

Dear David Chapman-Smith, Secretary-General of WFC,

On July 5, 2010, WFC secretary-general, Mr. Chapman-Smith, e-mailed an American chiropractic doctor, the speaker we had hired to teach for us, to decline to hold the seminar which includes pseudo-chiropractor participants. As a result, the speaker and Kagakushinbun Ltd. reached the conclusion to not present the seminar they planned.

It was a difficult decision for Kagakushinbun Ltd. since this unexpected notice was made less than one month before the seminar date and they already had more than thirty registrants. This presented a hardship for Kagakushinbun Ltd. since the speaker was now not available.

You may already know what happened after if the Chiro-Journal.com web site (<http://www.chiro-journal.com/>) article was translated to you by the relevant people. Kagakushinbun Ltd. asked the Japanese D.C. who lives in U.S. and translated the planned speaker's book and DVD, to conduct the seminar with the same content. The doctor accepted the offer and the seminar was conducted on the same days, August 7& 8, 2010.

This seminar sponsored by Kagakushinbun Ltd. has been presented in Japan four times over the past four years. I have been a coordinator and translator for the event. Regarding this occasion, I would like to write my request to WFC. This letter is going to be on the Chiro-Journal web site before very long in order to let chiropractic related individuals know the situation and think about this matter. If I will be able to receive a response from you, I will upload your letter on the same web site.

1) I request the WFC to not directly involve themselves in restricting seminars in Japan. This includes sending mail to the speakers directing them to decline the seminar or exerting an influence on the speaker's work through their sponsors.

As you know, many chiropractors are conducting seminars in Japan regardless of the WFC's will. Each chiropractor acts independently. There are no laws or regulations to prevent the activity and it violates nothing.

The WFC policy statements have no binding force and they are not widely spread. As of the end of August, 2010, the statements of 1991 and 2009 are not translated on the WFC Japanese member association's website. There are unique Japanese circumstances. Without attention to all seminars presented in Japan, the WFC raised objection to only our recent August 7-8 seminar, which I feel is an inconsistent and whimsical assertion of the authoritarian power of the WFC.

If the WFC wanted the cancellation of this seminar, it appears that the first stage is to contact the JAC, the member association for the role. This is closer to the new policy of the 2009 WFC statement.

2) I request WFC not to compel assent and compliance to the statement but to adopt broad-minded attitude for a non-assenter.

It seems to me that the WFC is trying to standardize and unify chiropractic all over the world. However, I do not believe strict regulation without flexibility will always support chiropractic development everywhere in the world. Admitting the diversity in the process of chiropractic development has potential to affect chiropractic development in the future. At least, this cannot be denied or proven to be untrue.

I know many great chiropractors in Japan who did not graduate from CCE approved colleges or CSC (Chiropractic Standardization Course) programs. Some are good clinicians and some are dedicated to chiropractic related researches. If you wish, I will introduce a real name to WFC with confidence.

WFC defines chiropractic as a profession. With that context, it is reasonable to put emphasis on their activity to protect the profession's right and maintain competency of the profession. However, chiropractic is a therapeutic system possessing science, art and philosophy before being a profession. For the purpose of chiropractic development, there are various pathways besides chiropractic standardization.

I have no opposition to the WFC's activity to promote standardization in the chiropractic profession in the world. On the other hand, since there are no educational institutes or programs that have the Japanese government's approval, it is very difficult to maintain the level of "standardized education" and to prove the level objectively. If an international consensus on Japanese standards according to WHO standards were to exist, it would increase confusion if there is no internal consensus in the country. In the current Japanese situation, rather than unreasonable standardization, it is necessary to acknowledge the presence of various styles of chiropractic development and dissemination. I request that the WFC allow various chiropractic developments that suit a country's specific situation rather than strict regulation. Once again, I would request that the WFC not take any drastic measures according to this statement, but be tolerant of people in different positions and situations.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your reply.

September 3, 2010

Miyako Sakurai, DC