

ONLINE MATCHING SYSTEM



March 2016 Newsletter

Dear Everyone,

A few days ago, a young lady sent me an email asking me a few questions. I started to email her back and, four pages later, this newsletter had “created” itself.

Here is what I told her:

Thank you for communicating and asking such great questions. Not many people do, which is why there is a lot of confusion that also contributes to the spreading of wrong information.

Even though the BFM (volunteers like myself and paid staff) try to educate parents via PMC (Parents matching Convocation) and Matching Advisors via seminars and regular webinars, it has been difficult to disseminate the proper information about the process for the Matching and Blessing. I am happy to explain it to you because you are a willing participant who wants to learn. If you can help others understand, I would really appreciate it.

**A lot of blah
blah blah today
but I promise
you it is
important**

Questions:

What are the websites role and purposes?

1. <https://bfm.familyfed.org/> - This is the official website of the Blessed Family Ministry - USA. This website guides and helps candidates and their parents prepare for the Blessing by providing many different kinds of information (books, videos, webinars, workshops). It is also through this site—commonly called “BFM”—that you will find the official applications for both the Matching and Blessing. In order to access the applications, one needs to register via the following link:

<https://bfm.familyfed.org/application-center/>

In addition to helping individuals through the Blessing, the BFM also provides tremendous support to families.

2. <http://www.blessedfamilies.org/bfa/index.php> - Most commonly known as the site that provides Matchbook. (This is neither run nor owned by HSA-UWC)

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3. <http://www.cheon-il-guk.org/> - Most commonly known as the site that provides the services of OMS (Online Matching System (neither run nor owned by HSA-UWC))
4. <http://bcmatching.org/> - The only matching site run by HSA-UWC

NOTE:

#1 is the only site from which one can access the **official** Matching and Blessing applications for North American Unificationists.

#2, #3 and #4 are sites that simply provide candidates access to the databases of candidates who are looking for a spouse. **That is their sole purpose.**

It is not mandatory to use the databases of Matchbook, OMS, and the International site to search for your spouse. There is a bit of work involved as on each site, applicants fill out profiles which provide other searching applicants and candidates with detailed information on your faith, your hopes and dreams, your potential preference for international or domestic spouse, etc.

The profiles are different in depth. Some provide more probing questions. Some allow access by applicants and their parents. Some have greater security measures to allow for greater anonymity.

Profiles can be filled out on each of those websites. But none of these profiles substitute for the Matching and Blessing applications—either from the USA BFM or from any other Blessed Family Department across the world. One's national Matching and Blessing applications are mandatory for anyone who wants to receive the Blessing.

Explain the Matching and Blessing applications from the BFM

1. The Matching Candidate Application (MCA)
2. The Matching Report Application (MRA)
3. The Blessing Candidate Application (BCA)

These three applications are supposed to be done in that order.

The MCA is the most demanding and therefore the most challenging of the three. In the past, when matchings were done directly by True Parents and by leaders, the applications were done just prior to a coming blessing. **This is no longer the case.**

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Why? Because that is not the way matches are done any more. Today the matching process takes a long time. Parents and their children **might take up to a year or longer** to find the spouse that will ultimately be “the one.” It also takes much effort from everyone involved. But no one is alone! The BFM, and all other Blessed Family Departments (BFD) worldwide are there to support, help, and guide this process.



Should I shoot from the hip and try to find a spouse prior to knowing if I am ready?

I believe that some individuals whose Blessings ended can answer that question on my behalf. The most consistent response is:

Self discovery is essential!!

Prepare yourself by finding out who *you* are, and what you need in your spouse and who you could best partner to co-parent your future children.

How can one prepare themselves?

Read the *Family Matching Handbook* and/or *Finding the One*. These two books have been written with love, diligence, and even tears. Many of our elders do understand the suffering of failed marriages and Blessings and want to do their very best to make sure that the next generations will be better prepared. In these books you will learn how to create

- 1) a matching plan and
- 2) your profile

Your matching plan will help and the members of your matching team, to seek a match to know your expectations.

Your profile will tell others who you are. A well-written profile will give someone a window to your soul: your personality, your dreams, your life expectations. That someone, then, will decide if you may be the person who could become their heavenly spouse.

Why is the Matching Candidate Application needed prior to seeking a spouse?

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Think of the MCA as God's PhD. Many people today spend many hours (and years) studying for a college degree. They work very hard. I believe that preparing oneself to be a spouse and a parent should equal—if not surpass—the efforts to get a college degree.

The three hardest requirements asked by the MCA which need the most effort, time, and diligence:

- Blessing Interview
- Health report
- Level II blessing education

Secondly, anyone needing to obtain these papers should realize that gathering them could take time and perseverance:

- Copy of divorce(s) papers
- Copy of blessing dissolution(s) papers

Lastly, the ones which are relatively easy.

- Recommendation letters
- Verification of Citizenship
- Photo

Once you have done all these things and receive approval from the BFM – USA or your BFD¹, your status changes. You are no longer an applicant but become an official ***candidate*** for the Matching and Blessing.

What about, the MRA, and the BCA?

The MRA is completed once you have had your Commitment Ceremony.

The BCA is completed after a Blessing has been announced and you and future spouse decide to attend that very one.



¹ BFDs across the world may have slightly different requirements.

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My personal experience with candidates and their parents three weeks prior to a Blessing.

In 2014, 2015, and 2016 I was one of the people reviewing the online matching and blessing applications for North America. I corresponded with many candidates as well as some parents, and matching advisors.

I truly enjoyed that work. I had many different kinds of feelings while going through those applications. I felt proud of those who diligently did all that was needed but was sad when I felt that an application was rushed, or was done more as an afterthought.

What was most difficult for me was to have a frantic parent on the phone, confused about the requirements, angry that this process had to be done and unable to do it because the adult child was inaccessible for one reason or another. This rushed and stressed situation was not necessary.

**My advice is not to wait
for the announcement
of a Blessing
to do your MCA**

I encourage everyone serious about becoming a Blessing candidate not wait for the announcement of a Blessing to fulfill the requirement. Please do it well **before**—for your sanity, the sanity of your parents, and the sanity of the reviewers.



**That is all
for today,
Thank you
for reading.**

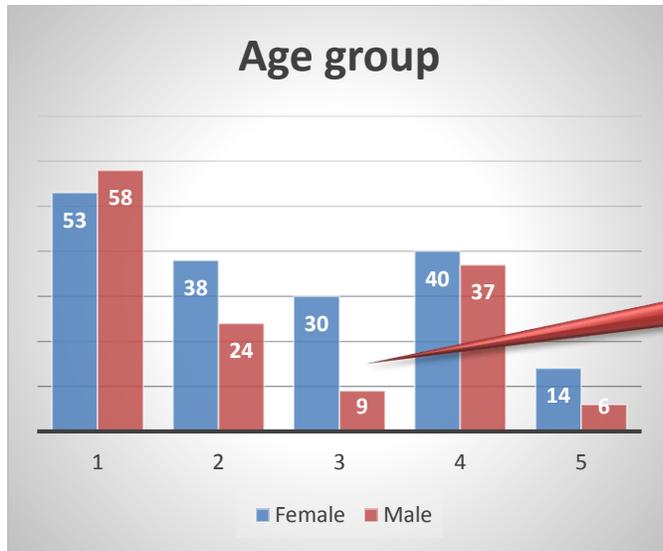
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STATS

World Distribution as of April 10, 2016			
Argentina	2	Japan	9
Australia	6	Kenya	2
Bahamas	1	Lebanon	1
Belarus	1	Liberia	9
Benin	2	Moldova	1
Bolivia	2	Nepal	3
Brazil	22	Netherlands	2
Burkina	1	Nigeria	4
Cameroon	1	Peru	8
Canada	5	Philippines	4
China	1	Poland	1
Colombia	2	Russian-Federation	3
Congo-Brazzaville	5	Slovakia	1
Congo-Kinshasa	2	Solomon-Islands	1
Costa-Rica	2	South-Africa	5
Czech-Republic	1	South-Korea	8
Ecuador	3	Swaziland	1
Ethiopia	1	Sweden	1
France	8	Thailand	1
Germany	3	Trinidad-and-Tobago	1
Ghana	1	Uganda	5
Guyana	4	United-Arab-Emirates	1
Haiti	4	United-Kingdom	4
Hungary	2	United-States	139
Ireland	1	Venezuela	4
Italy	4	(blank)	-
Ivory-Coast	3	Grand Total	309

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We need more gentlemen in the 40-50 range

1 = Less than 30, 2 = 30-40, 3 = 40-50, 4 = 50+, 5 = unknown

