

# **PWOC Europe Conference Policy**

## **Regarding Children** (current through Nov 2011)

For each regional conference, the question as to whether or not women can bring their children/families to conference is raised.

**To date, in PWOC Europe, children/families have not been invited to conference and that conference policy remains in place today**, for a variety of reasons.

The PWOC conferences are created to be either an intensive training conference (WILD in May) with the primary goal of training and team building with board members, or an enrichment conference (Worship & Study in November) with the primary goal of spiritual growth and fellowship with other women.

The Regional Board and Conference Coordinators have worked very hard to plan conference and create an environment for women's ministry to flourish. Women come to conference with the expectation that conference will be either a training ground (spring) or a refuge (enrichment).

PWOC recognizes that family is top priority, over ministry, and we know there is a season for everything under heaven and, for a time, women are not able to attend conference because their presence at home takes top priority. This does NOT negate their ability or calling to lead in their chapters in the case of the WILD conference. Our hope and desire would be that they would be able to acquire training through other means.

Consider what would happen if one woman brings her children/family to conference. Those who are looking forward to time away from children would understandably be uneasy. Those who had honored the policy and had sacrificed and made other arrangements might also be uneasy. One litmus test in life is to take our own behavior and then pretend everyone else did the same thing. What if everyone brought their kids/families to conference? PWOC conferences are not family conferences. Other conferences exist for those express purposes.

In order to be fair and consistent across the board we must state that our policy is no children/families at conference. We hope that you will honor and abide by this policy understanding that careful consideration and prayer has gone in to it.