

ONLINE MATCHING SYSTEM



Newsletter – August 2019

Dear Everyone,

As usual, my newsletter writes itself. You ask a question by email, but sometimes the answer could be beneficial to many, so I publish it. Please enjoy, and don't forget, if in need of something, I am just an email away.

HOW TO HAVE A NICE, CLEAN AND READABLE PROFILE

1. Use a Microsoft Word or other similar program
2. Copy the essay questions there
3. Answer all the questions to the best of your abilities.
4. Spell and grammar check
5. Copy your answer
6. Paste to Notepad
7. From Notepad, copy your answer in OMS within the space given for the answer to the question at hand.
8. Then, if you want to beautify it a bit – use bold, underline, italics, and colors.

If you copy directly from Word to OMS it will import all kind of characters that will make “Print View” strange – mainly a lot of extra spaces that you don't need.

If you write directly on OMS, you will have plenty of grammatical and spelling errors.

That's my 2 cents....on that topic.

ALL ABOUT RACE...

When I originally created OMS, I followed the pattern of and included most of the questions from the paper Matching Application available at the time. One question was about race. Because I wanted to make sure that everyone would be comfortable with the question asked, I went on the internet to find out the best words to use to describe someone's racial origin.

When talking to a Caucasian sister a couple of years later, I was surprised that she was unhappy that the word “white” was used to describe her race. I was open to suggestions, but she had no good substitute. So, “white,” it stayed.

Throughout the years, I became more and more uncomfortable about this particular question, so I changed the “word” race to the words “Parental Heritage.” I thought that would work. It did for a while, but then the discomfort returned.

ONLINE MATCHING SYSTEM



In addition to my own reticence about this, as I worked with many different candidates throughout the years, I discovered that many individuals would, unconsciously perhaps, begin to read a profile but stop after reading the answer to that particular question. *That* disturbed me....a lot.

At the beginning of 2019, my colleagues and I were preparing for yet another Online Matching Meeting, something we do four times a year for 1st Generation members as well as Blessed Children. While reviewing someone's profile I was again reminded about the sensitivity of this particular question. Right then and there I decided to simply eliminate it.

I do not believe Unificationists are racists, but I *do* believe that it is not that simple for anyone looking for a spouse to step out of their comfort zone and go beyond the limitations of one's abilities to adapt.

From the 1960's to 1990's True Parents chose our spouses, and accepting their choice was easy. Faith in God and True Parents was virtually all that was needed. Today, however, those choosing their own spouses need to also have faith in *themselves*, something that requires a lot more personal effort.

Applicants on OMS, are no longer asked to indicate their race or parental heritage. This question is entirely irrelevant in God's eyes and, at this point in human history, should be irrelevant for us all. I believe that in the future, we will be proud of our own and others' cultural heritages and be unafraid to answer questions of who we are. But today, some walls are still high.

RETREAT FOR OLDER SINGLE

A retreat called 35+ has been in my mind for at least a couple of years. At the end of last year, I decide to try to make it happen in 2019. A committee was organized, and a survey was sent – twice – at the beginning of the year. The challenge, however, has been to locate enough gentlemen to make the retreat meaningful.

If, among your contacts you believe that someone could benefit from such a retreat please send them the link below.

<https://forms.gle/Zi6Tw3krtEp6rvgt9>

This link is not just for individuals who might want to participate in such a retreat, it is also for Pastors, Matching Supporters, Sponsors or anyone else who may know someone who may benefit from such a retreat. So, please take the 5mn it takes to complete the form above. It will be truly appreciated.

ONLINE MATCHING SYSTEM



SPECIAL NOTE

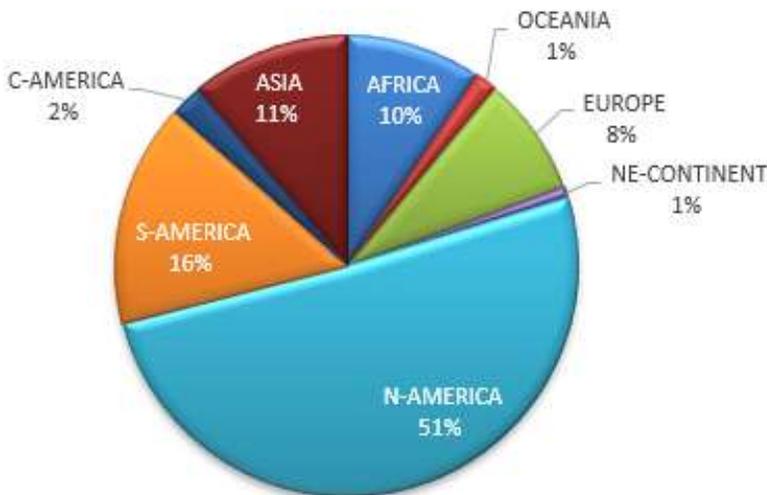
It is important to let me know when you believe that you have done everything that you should have done **BUT** you are not seeing the **“Potential Candidates”** button.

You have done the work and are listed on OMS because you are actively looking for a spouse. Please let me know when you suspect something is wrong.

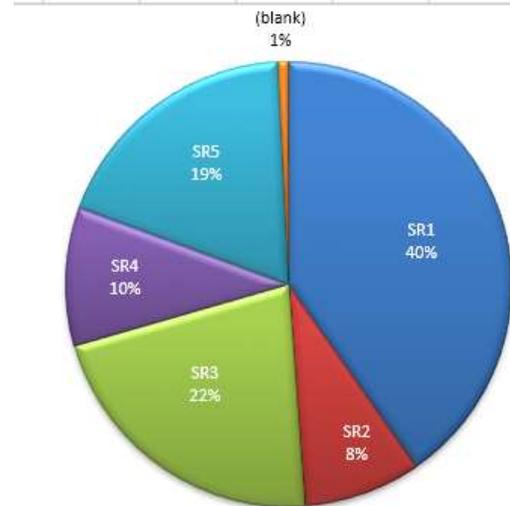
The reason I found every time is you have missed something on your profile, but you are not seeing. That is all.

STATS

Applicants and Candidates on OMS as of July 29, 2019



World percentages



By Sub-Regions of USA

May God's blessing be upon you all,
Sincerely,

Anne-Mari 