

## **WEBINAR REPORT ON: LIFE AFTER UNIVERSITY: WHAT IS THE WAY FORWARD?**

**ORGANIZED BY: THE RECONCILIATION AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION-RADA**

**Date: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

**Time: 2:00pm-04:53PM West African Time**

### **CO MODERATORS:**

- Ferdinand M. Sonyuy: One Young World Ambassador, Community Solutions Program Fellow and CEO of RADA
- Ntam Damaris: Communications Department RADA.

### **SPEAKERS**

- DR. JAVNYUYN JOYBERT: Productivity and Business Speaker, Trainer, and Entrepreneur
- DR NUMFOR ALAIN: Transformational Leader, Author, Philanthropist
- ATEH SOLOMON: Communication Development Expert, Mandela Washington Fellow, Journalist, Human Rights Advocate, Founder at Bantu Voices.

### **ABSTRACT**

This webinar was focused on educating, challenging, inspiring and supporting young people especially University graduates and University students on the importance of pursuing purpose among young people before, during and after university, the importance of acquiring employable skills before, during and after university, establishing the relationship between versatility and focus as unavoidable elements of success for graduates in Cameroon and providing a clear difference between the ‘Can-do’ versus ‘What can you do for me’ attitude and educate against entitlement.

#### ***(a) Dr Javnyuy Joybert***

#### **The critically of Investing Time, Energy and Resources and Acquiring Employable Skill as Youth in Cameroon.**

He emphasized that young people should have and pursue employability skills especially in our context. He also mentioned on the importance of having both entrepreneurial and employability skills. He said ***“If you want to go to the next level, acquire the right skills of the next level you wish to attain.”*** He further explained the various ways to fill in the gap of lack of skills which by personal development and acquiring destiny enabling skills by also attending trainings and getting skills and skill acquisition is possible when you have known your purpose and vision.

***Key messages:***

we should note that, young people need to find a convertible methodology to add value in people's life. Young persons need to invest in these skills which are communication skills, problem solving, getting initiated that is being self-discipline and always ensuring that your skills has to be in-line with your vision and purpose.

**(b) Dr Numfor Alain**

***Re-Emphasizing the Importance of Purpose Among Young People in Cameroon***

He defined purpose as the reason why man was created. It is always very important to have a purpose because it will deliver you from living in a competitive lifestyle and you will be unique. Purpose discovery takes time and can be discovered if you do what you love. The very first successful step in life is discovering your purpose not the riches or fame you have acquired but rather the impact you have left which will affect people lives and the community. Money should always come last or as an addition and lastly purpose has to do with reaching out to people, transformation and rendering services to your community.

***-key messages***

one person can only have one purpose but can do several other activities which tie in achieving that particular purpose. Purpose has three major characteristics which are;

- It adds and brings glory and satisfaction to your creator.
- It adds value to people's life
- It will bring you satisfaction there by making you happy

Do not die without people discovering whom you truly are

**(d) Ateh Solomon**

***The Indispensability of Versatility and Focus for a Young Cameroonian Young of Today for Success.***

He said in order to acquire employability skills, young people need to volunteer and learn how things function in the civil society. From there you will be able to identify a problem and seek for possible solutions. Volunteering helps in giving a person exposure. He went further by giving a practical example of his own life experience. To him purpose is a burning desire in you which you need to achieve. Being envious or in competition will not help you achieve your purpose and in order to accomplish a purpose you need a strategy and by building the right skills.

***-Key Messages***

- you need to gain specialisation and not jump from one thing to another and always remember failure is not a bad thing always do things over and over in order to have a specialisation in it.
- Young persons should build a vision and mission in the thematic interest for community development.
- You need to volunteer to know things function in the civil society space. It is about what can you do?
- Be able to volunteer
- Identify a problem
- Able to communicate
- Able to solve problem in your community
- Must have a vision
- Be courageous
- Must not be a CEO for some of us are mean to be supporters

## 2. COMMENTS

- **Wirba David** " I wish I knew about RADA months ago, I'm sure have really missed a lot".
- Iduhan Blessing " We assume we know a lot but until we are engaged before we see the need to stand up. It requires sacrifice to actually volunteer".
- **Ayeah Charlotte** " When you've found purpose, you've found something to die for. This is profound Sir."
- **Ali Patience** " Wow Mr Ferdinand said something very very important. Fear to take up a particular task is fear to begin your journey of purpose. When you discover the right purpose, you get the skills and continue your journey without stress "
- **Aboubakar Sidiki** " I love the idea of constant marketing. It's not easy but consistency will get you there ".

1. "Thanks a lot Dr Numfor. please you didn't finish talking about " how one can find his purpose" **Jonny Remon**
2. "what if I as a student have defined my purpose, but nobody supports this purpose. what can I do not to divert from my purpose?" **Bakia Sabrina**
3. "In African likewise other continent...the practice we have seen is thus. Parents tell their kids to pursue something/career...without allowing the kids to discover it themselves. my question is then; could it be possible to determine another person's purpose" **Umaru Muhammed**
4. "I have tried to identify my purpose to no avail I don't really know what I can do different n perfectly " - **Wirba David**
5. "can someone have more than one purpose in life ?"- Aboubakar Sidiki
6. "What is the main thing that's necessary to figure out one's purpose easily?" - **Mohammadu Bello**

### **Dr Joybert**

7. "please Dr. Joybert. I have a question. I have acquired skills on communication, digital, and agriculture. now my problem is; how can I monetize my skills. or market these skills?" **Bakia Sabrina**
8. "Hi Doc I've been inspired by your work so far. Thanks so much to RADA for this program. Dr. Joybert please I lead a voluntary tech community and It's kinda difficult keeping some people engaged. Please what are your suggestions?" - **Bochu Eric**
9. "Dr Joybert I have a question. I aspire to create a tech company but I don't know how to go about it"- **Jonathan Smith**
10. "Sir thanks for this session,Sir please how can one start learning communication skills? What are the best plate form's? - **Siewu Shillian**
11. "At what leve" Place tangible value while marketing your skill?" - **Umaru Mohammed**
12. "Please Dr. Joybert I have a problem with another skill which is co-operation skills. getting the right people or partners Is becoming more complex. I really need help or a recommendation for partners"- **Yuven Folix**
13. "I want to thank Dr Joybert for his insight. My question is, how can young people live their dreams, rather than just dreaming". Thank you- **Aboubakar Sidiki**

14. “Dr Joybert I have a question: Sir how do you overcome sleep what practical steps can one take?” - **Jonathan Smith**

15” I’ve always loved to be a physician but due to certain constraints I didn't get to the faculty so now I'm finding difficulties to love the career I’m following up now please help’-  
**Raudatu Kiki**

16.”What if you specialise in something that is not your purpose”

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. It is important to always start from somewhere, not everyone is meant to be a CEO or a founder but rather support people’s visions.
2. We need to pick up new skills such as grant writing for those working in the civil society. We are called to be transformational leaders and lastly we the young people are responsible for the future is ours, therefore we need each other’s abilities and skills to meet our defined purposes.
3. As posited by Mr Solomon Ateh "RADA is doing a lot of wonderful activities but which are not very visible". This therefore entails an improvement in RADA's communication strategy so it's activities reaches a wider audience.
4. Design the link for upcoming webinars in such a way that when participants register and receive confirmatory mail. It takes them directly to a WhatsApp group.
5. Discussions should be in the form of Q &E
6. Always have a budget for all webinars
7. Improve on our email list and regular updates via monthly newsletters about youth opportunities, trainings and fellowships.

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