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STRUGGLES IN THE FAMILY

Joseph & Mary



About Joseph Matthew 1:18-25 ESV



¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

About Joseph Matthew 1:18-25 ESV



²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

About Mary

Luke 1:26-38 ESV

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

About Mary Luke 1:26-38 ESV

³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

About Mary Luke 1:26-38 ESV

³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

STRUGGLES IN HEAVEN

The Mission of Love



John 3:16 ESV

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 17:3 ESV

³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

HIS MISSION

Matthew 1:21 ESV

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”



MORE TO CHRISTMAS

God Uses People for His Purposes

God Empowers His People

God's Purposes Demand Our Obedience

TESTIMONIES



Karyn







Beauty Cam

Minho





Datuk Pee







Ti-Ratana Welfare Society Members 2006-2007

Absent: Mr Charles Chew, Mr Richard Chong, Mr Wong T.L, Ms Mary Yong
Back Row: Ms Regina Lee, Mr Jeff Lee, Mr Edward Lee, Mr Victor Lim, Mr chan B.S, Ms Jian Yip, Mdm Lee L.F
Front Row: Mr Daniel Tan, Mr New L.S, Mr Tan T.H, Datuk Liu T.S, Ven. Dhammatana, Mr Pee K.S, Dr Leow K.O,
Dr Lai K.C, Mr Lee E.C

SHELTER FOR WOMEN

IF you are an abused woman, unwed mother or just lost as to where your life is headed, have no fear. You can turn to the Women's Shelter Home in Salak South Baru.

Its chairman, Pee Kang Seng, said the home was aimed at providing a temporary refuge for unfortunate women and their children.

"The young and old are taken care of, but those in between have been neglected," he said.

Pee said that the home which is backed by counsellors, lawyers and doctors, would provide confidentiality and a safe haven for mother and child.

With help of the Lions Club North Kuala Lumpur, the house measuring 16,000 square feet, is equipped with a library, a meditation hall, computers, two music organs, furniture and television, among others.

It accepts those from any race or creed.

"While some of the women considered abortion, others were in advanced stages of pregnancy and preferred to deliver their children,"

By RITA JONG

he said.

The home, he said, also helped unwed mothers to find adopted parents for the child or reunite them with their partners or families.

It provides shelter for unwed mothers, cares for their babies and even allows the women to visit their babies after returning home.

"We also help give them counselling and seek employment, to get them back on their feet."

"We provide temporary refuge for the psychologically, physically and sexually harassed or abused women, before they decide on their next course of action," he said.

"We also provide them counselling, assistance and emotional support as well as instill a sense of objectivity and human core values to regain their dignity and start afresh."

Set up in June 1996, the home now has 49 children, two unwed mothers and 16 old folks — all living under one roof.

They also have nine full-time staff and volunteers



The Women's Shelter Home in Salak South Baru.

Inset: Pee

who go over to the home to give the children music classes.

Donations to the home can be sent via cheques payable to Lions Club of Kuala Lumpur North, c/o Yap Cheng Chuan & Co.,

Block C, Suite 609, Phileo Damansara 1, off Jalan Damansara, Petaling Jaya.

For details, call Pee at ☎ 012-2196686, or the home's vice-president Tan Thim Huat at ☎016-2237581.



How single mom fought back with home's help

AMONG those who sought refuge at the home is a 35-year-old single mother.

The woman who conversed fluently in English, showed a strong determination to live.

"My story began when my eight-year-old daughter was raped. I couldn't take the pressure and fell into depression," she said.

"I was hospitalised for eight and a

half months and attempted suicide three times."

After she sought help from, and refuge at, the Women Shelter Home, she started her new job yesterday as a clerk.

"My daughter is now taken care of and safe in a children's home and having been unemployed for almost a year now, I am excited starting my new job to face the challenges in life,"

themselves." **B. Siva**, 26, lift maintenance operator: "The queue box does serve its purpose. At least now the commuters are not straying too far away from their line."

(NUCW) who are faced with stalled collective agreement negotiations with the Association of Insurance Employers (AIE) will start picketing at lunchtime today.

NUCW general secretary S. Rajendra Prashad, said they will go ahead with the picketing after AIE refused to budge from their four per cent wage increase offer.

Counselling hotline

IF you are feeling down, you can turn to City Hall's 24-hour tele-counselling hotline.

It is open to those with social problems such as drug addicts, wayward children or those from broken homes.

The number to call is ☎ 03-26993930 or toll-free ☎1-800-882-600.

she told *The Malay Mail*.

Her only hope now is to lead a normal life, take care of her daughter and stand on her own feet.

Her advice for those women in need is, don't ever give up.

"Life is worth living and there are no obstacles that we cannot overcome."

"Always seek help and find the right course of action," she said.



Sumathi: Gave birth to a girl in July, and graduated in September

BORN TO BE LOVED

By NURADZIMMAM DAM

KUALA LUMPUR: It is not true that unwed mothers had brought the windfall on themselves, *The Malay Mail* learnt yesterday.

In interviews with some of these women at a home in Salak South Baru here, we heard stories of parental objection, cultural differences and even in a case of rape by an older brother.

But one thing is clear: They all want to raise their babies themselves.

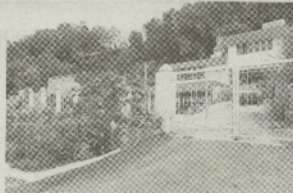
The *Malay Mail* spoke to five unwed moms yesterday — including a former undergraduate — who are residents of the Ti-Ratana Women Shelter in Salak South Baru. They have babies ranging in age from 5 months to a year old.

Our visit was a follow-up to our front-page report yesterday on the growing number of unwed moms in the country, including those who were undergraduates.

The former undergraduate we spoke to, who preferred to be known as Sumathi, said she was studying information technology (IT) at a college in Petaling Jaya when she met her lover, from a courier company, three years ago.

"We were so much in love and wanted to get married, but both our families opposed because of our different cultural backgrounds," said this 23-year-old from Shah Alam, who gave birth to a girl in July this year.

She graduated in September, and has since found employment



Ti-Ratana shelter home in Salak South Baru

as a sales and marketing executive.

"Problems started when he was transferred to Singapore last March. At that time, I was in my fifth month of pregnancy. He only visited me once while I was pregnant. After that I have not been able to contact or locate him. I do not even have his identity card (IC) number," she said.

She said after giving birth, her family was not supportive, and she was reluctant to be taken in by Ti-Ratana.

"However, my family has gradually come to accept my situation and my baby, whom I will raise," said Sumathi, who regrets not thinking more carefully about her relationship as both families had objected to it.

Another Ti-Ratana resident, Sally, 34, from Prising, was work-

ingly challenged and did not know anything about sex.

Another victim, former saleswoman Nelly, 34, from Malacca, said she met her lover through a friend who gave her his phone number.

Through several SMS messages and phone calls, they met up and after six months, they lived together.

"I knew about his wild background but I believed he loved me and would marry me. Soon after I got pregnant, he abandoned me and I realised he had treated me like a free ride all along," said Nelly who gave birth to a boy last month.

"After I got a new job, I will raise my child. I am determined to have my own family."

Another resident, Judy, 34, from Perak, met her lover — a Bangladeshi — in Jalan Chow Kit, where they worked as sales assistants. They eventually married.

"Two years ago, we had our first child, a boy, and everything was fine. But after I got pregnant again, he returned to his country in January and I have been unable to contact or find him since," said Judy, who gave birth to a girl in April.

"When I got married, my mother was angry that I had fallen in love with a foreigner, but what was the point of having a fool for a husband if I am not happy?"

Judy said that if her husband does not return, she will go to Bangladesh to look for him.

"If I find him and he would not accept me, I will raise our two children on my own," she said.

ABANDONED MOMS (from left): Judy, Nelly, Sally and Anne receiving advice from Pte. Inset: Our report yesterday. Pic: SUZIANNE MOHD HANIF

Parents, siblings urged to be supportive

Photo: Finding jobs for them

KUALA LUMPUR: Parents and siblings of unwed or abandoned moms should be supportive of them, says Ti-Ratana Women Shelter chairman Pee Kang Song.

"Families, especially the parents, should forgive their daughters and give their full moral support so that the unwed or abandoned mothers can learn from the experience and start anew," said Pee, who is also vice-president of the Ti-Ratana Welfare Society which operates three homes — the Women Shelter, a Children's Home, and a Home For The Elderly And The Infirm, all at Salak South Baru here.

"At our Women Shelter, we encourage the girls and women to raise their children, instead of giving them up for adoption. Besides counselling, we even help them find jobs so they can take care of themselves and their babies since they are ready to leave the home."

Pee also has this advice: "Don't fall for sweet-talking guys, get to know your boyfriend better first, and avoid pre-marital sex."

Ti-Ratana established their three homes in 1997, and they provide shelter for six unwed or abandoned mothers (The *Malay Mail* interviewed five of them yesterday) and 13 babies, 130 children, and 40 elderly people.

A non-profit organisation, Ti-Ratana depends on public donations to run their three homes.

Inquiries, call 03-73881818.



OUTSTANDING LION

Awarded to

PEE KANG SENG
Kuala Lumpur North,

In recognition of dedicated contributions to humanitarian services which exemplify the ideals and objectives of the International Association of Lions Clubs during the fiscal year of 2002 - 2003



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Kon Chiew Yoong'.

Jason Kon Chiew Yoong
District Governor 2002 - 2003
District 308 B1 Malaysia





致: Mr. Pee.

想了很久,原本想用英文書信寫給您,但!最後還是
決定用我的母語來與您溝通,不便之處請多多
包函。

很久了.....很想,謝謝您這位長者。因為有你,讓我有
機會和小孩互相依存,現我和小孩都過得很快樂
雖然生活簡單了些,但!我知道了。
而這份快樂來自於..... 當初您的協助,讓我

沒有錯過這份親情。衷心的感謝您。
我會陪著孩子一起成長,學習和生活。我會努力的!

感謝遇上像您這樣有愛心的人,
相信許多人因為你而過得更好。

謝謝您,再談!

祝福您和家人.....

喜悅!

來自 Miss Lim
2004年6月

'DESPERATE DOZEN' TURN TO MCA

THE MCA Public Service and Complaints Department has received calls from 12 teenaged unwed mothers so far this year.

Of the 'Desperate Dozen', it managed to resolve four of the cases but is worried about the fate of the other eight.

Some of the cases involved girls aged between 15 and 19. Some of whom were schooling were in the advance stage of pregnancy and after five months, were considering abortion.

Said the department's head, Michael Chong: "This

is risky. They want to consider this option because their boyfriends had disappeared or they did not want their parents to find out."

He was at a Press conference which was attended by Lions Club Kuala Lumpur North representative Pee Kang Seng.

Chong pointed out that the girls also came from poor backgrounds, mainly from Klang.

Ne said they managed to help four girls by calling the parents of both parties.

"We managed to strike an understanding between the

affected parties."

He said they are concerned for the fate of the remaining eight who have not contacted him after calling the department.

"I urge them to come forward because we can help them since we have counsellors, doctors and lawyers.

"Please don't throw away the baby."

As such cases are increasing, he said a shelter called Unwed Shelter Home has been opened early this month in the Klang Valley.



Chong (centre) with some of the club members. With him is Pee (seated right)

This was made possible with the support of well-wishers, politicians like Deputy Minister of Energy, Communications and Multimedia Datuk Tan Chai Ho, Lions and Lioness Club KL North and religious bodies such as the Buddhist Missionary Society.

"They will provide shel-

ter for unwed mothers, care for the babies with them and even allow these mothers to visit their babies after returning home," said Chong.

"Though it is open to teenagers, others can approach it on a case by case basis."

He said many well-wish-

ers have come forward to help the home which has a 28-year-old woman for its care.

The home, which is open to all races, also has an orphanage and an old folks home within its vicinity.

Chong can be contacted at 03-21618044 or Pee at 03-27156333.

Anti-human trafficking app launched

BY AMAR SHAH MOHSEN
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: The fight against human trafficking will be intensified following the launch of an anti-human trafficking mobile app in Southeast Asia.

The "Be My Protector" app, which took two years to develop, was created by human rights organisations Tenaganita and Change Your World (CYW).

Tenaganita director Aegle Fernandez said the app allows the public and victims to report cases of human trafficking.

"We have enforcement, but that is a different level. That's when the idea of the app came about and today, this dream has become a reality," she said at the launch yesterday.

Also present were CYW chairman Datuk Pee Kang Seng, its co-founder Kelvin Lim, incumbent Subang Jaya assemblyman Hannah Yeoh, incumbent Kinrara assemblyman Ng Sze Han and several human trafficking survivors.

The free app went live on both App

Store and Google Play yesterday and is available in eight languages, allowing foreign nationals in Malaysia to report cases.

Reports can be made anonymously in five easy steps, with details such as the location, type and severity, and information on the alleged perpetrator.

Tenaganita will then verify the authenticity of the case before reporting it directly to the authorities.

Fernandez also urged the authorities, especially the police and Immigration Department, to be more aggressive in the battle against human trafficking, noting that a number of cases involved their personnel working with agents of such syndicates.

Pee said the launch of the app was timely, considering the high number of human trafficking cases each year.

He said CYW targets at least 100,000 app downloads by year-end, and one million within the next five years.

"I have personally seen many cases, and it really touched my heart. Which is why we have developed this app, so that the public and victims have a platform to report their case to the authorities."



From left: Pee, Yeoh and Ng showing the Human Trafficking App 'Be My Protector' at the launch.

Matthew 1:21 ESV

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will **save his people** from their sins.”

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