

March 4, 2011

Dr. J. Michael Flynn, DC, President of WFC

Mr. David Chapman-Smith, Secretary-General of WFC:

World Federation of Chiropractic

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Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your reply dated on December 16, 2010 regarding the shape of chiropractic seminars in Japan signed by David Chapman-Smith, Secretary-General of the WFC.

In your reply email, you stated that “The position of the WFC’s membership is quite clear – that chiropractors should not be teaching adjustment to non-chiropractors.” However, this statement is very debateable from a Japanese perspective because the definition between “chiropractor” and “non-chiropractor” has no consensus, and the definition of “adjustment” is ambiguous. In the countries that chiropractic is legally regulated, chiropractors are people who have chiropractic licenses. The WFC and the JAC say that “in Japan, chiropractors are people who graduated from schools which have CCA accreditation or people who have finished programs approved by the JAC.” This is, however, only a “Japanese rule” decided by the WFC and the JAC.

Kagakushinbun Co. Ltd. conducted a “questionary survey” with Japanese chiropractors relating to this rule last September. The results revealed that the majority of the practitioners doubted the adequacy of this rule and they do not comply with it. In addition, and most importantly, that rule is not recognized or accepted by neither the Japanese government nor its Japanese citizens. Japanese practitioners and society have never come to a consensus on this issue as of yet.

The WFC claims in its official statement that the definition of adjustment includes manipulation and mobilization. There are various adjustment methods invented by non-chiropractors including osteopaths. In our planned seminar last year the WFC prohibited the invented adjustments of a Russian bonesetter was going to be taught. In the current

circumstances within Japan where many non-chiropractors (according to WFC definition) exist, we think the intention to control the techniques invented by non-chiropractors is unreasonable or going overboard.

In Japan, there is a history that non-chiropractors (according to WFC definition) have contributed to chiropractic development in various ways. For instance, the Japanese translation of "Motion Palpation and Chiropractic Technique" written by Schafer and Faye, a big volume book, was completed by cooperation of a couple of non-chiropractors. The Japanese Society of Clinical Chiropractic (JSCC) is the only academic society in the field of Japanese chiropractic continuously active for more than ten years. A lot of the activities such as publishing its journal, submitting papers to the journal and holding annual conference are performed by non-chiropractors (according to WFC definition). Without them, the JSCC would not maintain their activities. Does anyone still say that they are motivated by money? These achievements wouldn't be completed without strong enthusiasm, interest and admiration towards chiropractic care.

We respect the JAC and WFC's efforts to setting a high standard for chiropractic education and observing it. It is an important effort in order to guide chiropractic care so it can be included in the National Health system in the future. However, there are chiropractic practitioners who contribute to chiropractic development in art, science and philosophy outside the WFC and JAC framework. Please do not promote schemes that would eliminate these people from our society. There is no Japanese governmental policy from preventing us from what we do. Please understand and acknowledge this situation within Japan relating to chiropractic.

In conclusion from your letter, we(I along with Kagakushinbun Co. Ltd.) decided that we will continue to invite both Japanese and foreign chiropractic educators who understand our ideas and position in conducting chiropractic seminars. Please do not interfere or criticize the chiropractors who want to cooperate with our activities that contribute to Japanese chiropractic development and its dissemination within Japan. I would like to close by saying that our intention is not to claim our rightfulness to the world chiropractic society. Our intention is to ask WFC to admit the freedom of learning chiropractic in different ways in the current specific situation in Japan. We hope your understanding of our opinion and activities.

Sincerely,

Miyako Sakurai, DC