independent sisters today. In some respects that's bad, but in other respects it's good. But, when we start getting away from the nature in which God created us, we start getting into problems.

Allah says in the Qur'an that men are a degree above women. Now, that may hurt feminists. I don't want to hurt your feelings. We're not a degree above you in our condition now, we're several degrees below you. But in the nature in which God created you, brother, he created you a degree above the woman. Otherwise the woman would not be able to look up to you. Anytime you have a woman that does not look up to you, brother, you're in trouble.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the self-creation of the Originator out of darkness is a very painful process. Birth is a very painful process. Not just pain to the woman but pain to the child that is forming in the womb and coming through the canal. And when the baby gets here the first thing it need is some comfort.

So it cries, "I'm here now!" "What are you crying for?" "It was a hard journey getting here, will you comfort me?" And you put the baby where? On your breast, and you console and comfort it. That is so beautiful. But let me tell you something. God created man, now I'm speaking Bible, in His image. The Qur'an says that God made man his vicegerent, which means that you stand in the place of God.

This woman is created to console a man. The Qur'an says that she is made to console the man. She is created that we may find peace and quiet of mind in her. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad said it like this, "Woman is man's heaven." No wonder we're in hell. We do not know what to do for and with a woman.

Allah says He is the source of peace. He is the abode of peace, and the greatest heaven is peace and contentment of mind. Then God gives you a woman to give you peace and contentment of mind. But we do not know how to handle her, therefore we end up with no peace, no contentment of mind. We are in constant hell with our woman because we don't know how to bring out of her what is in her nature for us. And there is not a woman on this earth that doesn't wish to give what nature has put within her to give.

The Qur'an says, "Men are the maintainers of women." What does maintenance mean here? Maintenance means to keep in existence or continuance. It is a man's job to keep the woman in existence and in continuance. It is his duty to preserve her. It is his duty to keep her in due condition. This is not dealing with money, it's dealing with her head, essence and nature.

You always want to deal with her from her navel down. You don't want to deal with her from the neck up and she resents that. A woman resents a man only looking at her as an object of pleasure when God created her as a very serious manifestation of His own Will.

Men are the maintainers of women. To maintain means to "keep unimpaired." We are to keep her in the nature in which God created her. We are to keep her in a specified state. Who specified the state that she should be kept in? Who but her creator? And what is that state that she should be kept in?

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- **Question 5:** How does getting away from the nature in which God created us cause problems?

- **Question 6:** What is the demand of nature in the man for the woman and the demand of nature in the woman for the man?

A man's duty is to keep or hold her against attack and the last thing in maintenance is to provide for her upkeep and to carry the expenses of the woman. The money part has to be there. Don't ever think that you are going to have a good relationship with a woman if you can't keep up some expenses, but at the same time sister, in today's world where the man has to struggle so much for what little he gets, you have to keep your desires in line with what this man is able to afford, lest your desires drive him to do the wrong things just to please you.

If that is our duty as a man, then have we done it? You would have kept her if you would have been left alone, but Satan has altered your nature, but now you have to take control again. It is not that you are guilty. If you are guilty, you are guilty today of being too lazy to take control after you know better.

A man's duty to the woman is to preserve, protect and upkeep her and to keep her in the specified state that God has made for her. This is why men fight over women, but you fight over her for the wrong reasons.

A man should die before he lets a stranger contaminate his woman. A man should kill. We ought to be the number one killers on the earth to keep any man

away from our woman. A man is not worth anything if he will not protect the woman that gives birth to his own nation.

When the white man comes into our society, he goes to war with that society so that he may have free access to the woman. He has conquered us as men, and therefore we cannot be to our women what God commanded us to be until we are made free of the mind and the power of our enemies that control and dominate our thinking. We have to be free mentally and that's why Jesus said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." Once you are a free Black man, you must free your woman and children and become the man to her that God demands of you and me. What does God demand of us?

God does not demand that we picket white people to build us a school. God doesn't demand for us as men to pick up a picket sign and go downtown and say, "We want justice." If we are men, we'll get our heads together and take justice. We'll give ourselves justice. God doesn't ask another man for freedom. God does not ask a man to ask another man for freedom. God gives us the right to be free and any man that wants to be free, he'll earn his freedom by blood and sweat.

In the Black man is that potential. But you must stop destroying yourself and one another and you must come into the knowledge that will allow you to be what God has created you to be, and you can't be that without knowledge.

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- **Question 7:** What has prevented Black men from fulfilling their duty as men?

- **Question 8:** What can be done to help Black men overcome this challenge?

- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

The Pain of Infidelity

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

The Qur'an teaches us that the universe is rooted in truth. Since we are creatures of the Creator, we too have that same root.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the brain cells are created to think rightly. To think rightly means to perceive reality properly, and to think on the basis of truth. Since falsehood has created nothing, falsehood then has a negative effect on the cells of the brain. When we give our word, our striving to live up to the word means we are striving to be truthful, to be honest, to have integrity, to be one with our word, ourselves, and Allah (God). Therefore, honesty and truthfulness are at the root of all the good characteristics of the human being. When we break our oath, or are deceptive with our word, we are now becoming deceitful or false. Since we are created in truth, when we behave deceitfully or falsely, we suffer the pangs of guilt. When we suffer the pangs of guilt, it shows up in our eyes, in our facial expression, and it begins to interfere with the rhythm of our bodies, which are created to move to the rhythm of truth, which is the rhythm of life.

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- **Question 1:** What has the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us about the brain cells of the human being? Explain what that means?

- **Question 2:** What happens when we behave deceitfully and how does this suffering manifest itself?

It is this that causes dis-ease or disease.

The Bible teaches that sin is transgression of the law. Sin does not start with the act of breaking the law, it starts with the thought of going against what is right, what is good, and what is true. Therefore, sin is at the root of disease.

The Bible teaches that the wages of sin is death. In death, the eyes are closed. This means that sin causes spiritual blindness. In death, we cannot hear; sin causes spiritual **deafness**. In death, we cannot speak; sin causes spiritual **dumbness**. In death, we cannot feel; sin creates spiritual **insensitivity**. This teaches us that sin ultimately leads to the untimely death of the individual.

Allah (God) says in the Qur'an, ***"Surely the vilest of beasts are the blind, deaf, and dumb."***

- **Question 3:** What is the root of dis-ease and where does it start?

When the people asked Jesus for a sign of the end, Jesus according to the scripture answered saying, ***"An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign, and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet, Jonah; For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth "*** (Matthew Chapter 12 verses 39-40)

Jesus referred to the generation that was contemporary with Him as wicked and adulterous. If Jesus were present in America today, would this present generation be characterized by Him any differently? ***It would not.***

The mark of this generation is the same as the mark of the generation of the people of Noah; for, the scripture teaches of that generation, that every imagination of the heart of the people was continually to do evil.

- **Question 4:** Why would the current generation not be characterized any different than how Jesus is said to have described his contemporary generation?

What is the root cause of such a high divorce rate in the society? What is the root cause of the hatred, bitterness, and strife that exists between the male and the female? The root cause is the sin of infidelity, unfaithfulness to our word, dishonest, false, and deceitful communication. This produces in our mate disappointment and dissatisfaction, which produces quarrelling and arguments that drive away the spirit of love. Love is the mortar that holds the union together. Where there is argument and dissatisfaction love disappears; then, there is nothing to hold the union together. So, we break apart.

When we break our word and our commitment to each other, this is infidelity.

Question 5: What is the root cause of the high divorce rate, and hatred between the male and female that exists today?

Infidelity produces a lack of confidence because of false and deceitful action between the mates. ***Infidelity*** begins a process of estrangement. ***Infidelity*** begins to weaken the will to feed life to the relationship. ***Infidelity*** ultimately kills the desire between the two people who have agreed to live as one.

- **Question 6:** What are the negative impacts of infidelity?

Love in the truest sense of the word is not an emotional feeling toward our mate. Love is the force or power generated from acting on the principles of truth.

Love is the most awesome creative force in the universe. Love is the basis of Allah's (God's) Beneficence, Mercy, and Forgiveness. It is out of this creative force of love that Allah (God) destroys that which refuses to accept truth and on that basis build a good home, family, society, or nation. It is out of Allah's (God's) love for good, right and truth, that He sends warners to those societies that have exceeded the limits and warns them of the destruction that their actions are bringing upon themselves. So it is with our marriages, our families, and our homes. When we fail to act on the principles of good and truth and exceed the limits of wrong doing we cause to be brought up in ourselves and in those whom we offend that destructive force that is from Allah (God) and we begin to wreak havoc on one another, destroying our marriages, families, homes and nation.

Let us look at the word **LOVE** and at the word **LIFE**.

The **O** in the word **love** and the **I** in the word **life** are vowels that are interchangeable. The **V** in the word **love** and the **F** in the word **life** are consonants that are interchangeable.

What is **LIFE**? It is the activity that is in accord with the law under which we are created. **LOVE** is the creative force out of which life comes. To truly love is to live and to have true life is to exist in true love. Lust is different. Lust is a passionate or overmastering desire. It is sad to say, that most of our marriages are conceived in lust. Therefore, when this overmastering desire is fulfilled, the marriage ends. The true life of marriage is based in the quality of love. Where true love exists, we can weather the storms of life and its ups and downs. Where true love exists, we will be faithful through sickness, poverty, and through whatever difficulty life brings to us. Therefore, to accomplish the goal of the union of two people is to gain the incomparable quality of **true love**.

- **Question 7:** What is love in the truest sense of the word?

ADULTERY MARKS THIS GENERATION.

ADULTERY – voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a partner other than the lawful spouse.

This act of adultery is punished very harshly by Allah (God) in the Law that He gave to Moses and the Law that He gave to Muhammad (PBUH). Why? Because adultery and infidelity interferes with the activity of love and begins a process of death by destroying the activity or life of the marriage.

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- **Question 8:** Why is adultery punished by Allah (God)?

Jonah was referred to by Jesus because he is that prophet that caused the postponement of the judgment of the wicked people of Nineveh by introducing to the King and the people the principle of atonement.

If we desire to save our marriages, our families and our homes, we must practice the **Eight Steps of Atonement**:

1. Someone must point out the wrong
2. Acknowledgement of wrong
3. Confess the fault; first to Allah (God), then to those offended
4. Repentance; a feeling of remorse or contrition or shame for the past conduct which was wrong and sinful
5. Atonement; meaning to make amends and reparations for the wrong
6. Forgiveness by the offended party; to cease to feel offense and resentment against another for the harm done
7. Reconciliation and restoration; meaning to become friendly and peaceable again
8. Perfect union with Allah (God) and with each other

These eight steps of atonement can bring our marriages back from death. These eight steps of atonement can bring us away from that which produces disease. By our being truthful in our relationships we can begin to put the pieces of our lives back together. It is a wonderful thing to be made whole after being broken, and, practicing the principle of atonement will make us as individuals whole; make our marriages and our families whole; make us a unit – a whole people.

No matter what we gain in life what good is it if we have no character and lose the friendship of Allah (God) and the friendship of each other.

There was a woman found in adultery that was brought to Jesus. She should have been stoned to death according to the Law of Moses. Jesus bent down and wrote in the sand, which one of you is without sin may cast the first stone? No one threw a stone, for, all were guilty. Jesus was innocent and, therefore, He could have cast stones at her, but, He who was innocent said to the woman who was guilty, woman, where are your accusers? Neither do I accuse you. Go and sin no more.

I say to you as Jesus said to the woman who was found in adultery, go and sin no more.

May Allah (God) bless those of us who read this article to begin the process of healing ourselves, our marriages, our families, and our nation.

Thank you for reading these few words.

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- **Question 9:** What process does the Honorable Louis Farrakhan offer as a healing to families that have been impacted by infidelity?
 - **Question 10:** What are the steps of that healing process?
 - **Question 11:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Rebuilding the Family

By The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

On March 12th, Pope John Paul II apologized for the sins of the Catholic Church against the Native peoples and other religious beliefs. He apologized for the use of violence that some Christians have committed in the service of **"truth."** The United States was settled by persons who claimed the love of Jesus Christ, yet, our fathers were sold, bought, transported, sold again, and bought again mostly by so-called Christians and Jews.

The great sin that has been committed against Black people, in particular, is the destruction of the Black male and the corruption of the Black female; the denial of our natural right to marriage and the raising of a family. This purposeful destruction of us can never be corrected by an apology, but, the apology, the acknowledgment and confession of sin, is the prerequisite step toward doing that which will repair the damage that has been done. The destruction of the Black family is a sin of huge proportion, therefore, the effort to rebuild this family must be aided by those who destroyed the family, and, the responsibility of helping must be accepted by the generations that have benefited from the institutional slavery and the destruction of our families.

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- **Question 1:** What great sin has been committed against Black people?

We can never rebuild the family without starting where Allah (God) started in the beginning. He started by the creation or the making of man and woman.

Therefore, the Million Man March and the Million Woman March was our first step in the process of rebuilding the Black man and woman. However, unless we destroy the effect of White Supremacy, on our men and women, we will not be able to make man and woman again in the image or likeness of Allah (God). White Supremacy, and its resulting racism, has poisoned the systems of religion, education, justice, governance, and economics. Until there comes from Allah (God) that which is able to penetrate the heart and mind of the Black man and woman and destroy that mind produced by White Supremacy, we will never be able to build a family that properly reflects the values that Allah (God) desires manifested among us. There is no school of higher learning that can help us in this regard.

It will take the intervention of Allah (God) to enable us to escape the sphere of influence of the philosophy of White Supremacy and the racist institutions that have sprung from it.

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- **Question 2:** What must first be destroyed in order to begin the process of rebuilding the Black family? Why must it be destroyed?

- **Question 3:** Whose intervention is needed to begin the process of healing our people?

In the Bible, the Apostle Paul admonishes the early Christians in these words: **"Be not conformed to this world, but, be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds."**

All of us who are educated by our former slave masters and their children are trained in the educational system to conform to this world. We are trained theologically to conform to this world, and, those who find it difficult to conform are classified as social misfits who end up on drugs, in prison, or suffering untimely death, but, those who conform are the ones that society accepts and puts upon them a stamp of approval. How can there ever be a renewing of our minds except that something comes to our ears that does not come from the architects of this world. It is this that is feared most by the present rulers.

It is written in the scriptures, **"Behold I make all things new. There will be a new heaven, a new earth and the former things shall pass away."**

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that this means a new spiritual and political reality that will replace the old spiritual and political reality. This does not necessarily mean that there will come to us a new book, but, it does mean a fresh new approach, understanding and interpretation of the Word of Allah (God) that will break us out of conformity to a world that is in opposition to Allah (God)

by bringing to us that which will renew our minds and give us a new way of thinking that will result in a new way of behaving. It is this new understanding that must be applied to make **a new man, a new woman, a new family.**

- **Question 4:** What is the meaning of the verse that says, “Behold, I make all things new, there will be a new heaven, a new earth and the former things shall pass away?”

Again, the scripture teaches, **"My thoughts are not your thoughts. My ways are not your ways. I am from above while you are from beneath."**

This teaches us that our thoughts and our ways are far beneath what Allah (God) desires for us. Therefore, what we have produced as the man, the woman, and the family by our thoughts, and, our ways are far beneath the man, the woman and the family that Allah (God) desires for us.

So, in order for us to make a new family, we have to return to Him who created the man, the woman and the family and we must be willing to accept His Thoughts and His Ways.

[Next Week - What are His Thoughts and His Ways.]

- **Question 5:** What does the current condition of the Black family say about the thought process of our people?

- **Question 6:** What have you learned from reading this article?

- **Question 7:** How can we use this article to help rebuild our own families and the families of our people?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

Rebuilding the Family Part II - What are Allah's (God's) Thoughts and His Ways?

By The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

In The Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah Chapter 55, Verses 8-9

These words being addressed to the people of Allah (God) manifest how far off the mark the people are from that which Allah (God) intended the human being to be. In the Qur'an, Yusuf Ali translation, the 113th Sura, Verses 1-2 reads, ***"Say: I seek refuge with the Lord of the Dawn, from the mischief of created things."***

This teaches us that natural things created by Allah (God) are used by Satan to create mischief. The male and the female are far beneath Allah's (God's) intentions for us. The institution of marriage and the resultant family are far beneath what Allah's (God's) intentions are for us. As hell is beneath heaven, and, Satan is beneath Allah (God), this being the world of Satan, these scriptures are teaching us that Satan has been and is the director of the lives of most human beings, and, has taken the natural order and creation of Allah (God) and has made mischief with Allah's (God's) creation. Therefore, we are far beneath the high thought and purpose of our creation; and our marriages, for the most part, represent hell. Therefore, our communities and nations universally have a hellish existence.

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- **Question 1:** What is the result of Satan's making mischief with Allah's Creation?

What are Allah's (God's) thoughts and ways for human beings, for the institution of marriage, and, for the development of family? His thoughts and His ways are found in the nature of what He created. ***Let us then look into the Bible and Qur'an to find Allah's (God's) purpose for the male and the female and His purpose for marriage, and His purpose for family.***

In the Bible we are taught that Allah (God) made man and woman in His Image and after His Likeness. This tells us that both male and female are created by Allah (God) to manifest His Divine Characteristics in their pursuit of life and in their relationship with each other and in their relationship with other human beings. ***We are the exact opposite.***

Allah (God) says in the Bible that He created the human being to have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. In the Qur'an Allah (God) states that He created man to stand in His place. This means that He created the human being to rule the earth and even the heavens, but, to rule in the way that He set up His creation to be ruled. Our fall, by sin and the resultant spiritual death of the human being, causes us to be in a state so far from what our purpose is that both man and woman are nothing more than a caricature of themselves. The Bible teaches that Allah (God) gave the man instructions to multiply, replenish and subdue the earth. This teaches us that the human being by nature is to be productive. In the very nature of the human being is the potential to subdue the earth. This means that we have the potential to bring the earth completely under our power by mastering the laws under which the earth and all therein are created. Adam was told to dress the garden.

Dress:

To trim; ornament, or adorn. To prepare for use. To cultivate.

This word dress implies that Allah (God) intended for man to adorn, beautify, prepare and cultivate the earth for his use. This tells us that we have to master the sciences that would allow us to dress the garden or cultivate the earth and prepare it in such a way that it would be a heaven for ourselves. Education must teach us to master the sciences. If education does not prepare the human being to do what Allah (God) intended for us to do, then, it is not the proper education for us. This improper education is called training—training us to fit into a world order that is controlled and dominated by Satan, the enemy of Allah

(God). The more the human being has grown into the knowledge of the sciences, the more we have been able to cultivate the earth, develop it, and mine out of it what is in it that it may serve our purpose. However, because of sin and our disconnection from the source of our existence, we have developed knowledge of the sciences for evil as well as for good, but, the evil of the human being now threatens the existence of the human family. The suffering of the human being—the poverty, ignorance, neglect and disease of the human family—bears witness that we are indeed a long, long way from what Allah (God) desires for us.

- **Question 2:** What has caused us to be in a state that is far from the purpose of Allah?

- **Question 3:** How do we know that the educational system of this world is not sufficient?

According to the Bible, Allah (God) ***did not desire the man to be alone.*** Therefore, He created from a single essence the man and the woman, but, He created the woman for the man. The word that is used in the Bible is **help meet**. The female, according to the Bible, is created by Allah (God) to help the man meet the obligation that Allah (God) has put within the nature of the male. The Qur'an teaches us that Allah (God) created the woman as the consoler of the man. This teaches us that in the very nature of the female is her **ability, desire and will** to console.

Console:

To alleviate or lessen the grief, sorrow, or disappointment of; give solace or comfort; cheer up.

Allah (God) teaches us in the Qur'an that He created the woman that the man might find ***peace and quiet of mind in her.*** The very nature of the female offers to the man that which enables the man to find that natural relief of the stress or the pain involved in the struggle of man to obey Allah's (God's) instructions.

The Qur'an teaches that Allah (God) created the male a degree above the female.

Degree:

A stage in a scale of rank or station.

This teaches us that Allah (God) intended for the man to be in authority over the female. This is why He created him a degree above the female. Satan has created so much mischief with the nature of the male and the female that there is a prophecy in the Bible that says, ***"The younger shall rule the elder and the weaker shall rule the stronger ... women shall rule over them."***

The Black female in today's society literally is several degrees above the male. She is manifesting superiority in education and in the work force. Whereas the Black male for the most part is unemployed, most of our educated females are working and generally making more money than the male, and, in many instances is providing for the man that lives with her. So, we can say that Satan has reversed the roles that Allah (God) intended for the Black man and woman demonstrated in our relationship to each other. Black male and female relationships are at an all time low. The Black female can hardly find her equal in

the Black male to form a successful marriage and partnership. Therefore, the Black female may be more attracted to the white male and the male members of other races because of the inferior condition of the Black male.

The Black woman is completely frustrated and hurt by the lack of development in the Black male. We can reverse this trend only if the Black man can be reflective of the characteristics of Allah (God) by submitting to Allah (God) that He may guide the Black man to being himself. When the Black man is himself, reflecting the characteristics of Allah (God), the soul of the female will be satisfied, then, she can be as Allah (God) created her to be, man's consoler; and, man will find peace and quiet of mind in her, for, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad said to us, ***"The only heaven for man is found in the woman."***

Thank you for reading these few words.

More next week, Allah (God) willing.

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- **Question 4:** What do the Bible and Holy Quran teach about the nature of the woman?

- **Question 5:** Why did Allah create man to be a degree above the female?

- **Question 6:** Why is this order established by Allah not manifested by Black men today?

- **Question 7:** What can we do to reverse this current trend (lack of Black male development), which exist in the Black community?

- **Question 8:** What would be the impact if the Black man began submitting himself to Allah?

- **Question 9:** What have you learned from reading this article?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

**WE COME AS MANY, LEAVE AS ONE: *REMOVING THE
IMPEDIMENTS TO BECOMING REAL FAMILY***

By the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan

[Editor's note: The following text is excerpted from the historic message delivered by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan at the Oct. 16, 2000 Million Family March.]

In the Name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

I, today I have written no notes. I thought that I should like to come today and stand before you and let Almighty God have His way with me and guide the words of my mouth and my heart, that I might speak to your minds and your heart, that we may have come in as many, but I pray that God will allow us to go out as one...

As I look at humanity, it is as though no prophet of God has ever appeared among us because, as human beings, we are filled with hatred for one another. We are destroying each other, and at this very moment in Egypt, the Palestinians and the Israelis are sitting down with President Clinton and King Abdullah of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt to try and work out a peace in that troubled area. We have witnessed, in the last 16 days, unparalleled brutality. We have witnessed, in the last 16 days, the destruction of religious houses, holy places belonging to the Jews as well as the Muslims.

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- **Question 1:** Why does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say that humanity acts as though no prophet of God has ever appeared among it?

Whenever we are so embittered that we would destroy places that are set up for the remembrance of God, this is a sign of madness. And the madness that we see in the Middle East has a basis. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that the stars in the heaven justify our belief in God, and therefore the star has always been used to represent justice. So the Honorable Elijah Muhammad taught us that where there is no justice, human beings begin to act savagely or have a sense of insanity because of the deprivation of this vital principle of life, the principle of justice.

There can be no peace in that troubled area that is a lasting peace unless that peace is structured on the principle of justice -- justice for the Palestinians, justice for those who suffer in the world, justice for the poor and the weak, justice for the sick and the imprisoned, justice for those who have been locked out of society. Unless justice comes, there can be no peace. Even in this great nation, we will be at each other's throats as long as the principle of justice and equity are denied.

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- **Question 2:** Why does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan say that humanity acts as though no prophet of God has ever appeared among it?

So today, as I look at the children of Abraham -- Muslims, Christians, and Jews -- Abraham would be totally upset that we would recognize him as a father and God as a father, and then turn around and slaughter each other, as is going on even as we speak. God would be displeased.

In the Holy Qur'an, it teaches us, Abraham was not a Jew or a Christian; he was an upright man. So we cannot claim Abraham by blood lineage alone. We can only claim Abraham as a father if we live uprightly, as Abraham did, and worship nothing or no one but the one true God.

Not yet human

If you look at the human family -- now, I'm talking about black, brown, red, yellow and white -- we all seem to be frozen on a subhuman level of existence. I want you -- I'm going to say it again, because I want you to think with me. I said, humanity seems to be frozen on a subhuman level. In Islam and, I believe, in Christian theology and Jewish theology as well, there are three stages of human development. The first stage is called the animalistic stage of development, and all of us have animal passions. But when we submit to animal passions, then we can do evil things to one another in that animalistic stage of development. But when moral consciousness comes and we have a self-accusing spirit, it is then that we become human beings. Right now, we have the potential for humanity, but we have not reached that potential, because we are functioning on the animalistic plane of existence. Allah says in the Qur'an, We created you into tribes and families that you may know one another and, parenthetically, not despise one another.

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- **Question 3:** Why does the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan refer to us as members of the potential human family?

My question to you today is, what do we know of each other but the worst of each other? We have not yet seen man and woman as man and woman were created to be. We are a caricature of what God intended. If in Genesis He created the man and the woman in his own image and after his own likeness, he created us, then, to be reflections of himself, and David, the psalmist, said, "Ye are all God's children of the most high God." But look at our behavior. Satan has turned us completely around where we can say, "Ye are all dogs children of the most low Satan."

My question to us as human beings is, whose children are we, and how will we know that we are children of God, except that our actions and our speech is a godly action and a godly speech, otherwise we have to say we have been devoured by Satan. (Cheers, applause.)

The poison of 'I am better'

I respectfully say to you, my beloved brothers and sisters and members of the potential human family, that a poison exists and it starts with the thought that I am better than you because I'm black; or, I am better than you because I am white; or, I am better than you because I'm rich; or I am better than you because I am more highly educated; I am better than you because I have something that you don't have. These are false yardsticks used by human beings to justify their ill treatment of one another.

In the Holy Qur'an, Iblis, which is another name or characteristic of Shatan, was told to bow down to a man that was made of dust. And Iblis refused to bow down. And God asked him, "Why didn't you bow down when I commanded you?" And Iblis said, "Because I am better than he. I am made of fire, while he is made of dust." Whenever you start thinking you are better because of some characteristic that you have that sets you apart from somebody else, this is the beginning of a satanic mind. I want you to hear me, because there is a yardstick that we can say one is better than the other; but it's not your race, it's not your color, it's not your creed.

The thing that makes one human being better than another is our duty to God and our righteous conduct. ...

- **Question 4:** What is the one characteristic that makes one human being better than the other?

Look at these beautiful flowers. (To staff.) Hand it to me, please. Now look at this. What is more beautiful than a bouquet of flowers, different colors, but growing out of a common earth, needing a common water, growing into a common atmosphere? Who would be stupid enough to say the rose is better than the orchid? You just won't talk like that. Nature won't let you say the rose is better than the orchid. The rose might be your preference, but who said it's better? I think it's ignorant. Don't you?

Now look at the earth out of which we grow. There's black earth. There's brown earth. There's red earth. Yes, there's sand that is white, sand that is pink. And we who live on the Earth rejoice because we grow our food in the black earth, we make our bricks from the red clay, we put our foot in the sand when we go to the beach, and we're not thinking of sand supremacy -- (laughter) -- or black earth supremacy; we're just enjoying what God has given us, and we give Him the praise. ...

God is the author of color. Why are you going crazy because you see color in the flowers, color in the rocks, color in the Earth, color everywhere you look, and color in the human family, and now we can accept the differences in rocks, in

stones, in earth, but we cannot accept the differences of color and characteristics in one another. That says that the human being is sick.

Symbols limit human potential

Every organization that's here is represented by some symbol. As an Omega, you have your symbol. As a Delta, as a Kappa, as an AKA, you have your symbol. As an Elk, as a Moose, as a Lion, you have your symbol. As a Crip and a Blood you have your color. None of these things define you. All of these things limit you because your symbol and mine create divisions among us. I am a Christian, you say, but you are a Muslim. You wear your cross, I wear my crescent, so I'll be over here and you'll be over there. Wrong, wrong, wrong! (Applause.) That is wrong.

I am a Christian. Did you hear me? Farrakhan said, I am a Christian. I am a Jew. I am a Muslim. I am Pentecostal. I am of the Church of God in Christ. I am a Jehovah's Witness. I am a Mason. I am a Shriner. I'm all of that and then some, because I refuse to let things limit me as to who I really am, and you should not allow that, either.

When I say I am a Christian, I delight in the cross. It means a lot to me. The cross is not a symbol of wood with a horizontal and a vertical bar; the cross is a symbol of the dual nature of the human being. He has a horizontal nature, which is animalistic. He has an upright nature, which is vertical. The cross represents our struggle to overcome the horizontal and grow into the vertical. ...

The Star of David is two equilateral triangles, one pointing up, one pointing down. Six sides, six angles. The Bible says, Count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man. But the man is God's man, and the beast is also under the same number, because the beast is a man that has fallen down, and the God-man is a man that is looking up and gets instructions from above. And the fallen man is he who gets his guidance from the lower extremities. We follow our sexual appetite. We follow our lust for material things, for power.

The crescent represents equality. The star represents justice. The sun represents freedom. That flag is up above our heads, and the God who created that -- He doesn't let the sunshine on white people and miss black people. Does He? He doesn't let the rain fall on the Native American and not fall on other members of the human family. God is just, and he's no respecter of persons. It

doesn't matter what your color is, what your race is, with God it is righteousness that He is after.

And so, my family, these symbols must give way to that which God will bring and make new among us. I say to all of these symbols, they make us symbols, and we don't have the substance of a human being created in the image of God.

- **Question 5:** How do symbols limit human potential?

As I come to a conclusion, I want to address three problems.

Family life: Any policy, rule, regulation or program that does not promote the growth of the male and female, the sanctity of marriage and family, is a rule, a regulation or policy that is not a good rule, regulation or policy. The family is the basic unit of civilization; therefore, everything must be done to care for the family unit.

Two. None of us can become human beings and divine beings without knowledge. Therefore, the access to knowledge should be what government is spending money on, not more weapons. There is no nation on this Earth that can defeat America militarily. There is no sense of saying to the American people, "We need Star Wars because somebody is going to shoot a rocket at us." They're not insane; they know if they shot one rocket, you (U.S.) could shoot a hundred. So

war and the threat of war is a pretext to take the taxpayer's dollar and make more and more weapons, while the American people have insufficient education, insufficient teachers, insufficient qualifications to come into a modern society. This thing needs to be reversed.

Education is not a privilege. Education is a human right. In your education, you must exalt the woman. (Applause.) Any system of education that does not give us a healthy respect for the female is a failed educational system. Any system on this Earth that says that a woman is only for pleasure and procreation is a backward system, and any system that says the female are our natural partners in every act of the building of home, school, systems, and institutions of government, then we are properly educated. The woman is the cornerstone of the family.

I respectfully say, to everyone that's here, all of our religious institutions need reform. (Applause.) I'm going to say it again. All of our religious institutions need reform. It is not God that has relegated females to this inferior position; it is our misunderstanding of the word of God. ...

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- **Question 6:** Why is there a need for reformation in our religious institutions?

When Jesus was on the cross, most all of the male disciples had run away. Only one was there. That was John. But there were three women at that cross, and one of them was His mother. ... When He was resurrected, according to Christian theology, the men were somewhere in the upper room, talking, but it was women that discovered that He had been raised. I ask you a question. Do you think any pulpit made by man is better or more important than a female created by God?

And if you love Jesus because, you say he died for you, then look at the female that has given birth to your son or your daughter. Do you know that when she lays down to give life to us, she experiences the same pain of death as the pain of giving birth? Look at the hours sometimes that she is in labor -- one hour, two hours, four hours, 10 hours, 14 hours, 18 hours -- and then she gives us life. Well, if you can love Jesus because he died for you and me, then you better grab your wife and the woman that gave birth to your children and hold her tight because she died for you and me, and she suffered in labor for you and me, that the human family could continue to grow and flourish.

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- **Question 7:** How is the death of Jesus compared to a woman giving birth?

Gain knowledge and fly

We (the people) can make a difference. So I want to ask you, in the words of (singer) R. Kelly, I really believe we're going to have to fly. And when I say fly, the Bible say one day we're going to take on wings. Wings doesn't mean that you're going to grow wings out of your back. Wings means that the wisdom and the knowledge of God and the understanding of the Word will give you power to rise out of the gravitational pull of the Earth, out into space.

If you have the wings of knowledge---when you have a book and you open the book, it looks like wings. The Bible is a book of heavy knowledge. Open it, and take on wings. The Holy Qur'an is a book; a healing for the nation. Open the book and take on your wings and fly away.

It's only when you put on wings that you can rise above blackness, rise above whiteness, rise above color, rise above national origin, rise above ethnicity, rise above sexuality, rise above materials---when you take on the wings of knowledge, then you can rise above all the things that have kept us divided as a people.

God bless you all. As-Salaam Alaikum.

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- **Question 8:** What does it mean when the Bible says one day we're going to take on wings?

- **Question 9:** Give examples of what has kept us divided?

- **Question 10:** What have you learned from reading this article and how do you intend on personally applying what you have learned?

- **Exercise 1:** Write down at least three things you have you learned from reading this article.
- **Exercise 2:** Write down at least two specific ways you will personally apply what you have learned in your life.
- **Exercise 3:** Share what you gained from this article with someone you know. You can call, text, email or post on social media.

After Your End Reflection

Congrats for completing this workbook which is filled with guidance from the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan on courtship, sex, marriage, family, divorce and many other related topics. Now that you are finished, reflect back on the impact his words have had on your thinking and actions. After doing so write down specific ways you have benefited from reading this workbook.