WHERE IS GOD? A MECHANICAL AUTO-DIAGNOSTIC VIEW OF THE PROBLEM OF INCEST IN SAMOA

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Charlie Banse

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Abstract

Samoa is proudly advertised by her citizens as a Christian country, and her foundation constitutional statement states that Samoa is founded on the Christian God. There are numerous moral, ethical and theological teachings that lay the foundation for the Samoan society's cultural, social and religious way of life. It is now noted by the Samoan media that there is a big increase in Incestral-sexual crimes in the country. This thesis is an attempt to address some of the causes for this huge problem, and provide some answers and or solutions for it.

Declaration

I declare that this work has not used without due acknowledgment of any material that has been previously submitted for a degree or diploma in another institution. I also declare that the work has not used any material, heard or read, without proper acknowledgment of the source.

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Dedication

Dedicated in memory of my late father William (Wilhelm) Samuel Vili Fa'amausili Banse and my late mother Talitiga-o-Samoa Salaevalu Fanueli Banse. My brothers Peo William, Tulasunu'i Samuel, Aumaleigoa Augafa, Peo Nelson, Silimana'i Taffy) and sisters (Aitogi, Patricia and Magret). To the Banse, Fanueli, Ainuu and Aseta families. To my mother in law Lagituaiva Aseta Kapuana Ainuu. To Reverend Elder Enefatu Lesa and his good lady Atigisami Lesa.

Lastly

But not the least my wife Malae and my son Nathan for their support and love.

Acknowledgments

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's Psalms 103:1-5.

Glory, honour and praise to God, who has blessed and strengthened me to endure in patience to complete this thesis. I also acknowledge the patience of my supervisor Reverend Doctor Tavita Maliko in guidance and assistance to form and reform this research into its final form.

Special thanks to my a'uaiga; the Vice Principal Reverend Alesana Eteuati and Rita Eteuati for letting me write my paper during parish work sessions. It is a gigantic help in speeding up the process to complete my research.

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Last but not the least, my families and friends that help support my academic journey here in Maluapapa. Special thanks again to my wife and son. I also give thanks for the love and support of my Congregational Christian Church in Tanoale'ia at Vaivase Uta under the leadership of Reverend Elder Enefatu Lesa and his good lady Atigisami Lesa.

Glossary

Aggravating - means it is annoying and frustrating

Air – is a natural and invisible element that contains oxygen and many other gases that help sustain life

Alternative Current (AC) – is an electrical wave that has both positive and negative charges alternatively it does not short when polarities are interchanged but it only reverses the cycle.

Alternator – is a device that converts alternative current into direct current so that the electronic components can use the power

Catastrophic - is an adjective that describes how devastating or shocking a situation is

Clogged - when something is blocked or hindered

Combustion – is an explosive reaction of air, fuel and heat producing immense force to generate motion

Comprehend - to know and understand something

Diagnostic - a troubleshooting process to pinpoint the problem and apply the fix

Direct Current (DC) – is an electrical wave that carries only the positive charge. Its polarities cannot be interchanged because it will short out the circuit

Ethic – is a set of principles that is manifested in a code of conduct to govern the community

Flourish - to prosper or to increase

Fuel – a natural compound found deep into the earth as hydrocarbons or carbons and hydrogens it is easy to make fire with

Globalization – is a process that brings national economies, cultures and businesses as a whole system under the exchange channels of trade

Heat – another natural element that we get from the sun but in the engine an electrical charge supplies the heat

Hierarchical - order of authority is from above usually have a one way communication

Incest - is sex between close relatives

Modernization – is a process of using new methods and ideas to improve our standards and change our general perspectives

Octane – a hydrocarbon or hydrogen carbon that contains eight atoms of carbon

Oppressed - when an individual is not treated fairly and have unequal rights with others

Perpetrator – criminal person or the one accused of breaking the law or laws

Procreation – is a process of reproduction in order to continue life without the possibility of becoming extinct

Victim – is the sufferer who is wounded by the cruelty of any type of abuse.

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Introduction

There is no denying that with the Samoa government's drive towards Development and Modernization within the last thirty years, many other problems are consequently and rapidly on the rise. This paper will look specifically at the problem of incest in Samoa in relation to my mechanic understanding and knowledge of automotive engine finding a theological resolution focusing on the question of 'Where is God?'

The judiciary system and media have been for a number of years now, flooded with awful stories of incest and similar sexual offences, committed especially by most fathers or both parents, against their own children. It is the initial presumption of this thesis that many of the reasons that cause this big problem, is the breakdown of the holiness of the human being. From the holistic viewpoint of the human—the human consists of a body, mind and soul, and from a mechanic's perspective, unless all three human aspects are healthy, one is going to have problems in one's life.

Incest is the problem which concerns the body, mind and soul, in a similar manner the problem of an engine due to air, fuel and heat. The body can be seen as the air, the fuel is the mind and the soul is the heat because it provides a spark. The heat-spark (soul) enlightens the mind and body. The fuel as the mind, as it feeds the body and soul with information and the air as the body. The air is the carrier of the fuel and heat therefore act as the body.

Now where is God in this problem solving? God is in the mind and soul. He is the mechanic of the body mind and soul. The mind is nourished by the Word of God; the soul is a gift of God which is our spark. The body is the housing of God's gifts. All these elements

constitute life but in the engine; a power to generate and regenerate to transform heat energy into kinetic energy which is motion. Moving forward but along the road there are potholes and humps. There is no such thing as a smooth road that is why the engines need maintenance instead of letting it run down, thus creating all sorts of problems. It is the task of this thesis to look at the issue of incest using the auto-mechanic model seeking a way to deal with the issue. I will describe the methodology used in this study, followed by a definition of incest in relation to the law. The layout of chapters ends the introduction part to the thesis.

1. Methodology

This research	a will use a qualitative method to gather information from the
following organizations:	Police Department
	Samoa Victim Support Group
	Justice Department
	Available resources like newspapers, news clips and so on.

It is believed that the above mentioned government departments and organizations will provide enough information that will be analyzed qualitatively. The data and results will then be used to formulate a possible theological solution for this problem.

A mechanic's analytical tools and methods in automotive engine problemdiagnosis shall be utilized as the 'Model' which will guide analysis of the found data. For instance, the three things – air, fuel, and heat – required to work together for an engine to start and run smoothly, is the model that will guide data analysis with respect to the holistic human body, mind and soul.

The question "Where is God?" with regards to incest in Samoa relates to a mechanic's questions when diagnosing auto engine problem failure (Kia Motors 1984, p 2-1). The most basic problem with engine failure is when one of the three elements (air, fuel, and heat) that are required for combustion is absent in the combustion chamber (Kromida et al. 1988, p 10-6). No matter how big and complicated an engine looks like, but without these three elements, the engine can never start and will not run. There are other mechanical problems like suspension defects, air conditioning faults, and electrical problems and so on. Apparently the engine runs all these luxurious systems.

The created human exist as a being that has a body, mind and soul. These three in one creates moral ethics therefore if one of the three is corrupted problems arise. Specifically in my research, incest is a problem because one of these three human fundamental is being corrupted.

Therefore, a mechanical diagnostic model is used to assess the problem of incest in families of Samoa. Furthermore, the Old Testament and the New Testament views will be consulted to address and formulated appropriate course of action (since human beings constitute families and families are God's engines or power house to produce life in the procreation (Jon L 2002, p 51) in this quest to find probable solutions. There is no doctor, scientist or medicine to completely solve corrupted moral ethics. Only God can fully restore the mind, soul, and body.

3

2. Definition of Incest

Incest is defined by the law under section fifty five (55) (Government of Samoa Crimes Act 2013). Any sexual connection is incest if;

- 1 a) It is between two (2) persons whose relationship is that of a parent and child, siblings, half siblings or grandparent and grandchild; and
- 1 b) the person charged knows about the relationship
- 2 In this section the term "child" includes an illegitimate child and an adopted child; and "grandchild" has corresponding meaning.
- 3 A person who is over the age of sixteen years commits incest is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 20 years.

Additional condition found in court case hearing. Case [2015] WSSC 233 (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2015) the court ruled that incest is now defined by legislation to include a sexual connection such as oral sex between siblings. It is no longer limited to penis-vaginal penetration. Incest is any type of sexual activities between close family relationships in families.

3. Chapters Layout

The thesis is divided into the following Chapters. Chapter One speaks of the context of the Family in relation to incest. It describes the circumstances that initiate incest. It is followed by an explanation of the family unit and the social and cultural value and practice of 'feagaiga' and 'va'. In other words, this chapter looks at the issue of incest in the family context and how it destroys the significance of social and cultural relationships within families – the so-

called 'feagaiga' and 'va'. Chapter Two shows the Auto-Diagnostic Model that is used in this study to describe the problem of incest and how it can suggest a resolution. The auto-diagnostic model is described in three sections: the clogged air passage, the contaminated fuel, and the heat-spark. Chapter Three talks about 'healing' from the point of view of auto-diagnostic model shown in Chapter Two. The healing considers 'tools of diagnosis', draining and replacing the contaminated fuel with clean fuel, and eliminating mixture of power differences in sparks. Chapter Four is a conclusion

Chapter One: Family

Introduction

This chapter describes the family context as the place where incest occurs. There are various and different type of family units that incest occur. It is important to find and understanding of some of these types of families and social and cultural relationships within these family contexts ruined by incest.

1. Circumstances that initiate Incest

It is with a sad understanding and heavy heart that in homes and families, incest flourishes according to the findings of the Samoa Victim Support Group (Chan 2018, p 10). Lina Chan stated that, "All [incest] problems start within families..." Moreover the discussions of specific incest cases argued in the supreme court of Samoa gave a picture that mostly the men in the families are perpetrators. Whether as a biological father, a stepfather, a brother or a male cousin and a grandfather they had the trust of loved ones especially children.

Interestingly, it was shown as fact that girls at a very young age at a certain point according to Nancy Chodorow seemed to neglect their relational bond with their mothers as they saw that their fathers are more superior to anyone else in the family (Low 2010b, p 46). It is this phenomenon that draws a daughter closer to her father. Naturally girls are submissive while boys are some kind of independent ones. But the point is that in an incestuous situation within homes this natural phenomenon is very dangerous as fathers will use this to their advantage. The girls

are trapped between being submissive and oppressed. Therefore, the child may feel violated and slowly becomes alienated and homeless within the walls of her or his home.

Children are continually abused under wicked sexual acts in their homes (Doherty 1987, p 5), regardless of the laws already existed and laws currently imposed to enforce right relations in homes. Families can be a safe haven or it can be a dangerous zone when it comes to sexual abuse of children.

2. The Family Unit

There are all sorts and descriptions of families:

Married couples with children, married couples who can't have children, married couples who choose not to have children, married couples with one parent in residence, single people with one parent in residence; solo parents with a child or children living with them, parents whose children live elsewhere; stepfamilies and blended families and divorced couples who share the custody of children; grandparents raising their grandchildren; adult brothers and/or sisters living together; gay and lesbian couples without children; gay and lesbian couples with children. The range of family configuration in any society is much wider than the public media suggest (Culbertson 2000, p 12).

The aiga (family) as outlined above is more of the Western nuclear-unit kind of

family. The Samoan family on the other hand is a much larger group as described by Tofaeono:

The concept aiga constitutes the wholeness of Samoan life. It has bonded the divine and the ordinary into a synthesis of existence. ... Aiga means a family and a household community in blood, close or distant relations. On the simplest level, it signifies relationships of people, a social unit in a village where a matai (chief) directs its religious, economic and political activities. Each family unit is a self-sustaining economic group, the members of which, including the head, cooperatively contribute the products of their labor for the common good of the whole family. In a more extensive sense, aiga incorporates the communal ties with the Gods, the ancestors, as well as the divine heritages, the sea, land, and the sky. In its inclusive sense, aiga could be conceived as a descent group or kinship in all its dimensions. Etymologically, aiga implies three main emphases. First it means cohabitation, which is a neutral relational concept, referring to a community of members being blended into a single whole. In an immediate sense, aiga refers to a relational web of human generations who trace the origin of their existence to the ancestors, and to the family of the God, Spirit, or the Divinities. Such an existence is sanctified by the presence of the Gods, and is also legitimated by their representations in nature, including human beings, most importantly the matai. Every aiga has a matai who acts as the custodian of the family. Additionally, the aiga has a faalupega, a formal expression of recognition associated with chiefly titles (Tofaeono 2000, p 30-31).

The above definition of aiga (family) underscores that divine connection between the secular and the sacred, or between the ordinary and the divine. This relationship is highlighted and embodied in the matai—the leader and custodian of the family, which incorporates all members of the family. Usually matai are men or males of a family, though today many females and women are also family matai. Every member of an aiga have specific roles, and the family unit live by closely observed inter-personal relationships or va^{1} which underlines strict boundaries that defines social, political, cultural and religious personal relationships. One example is *va* practiced in the Samoan social and cultural value of *feagaiga* explained below.

3. Feagaiga and Va

Every member of an *aiga* have specific roles, and the family unit live by closely observed inter-personal *va* (relationships), which underlines strict boundaries that defines social, political, cultural and religious personal *va*. *Va* literally means space, but this space characterizes that sacred invisible space that governs interpersonal relationships in mutual love, respect and responsibility within the hierarchy of social structure.

¹ 'Va' in the fa'a-Samoa means a sacred space that created boundary to keep relationship function properly.

Feagaiga is usually translated as covenant although Pratt holds that this is "a lately adopted meaning" (Pratt, 1911[1862], p. 139). Pratt adds that *feagaiga* is an established relationship between different parties, such as between brothers and sisters; children and their parents and also between chiefs and their *tulāfale*. The Samoan brother calls his sister his *feagaiga*; the *tulafale* (one who talks on behalf of his chief) refers to his *ali'i* (chief) as his *feagaiga*, and a Samoan church also calls their church minister as their *feagaiga*. The term presupposes a sense of respect, sacredness and responsibility. The brother holds his sister to be sacred, and it is his responsibility to respect and care for her in every sense of the word.

A Samoan house or home is a sacred place—a place where the family holds its daily worship, where the parents and family elders nurture and teach their children, where the family have their meals. It is a sanctuary and a place of security, where all members find love, care, and respect. Inside a family the children learn early in life about the hierarchical social structure where the *matai* and fathers hold the most power, but *matai* are often called o le *tausi mea a le aiga*, or the keepers of the family's properties. In other words, the outmost duties and responsibilities of a *matai* or father are to ensure the security of the family's properties, which constitute its land, titles, and especially the survival and well-being of its members.

The social structure is re-enacted and maintained through the use of cultural terms such as *matai*, *Tamāāli'i*, *tulāfale*, *faletua*, *ali'i* o *aiga*, *tautua*, *fanau lalovaoa*, *and more*. Tamāāli'i is a sacred *matai* (chief) compare to the *tulāfale* who is a more secular chief; a tulāfale is from two words: *tula* means the top part, and *fale* is house—the top part of the house—it sounds like 'top dog.' *Ali'i* o *aiga* is a specific title that underscores the higher status of an eldest male child or heir, relative to his siblings; there is no such specific title for an eldest female child, and this underlines a patriarchal social structure within a Samoan family.

4. Biblical Family

The issue here is the sexual immorality within families. The lust of the flesh creates a miscommunication between the mind and the soul. This is a misfire or sin² because incest today is different from former times biblically. Genesis narrative is all about the beginning because there was the first creation; only Adam and Eve were created. Then there was the flood only Noah and his family were saved by God.

The point is, in the beginning there were special conditions. There were not that many people around. Abraham and Lot witnessed the destruction of Sodom Gomorrah by the fire from the heavens. This is another scenario to show that men were scarce and Lot was isolated with his daughters in a cave.

Lina Chan, the President of the Samoa Victim Support Group during an interview stated that, "I cannot speak on the Biblical side, but (o lea tatou te iloa e tele foi mea fa'apena na tupu i totonu o le Bible) we know incest existed in the Bible" Today incest is becoming a more violent and abusive action against the children.

O aso la sa pei a na'o le tama (father) agai le afafine (daughter), ao aso nei i lalo lava o le tulafono, e pei lava ua aafia uma ai lava tagata o le aiga atoa e.g. tuagane agai le tuafafine, pe aofia ai tagata uma o le aiga i lalo le incest. Anything that has a complete penetration i le va lea, that is incest.

In former days incest was recognise only between a father and a daughter sexual relationship. But currently in today's laws everyone in the family is included. For example, brother and sister and everyone in the family who has committed complete penetration are held accountable under the section of the law (Chan 2018, p 1)

² Sin in Hebrew terms means missing the mark.

If we take Abraham and Sarah's marriage to be an example of incest which is wrong and shallow thinking due to lack of research in the deeper meaning and the purpose of the actual context, but can be thought of from a clear conscience that this union was necessary for the purpose of arranged marriage. It was said that Abraham's father was with them when they went to Canaan (Genesis 11:30)³. Also it is not a father and daughter sexual relationship. They were half-sister and half-brother. In fact, Abraham was not far from the time of the flood. This was like the beginning of a new creation from the days of Adam and Eve. God was trying to recondition his creation to purity and holiness. Incest is no longer necessary when Israel became a great nation. Therefore, incest is prohibited under the commandments and laws given by God to govern his people. It seems like only Lot was liable to incest as a sin as Lina Chan stated that the ancient law is only between the father and daughter. Yet it was the special condition that Lot and his matured daughters were remotely isolated from the rest of the world. Therefore, incest is forbidden yet it was the urgency to procreate as Genesis was the beginning of all life forms. This is a one off provision and must not be repeated after Genesis when the laws were given in Exodus and onwards to our time today.

It is evident, in an article which was written by Benjamin Goodnick. He poses a question as a title of the article, "Is incest with a daughter permissible? (Goodnick 2002, p 1)" Absurd but it was an interesting way of critique on the matter of incest. Interestingly he found out that the daughter and the wife of a man was not mention in the laws of the Torah. The

³ **Genesis 11:31-32** ³¹ Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan; but when they came to Haran, they settled there. ³² The days of Terah were two hundred five years; and Terah died in Haran.

daughter is not cited in Leviticus⁴ 18:10. The law stated only grandchildren, the daughter of his son and the daughter of his daughter. But on the other hand the wife is also not cited in the fourth commandment of the Decalogue in (Ex. 20:8; Deut. 5:14)⁵. Only the son, daughter, male and female slave, livestock and the alien or outsider but the wife is not mentioned. Therefore after formulating critical analysis of the Bible and making careful observations. The absence of both the daughter and the wife was actually intentional but not patriarchal. It was mainly due to the fact that they are closely related to the man who is the father. Therefore, the father can turn into the daughter and vice versa. Just like the seed in ancient view. The seed is perceived as plant growth cycle as to heredity to human life cycle. The seed becomes a plant and the plant becomes a seed (Miller 2000, p 50) and the cycle goes on. The seed inherits life when it is placed in the earth and a plant is sprouted out of the earth. Now this is the description that portrays the closeness of the father and daughter relationship which is sacred and taboo. The Book of Genesis depicted another close relationship between a husband and a wife (Genesis 2:24)⁶ to show that they are one.

Benjamin Goodnick nicely summarised the taboo between a father and daughter by telling the story of Lot and his daughters. Lot's daughters disguised themselves by making their father drunk at night in the cave. Lot did not know what his daughters had done to him which really gives us a picture of the sacred bond between a father and daughter. Why did the

⁴ NRSV **Leviticus 18:10** You shall not uncover the nakedness of your son's daughter or of your daughter's daughter, for their nakedness is your own nakedness.

⁵ NRSV **Exodus 20:10** But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work -- you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

⁶Genesis 2:24 24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

daughters go through the process of deception if incest was indeed permitted at the time? Incest with a daughter is a sin way back in Abraham's time and pre-Sinaic laws or the laws God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai.

The culture of the Bible⁷, Samoa and the western culture do not allow incest. Judge Justice Nelson stated that both the Samoan culture and western laws consider incest as severe and unacceptable because it is in the form of rape (Judge Justice Nelson 2015). Also it is against the will of the victim. Consequently the women or ladies of the house are being victimized showing that the men of the family are weak. This is why with the best of their abilities they tried to conceal and hide it from the world due to their shame and dishonor.

Socially and culturally incest must not exist this is the code of ethic that governed the Samoan people ages ago. Incest was despised by our ancestors for these two main reasons the vatapuia which means sacred boundary. There is a space that limits certain conduct, if such conduct is to breach such sacred space. Dishonor and disgrace will be upon that person or the family of such person. This is why another enforcement boundary was constituted. The feagaiga covenant between a brother and a sister is a sanctuary. It is like an act of absolute taboo that was never meant to broken.

5. Father's and Men's roles

Again in the fathers' and mens' roles the vatapuia (taboo) and feagaiga (covenant) must be greatly reinforced. According to judge Leitualalesa Daryl Michael he states mens roles are to protect and not destroy the trust and the fa'a-Samoa. Furthermore Judge Jusitice Nelson

⁷ The culture of the Bible is Israel's culture.

expanded the fa'a-Samoa by stating two major aspects of the culture the covenant (feagaiga) and

taboo (sacred),

"It should also therefore be made quite clear to the accused and others like him [perpetrator] that what is expected from the men of their families is that their role to protect the young and vulnerable members of their families from harm and abuse, not to be the perpetrators of those crimes against them. To do so as the accused has done in this case is not only a serious breach of family trust but runs against our fa'a Samoa (Judge Leitualalesa Daryl Michael 2015)."

Judge Justice Nelson extended the fa'a-Samoa to vatapuia and feagaiga by saying that,

"All rapes are serious. If a scale exists for such things the rape of a sibling is even more serious. Not only in the eyes of the western law but also as a matter of the cultural law that has governed this country for centuries. The "vatapuia" or sacred covenant between brother and sister has been broken. Indeed in this case it was forcibly ripped apart by the defendant. We are all aware it is the duty of every Samoan brother to protect his sister his "feagaiga" and his family and not to sexually abused and take advantage of them (Judge Justice Nelson 2015)."

If we look at these two statements the fa'a-Samoa (culture), vatapuia (sacred) and

feagaiga (covenant) are divine elements; sacred and covenant already embedded in our culture, way before the Gospel landed on our shores. God was already in our culture before we know it in his anthropological model (Bevans 2002). Consequently in this world there is always good and there is always bad. Bad things happen but the good must overcome the bad, as one of the sayings goes, "For evil flourish, it is only sufficient that good men do nothing (Huie 2018)". Incest flourishes because some good men are neglecting the problem. The identity and the reputation of the family within the community is more important than the problem of incest. It is better to conceal it and keeping the honor of the family intact.

Again the duties and roles of men in their families whether it is social, cultural, politcal or religious. Men like grandfathers, fathers, uncles and brothers must protect and provide for their families the security. In order to keep them from harm. At the same time enforcing the

trust and love within the family. Also these roles and duties are ancient practices which is authoritative and good ethics so that the vulnerable and weak side of the family is well looked after. The weak side (known in the fa'a-Samoa as itu pa vaivai) of the family are mothers, daughters, sisters and young children.

6. Mother's roles

The role of the mother is to be available in nurturing her children. Especially, the mother and daughter relationships according to Catherine B Low whose mother was a survivor of incest(Low 2010b, p 42). Together with the experience of Lina Chan who is the leader of the Samoa Victim Support Group. She stated that most of the cases they have was due to the fact that the mother was absent from home(Chan 2018, p 2). In times of troubles mothers tried to the best of their abilities to keep the family together. Even though the reality is painful they opt to keep the father because he is the bread winner for the family. Also, she still loves her husband and supported him all the way.

7. Conclusion

It is dangerous to take the Bible at its phase value. Most certainly sure the translation will be way off the original meaning of the actual text. On the other hand families will be destroyed due to the wrong use of the Bible authority. As it is seen in the argument of Doctor Benjamin Good, Is Incest with a Daughter Permissible? He has done careful analysis of the omission of daughter with regards to the omission of a wife in the Torah. It was found that the omission was due to the fact that father and daughter, husband and wife are very close relationship. Therefore there was no need to mention daughter in forbidden sexual acts of

Leviticus 18:10. The wife was not mentioned in the fifth commandment of the Decalogue because the wife and the husband are one as stated in Genesis 2:24⁸. Unlike distant relative who are like granddaughters, grandsons and in laws. There is a need to mention these relations to show that there is a certain space which is considered sacred and forbidden for any kind of sexual penetration.

Doctor Virginia Doherty is trying to emphasize the right relations given by the Bible. The Bible's viewpoint is dominated by men as she argued. On the surface it seemed that incest is not a sin which is one of the reasons children in their own homes were continually being victims of incest. Therefore, sermons must address that incest is a sin that manipulates families by destroyed the love and trust that unites them. Furthermore the emphasis of male superiority should be to protect women and children not to abuse the trust that was given to them men.

Incest is a virus growing rapidly and destroying the family unity. The good news is people still remember that God is always close. There are many stories and testimonies of the survivors of incest, even though they have had experienced of the painful reality and abuse done to them by their fathers, brothers, uncles and so on. Incest survivors seek refuge to God in other Christians.

⁸ **Genesis 2:24-25** ²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

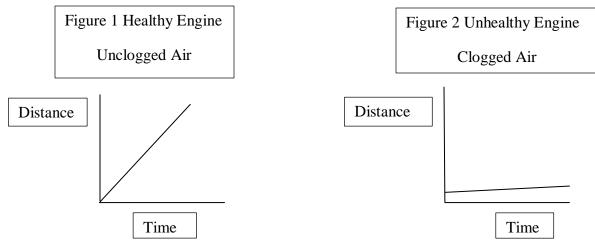
Chapter Two: Auto-Mechanic Model

Introduction

The auto-mechanic model of air, fuel and heat will be used to identify the causes and effects of incest problems. It is these three basic fundamental elements that a mechanic will always trace when trying to diagnose an engine problem. The air filter will be checked to see if it is clogged or not. Then check the fuel if there is any or may be contaminated with water or dirt. The last check will be the heat or spark to see if it is short causing the voltage to drop. Hence this diagnostic process will be applied to the data collected. First the air will be check then progress to other two elements of fuel and heat.

1 Clogged Air Passage

A clogged air passage delays the velocity process creating a tension and fatigue to the engine. Even though the engine is operational but it takes time to power up in order to give satisfactory results. This means that time is increasing but the distance is not proportional to time taken. If we looked at the distance time graph of a healthy vehicle engine it should look like figure one but an unhealthy engine should look like figure two.



Clearly from these two graphs we can see a problem. Especially the unhealthy engine in figure two the relationship of time and distance is not proportional. Time is still running but there is very small distance covered or eventually no distance at all. In general a clogged air passage is an imbalanced process while a clear air passage gives a balanced and proportional process. The clogged air model can be seen in the continuation of the problem of incest in families. Time goes on but the problem remains for quite a while making a home or family stressed out and under enormous pressure of trying to cover up and conceal the shame and dishonor. Therefore the problems below will show how incest clogged the normalities of homes and families in devastated effects.

1.1 Cover Up is a Form of Control

According to Lina Chang, president of Samoa Victim Support Group, there is so much at stake from the point of view of a victim's mother. When a mother finds out about her husband sexually assaulting their daughter, she is usually at a loss on what to do, and it seems at times that she is suffering the same shame as her daughter, if not more. This is made even harder by the fact that she, is always on the side of her abusive, sexual predator husband. There is so much shame on her part with regards to the *va*; that *va* between her and her family, between her and her children, her and her own sisters and brothers, people of the village, and the village church or congregation. This is because they always condemn the mother.

Samoa Victim Support Group has learned that they always have fights with the mothers, instead of the fathers of victims, as the mothers fight hard to keep the sexual crime out of the public eye and the law. Many mothers alleged that they had been threatened of murder by their husbands if they should speak out. Some of the reasons given for this cover-up are that such

unbearable shame are experienced by the mothers, their family has certain status within the larger community, that the husband is a notable member of the village, the church, or he may even be a minister of the church.

1.2 Shifting the Blame

What is revealed in the data is that everyone, not just the perpetrator tried to shift the blame away from the abuser; often it is blamed on the victims themselves. For instance the case name Police versus XM (a fake name) that was argued between the Police and XM. He took his niece in law in his family as his own daughter. He was a forty three year old man and a father to four children excluding his niece. The niece is the daughter of his wife's sister but to keep the story short. XM sexually abused his niece in law and during the Supreme Court hearing. The accused in his statement blamed the victim.

1.3 Characterisation

The victim was not a vestal virgin⁹ and she was cheeky and the way she dressed herself conveyed a message that she wanted to have sex. Then he went on and blamed the devil that in that moment he was tempted. He was unable to control himself therefore he committed incest. Not only that but his wife supported her husband by saying the same as her husband. The devil always tried to manipulate people and destroyed good relations. On the other hand she blamed her niece for a made up story to accuse her uncle. Maybe she intended to break their marriage up that is why she created this lie.

⁹ Vestal Virgin is a woman who has never experienced sexual intercourse before.

Moreover how his employer, pulenu'u or mayor of the village including the wife

characterized the perpetrator as good man in one of the summary reports as quoted below,

You have various testimonials. F.G, your employer describes you as a diligent worker, the first to arrive and the last to leave. You are trustworthy and reliable. [B] speaks of you having faithfully attending church services, being attentive especially around the extended family and respectful of the belief of others. The Pule-nu'u of [C] speaks of your humble and diligent in respect of village matters and you attend to the village matters and work hard in the Church. A similar reference is provided by the Pule-nu'u of [A] (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2016a).

This is the reality of life when one's action is unlawful there is always a motive to dodge the penalty leaving the victim defenseless and lonely. Therefore as time gone by the memory of the victim cannot be erased of what has happened to her or him.

1.4 Incest initiated and remain to be ongoing

The planing and timing of the incident and the sign of no retaliation or scream signified an apparent possibility that there was a telephone arrangement to give prior information that everyone was asleep. Also the perpetrator knew exactly where to go about in the house at the blackness of night. Technology is a disadvantage to incest. As it encourages incest to repeat, this time it was not the male cousin iniating incest. But it was the female cousin that called her first cousin. Usually, by the time he arrived she was already asleep. This showed a sign of being fearless in fact she was expecting her cousin and this is sad to see because they did not stop and step back. So that they can reflect what they were doing was wrong. According to the facts presented by the court as quoted below,

7. According to the Summary of Facts, the first incident occurred sometime between the 1st of December 2015 and the 31st May 2016. The victim was asleep in her house when the accused went to her, touched her

breasts and body and proceeded to take off the victim's panties. This woke up the victim and he then engaged in sexual intercourse with her. About 10 to 15 minutes later, the accused again proceeded to digitally penetrate the victim followed by engaging in sexual intercourse with her. Later on the same night, the accused again repeated the same action and engaged in sexual intercourse with the victim. When this was done, he left the house and went to the house he was sleeping in.

8. On a separate date between 1st December 2015 and the 31st May 2016, the accused, after receiving a phone call from the victim again went to the victim who was then asleep. The accused kissed her and engaged in sexual intercourse with her. A few minutes later, he again proceeded to engage in sexual intercourse with the victim (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2016c).

But in some cases it is evident that, reputation and family status is another factor that kept incest going for number of years. They tried to protect their reputation and status neglecting the abuse and the oppression of the victim and tolerating incest. After the first sexual intercourse happened, it then became easier for this to continue. When there is no good work done to the unlawful and evil practice it will carry on. From that standpoint the evil practice seems normal and seems a lawful and good practice but it is not. In the case of police vesrsus AV "The defendant's behaviour did not cease and continued through 2010, 2011 and in 2012 the girl again became pregnant. The family again relocated to another village where the complainant had her second child in 2013" (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2017).

2 Contaminated Fuel

Fuel can be contaminated under certain conditions. When it is wrongly refilled as different engine configurations have different fuels for operations. Some cars run on petrol, some run on diesel. It is most important that the right fuel is fed into the vehicle or else the engine breaks down. There are grades of high octane levels required for an engine to run smoothly and powerfully. But there are cases that when we rushed things and forgot the right fuel for the engine within that split second the engine is busted. Sometimes the octane in the fuel composition is not enough the octane additives are added into the petrol tank to upgrade the volume of octane in the fuel.

2.1 Spur of the Moment

The most common cause as Lina Chan stated, is called the spur of the moment. The mother was not at home. Only the grandfather, father or stepfather was at home alone with the child. Maybe he was watching porn movies on his phone. All of a sudden he was aroused and wanted to have sex but the mother was not at home. The only person availabe is his daugther or grand daughter. Without thinking clearly and knowing that he has all the power and the advantage of his strength and the child will submit to his command. The issue here is being childish and neglecting that sex is a thing of the past. But being childish and irresponsible of his actions wanting to experience what has been already experience. In that cross fire of intraconflict the effect is catastrophic on the family well being. It is no longer warm but cold and disintegrated. There is a factor here that differentiate personal character. Say if there are two fully grown men watching porn on the same phone. There is a possibility that the other man will act normally and continue on with his daily routine. Therefore, spur of the moment is corupted with the trick of the past experiences making an old person or a christian loose sight of who he really is. At the same time ignoring the presence of God.

This was parallel to a confession made by an uncle in law to a police on an incident on twenty sixth of July two thousand and seventeen. According to the confession he states, "in a spur of the moment he was tempted". Spur of the moment and being tempted comes before the lust and the desires to have sex. Spur of the moment can cause unwanted pregnancy

In April 2015 the victim was brought to Samoa by her grandfather and she lived at Lufilufi. Because she wanted to meet the defendant, in May 2015 the defendant took the victim from Lufilufi to live with him. It was during that period the offending occurred. On a night between May 1st and September 31st 2015 while the victim was sleeping the defendant removed her pants and underwear after coming to her mosquito net. He fondled the victims private parts, digitally [using of fingers to] penetrated her fondled her breasts and then climbed on top of her and had sexual intercourse with her. When he was finished he hopped off and told her not to tell anyone about what had happened (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2016b).

The police summary of facts, while only relating one instance of intercourse, states the victim became pregnant and gave birth on 29 March 2016. While it is unlikely she became pregnant due to one instance of sex, the defendant did tell the probation office he had sexual intercourse with his daughter three times. According to the young girls statement, she had sex with no one else so it is very likely it is the defendant who impregnated her. When her pregnancy was discovered the matter was reported to the police which has resulted in the one charge against the defendant (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2016b):

The mind fuelled the body with desires of covetousness and moments of lust. The soul is mutated and corupted the soul. But the soul was meant to be pure and holy, because it is hard wired in the whispering of the Holy Spirit. Incest with daughter is a sin and is not the will of God to abuse children.

2.2 A Patriarchal Theology of Male Superiority

This fuel is outdated and it needs to be up graded to suit the needs of today's context. Patriarchal society elevated male superiority because they were regarded as complete human beings because they have penis. Unlike females which they lack this private part. This differentiation tip the balance between male and female making them unequal. This is a theology people constructed from the Bible and Doctor Doherty criticse this theology as it promotes incest in families as quoted As long as men feel they can treat women and children like objects as long as society continues to perpetuate the myth that women are less than full human beings as long as the church continues to sanctify male supremacy and preach female submission then incest will continue to be rampant in our homes neighborhoods parishes cities and towns As long as the church continues to deny that many children are being sexually abused even in Christian homes then children will continue to be at risk of sexual abuse by their father grandfathers uncles brothers and cousins (Doherty 1987, p 5)

Now we can see that this fuel needs some serious reform and upgrade so that there is equality and power balance in all humankind. No one is more superior than the other but love and trust must be emphasised as Jesus is the example of that love. He came not to over power but to save us $(John 3:17)^{10}$.

3 Heat spark

The heat or spark is created by a direct current of twenty four thousand to thirty six thousand volts per pulse. Direct current must not mixed with alternative current which is supplied by the alternator. Other wise the current will collapse due to shortage. Shortage because alternative current is not compatible with the direct current. This makes the heat from the inefficient to burn the air-fuel mixture.

¹⁰ **John 3:17** ¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

3.1 Mix Messages of the Bible

We can see this incompatible mixture in the Bible of God and the devil, good and evil, light and darkness, rich and poor, humility and exalted and many other opposite and conflicting polarities. Most of incestuous men use these mix messages of the Bible to support and justify their wrong doings. As if the Bible recorded the negative side of things to confirm that it is always good to be practised.

The Bible can be very grey on the issue of incest. Like the stories of the Old Testament in Genesis, Lot and his daughters (Genesis 19:30-35). The children of king David, Amnon and Tamar (2 Samuel 13:7-14). The story of Abram and Sarai (Genesis 12:1-12) and the letter of Paul to the Corinthians (I Corinthians 7:36-38)¹¹ gave mix messages. Therefore some readers may accept it as the truth and healthy living but in our context it is not. Also the fact of the matter God forbids incest in Leviticus 18:10-26 and way before that as discussed in chapter one that the daughter is not listed as she is close to her father.

The Bible must be read in a systematic way. There is only one right answer when to matter of mix messages. The holiness of God as it is completely manifested through the life of Christ Jesus. Jesus loves God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength and loves humanity as himself. He gave his life so that we can be like him if we choose his holy ways. But not other wicked ways mixed with good ways which are recorded in the Bible to warn us not to accept as code of ethics.

¹¹ NRSV 1 Corinthians 7:36 But if any man thinketh that he behaveth himself unseemly toward his virgin daughter, if she be past the flower of her age, and if need so requireth, let him do what he will; he sinneth not; let them marry.

The work of Doctor Doherty explained these wicked ways as seemed right to their own thinking but not what the Bible is actually saying

> Some fathers rationalize that as long as they do not go outside the home and commit adultery they are not living in sin. Some rationalize that because they have never heard a sermon preached in church that incest is a sin then sex with their own children most not be wrong. Some rationalize that as a man they have every right to demand anything they want from the women in their home. Some even claim she asked for it and insist the child is to blame. The list of rationalizations the list of creative reasons why child sexual abuse is rampant in our society continues to grow with each new disclosure. But no matter how creative the rationalizations or excuses sexual abuse of a child is always an act of violence and is always the total responsibility of the abuser (Doherty 1987, p 5).

Again the use of the Bible to justify a wrong doing is an abomination to God. God's word gives hope and trust. But it seems that it is twisted and oppressive that one might think. There is no love and holy living so that others may feel empowered. In the end God will have the final say. Therefore it is better to stay holy and receive Jesus as he is the only way. The words can be edited and re-edited. But the salvation through Jesus cannot be edited or twisted.

3.2 Power Difference

The power difference consider the ages of the perpetrator and the victims. It is apparent from the data collected. There is a huge gap between the ages of abusers and victims. The first case XM[2017]WSSC157. The man accused was a forty three years old and the victim his niece in law was nineteen years old. Another case which is numbered AV[2017]WSSC130. It was a case between a biological father and daughter. The father's wife died but his daughter was only seventeen years old at the time she got raped by her own father.

The age difference between the accused and the victim was an aggravating factor of the offending. Counsel added in making this submission the inexperience of the victim, apparently a reference to alleged sexual inexperience, and the XM[2017]WSSC157 (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2016a).

23. This is a bad case of incest. The defendants actions began with a rape of his 17 year old biological daughter and then continued on and off over a period of some 8 years, 2009 to 2017. Needless to say what happened dramatically altered this complainants life. The defendant would come home drunk late at night and use his position as her father and head of the household to submit her to his will. It is difficult to imagine how she would have felt every time the defendant went out as she waited for the time when he came home. AV[2017]WSSC130 (Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute 2017)

This showed how merciless these fathers are. They show no regard to the innocence and the powerless of their daughters to defend themselves. Also their authority was being abused by manipulating the respect and honor their daughters gave in obedience to them. The warmth and the security within the household collapsed making these young girls insecure and lonely since their world is being destroyed and ripped apart by the brutality of physical strength cold hearted fathers.

4 Conclusion

Described in this chapter is how the auto-diagnostic model analyses the occurrence of incest in family contexts. It shows how the many excuses made by men and some of them are Bible-related mainly for the prupose of covering their sinful acts. However, according to the analysis there are times when human nature is blinded by lust and sinful feelings that lead to doing sinful activities such as incest. In other words, incest cannot be avoided but can be prevented. It is a disease and needs to be diagnosed. The analysis shown above from the point of view of the auto-diagnostc model reveals how incest occurs which is when human moral and ethical values are no longer remembered and felt by a human being in the spur of the moment.

Chapter Three: Healing

Introduction

It is sad to see that there are not many tools available to fix the problem of incest in Samoa. Of course there is the Police Department, the Judiciary systems. Evidently the cases of incest are still on the rise. The Police and the Justice Department should do something new. As Albert Einstein said, "It is insane to do the same thing over and over again and expecting different results". Recently there is a new tool in place and operational for Samoa called the Samoa Victim Support. Ultimately God is the best agency and we are his tools his healing power will manifest through Christ-like individuals.

1 Tools for Diagnostic

At the moment, only Samoa Victim Support Group is taking the initiative to doing something about the problem of incest. They not only report suspected cases of incest to the Police Department, they also get a hold of the victims under police protection and give them a safe home at their home complex, where there are a number of other sexually abused children. They also accompany these children and victims to their court cases and appearances. At Samoa Victim Support Group, these children receive counseling and school learning. They also have a home constructed specifically for young mothers and their babies because some of these young girls have had babies from such incest abuse. The Samoa Victim Support Group is good at clearing the air between facts and rumors. They can also recycle the air so that it becomes clean again. In other words they can help a victim becomes a whole human being again. Learn to move forward with life despite the painful past. Learn to become familiar with the outside world and get ready to start anew, and know that not every man is bad. This is according to Lina Chan of the Samoa Victim Support.

2 Who else can help?

The church can help and all of the reverends, all of the citizens of Samoa and newsletters available to create awareness. Awareness so that the public will not stay silent but voice out the perpetrators and reduce or eliminate the problem of incest. Incest is destroying our homes, our friendly relations with each other. This motion of public awareness is a good tool to replace and eliminate the contaminated fuel or the perpetrators of incest that acts as a virus and a disease that weakens the va tapuia (sacred space) and the feagaiga (covenant) in social, political and religious families. According to Lina, Malua Theological College as a partner of the Victim can be a huge help for them to raise public awareness because the church members are great in numbers. She also has a proposal to propose to the congregation [Annual General Meeting or Fono Tele] mainly because the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa has the know-how and she does not have that talent (Chan 2018, p 4). All in all the aim of awareness is to discriminate and eliminate incest.

3 Survival Mechanism

It is interesting that victims acknowledge the presence of God in their time of trouble. The powers of men have positive and negative effects on people which is alternative, just like alternative current. This is nothing compared to the power of God that will always turn our negatives into our positives. This is seen in one of the lives of the victims and survivors of incest as Katherine B Low an ordained minister and feminist Biblical scholar. Her mother was the victim and a survivor of a father daughter incest as quoted below.

> As a victim of sexual abuse in a patriarchal religious context, my mother internalized her father's religious meaning systems. He would pray every night at dinner, for instance, and the family attended church services every week. My mother's religious beliefs echo that of the patriarchal religion of her childhood. She believes that God is her "Father," and that "He" has given the "Bible" as "His Word" for our living. I've since challenged this part of her theology. However, the internalization, according to Jacobs, allowed my mother to cope at the time and has helped her take control of her own life. She passed on her faith in God to me and claims she mastered control over her own body, and thus her own life, by giving birth to children. She claims God helped her "create something new" that belongs utterly to her and God. Through the act of procreation, my mother created new kinship ties and relationships which offered hope that transcended her relationship with my grandfather. She found her redemption and survival in the journey from being a daughter to becoming a mother (Low 2010a).

In this tool only God can heal a soul. There is no other way even an advanced

intellectual intelligence cannot comprehend the healing of the soul. As it is seen in this story no

one else was there for her even her own mother.

My mother told me something like the following: "And my mom just stood there doing dishes at the kitchen sink. She wouldn't turn around. She kept her back to me. That was when I really knew that my mom would never help me (Low 2010b, p 42)."

Maybe that is the reason why patriarchal theology is condemned by feminist theologians. The power difference and equality it gives allowed men to do what is evil and it seems normal while the Bible says otherwise. Especially the commandment number five of the Decalogue "Honor your father and your mother..." (Exodus 20:12). The father comes before the mother again

showing that the father is more superior. But the point is this girl had no one else but God. God is the survival mechanism for any one suffering when all else fails.

4 A mechanic solution

Interestingly much of the diagnostic of works of a mechanic is done blindly. Or in other words the mechanic does not use the naked eyes for most diagnosis. The mechanic can estimate and approximate problems, not by centimeters or inches but by one hundredth and one thousands of a millimeter. These fractions cannot be seen by the naked eye. Only the mind can estimate these variants.

I will show the mechanic model in a chemical and molecular formula to elaborate more on why mechanics see the unseen. The molecular formula of air, fuel and heat that took place in the combustion chamber between air fuel and heat can be illustrated below,

 $2C_8H_{18}(fuel) + 25O_2(Air) \xrightarrow{Heat} 16CO_2(carbon \ dioxide) + 18H_2O(water \ vapor$ (Orphardt 2003)

This is what happens inside the engine when it is operating. Therefore, if an engine is dismantled or dissected you cannot see these elements. With this hard proof of evidence and experience urged me with the belief that unseen things existed right here with us. This belief is again re-enforced by the scriptures in defining the faith in the Letter to the Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith is like an eschatological resolve of an incest victim that God will do wonders in liberating victims through the love and care of others. This is like the Victim Support, the police, the public and the church. More importantly is faith in Christ.

Chapter Four: Conclusion

Where is God in the issue of incest in Samoa and how the auto-diagnostic view of a mechanic positions God in this matter? God is always here and everywhere but the presence of God is felt especially when we are in trouble and no one else seemed to care. Our loneliness draws us closer to our creator. Just like when an engine fails and it needs a mechanic to fix the problem.

After all, the view for families to live well is discussed in Chapter One. In ways how a family unit and individuals within the household should behave and interact with each other properly. The value of *Va* and *Feagaiga* are highly regarded as the holiness code in the Samoan culture. Whoever broke these codes polluted the land and subject to exile or banish for life in order for the healing process to initiate smoothly and families to regroup. Therefore when things are getting better and back to normal again the accused can get a second chance into the community.

Today the fa'a-Samoa is being globalized and modernized to evolve with the ever changing world. At the same time our way of life shifted extended families shifts to nuclear or immediate families which is more like western families. People like to urbanize their lives and overcrowding the urban areas. Now the western family problem is becoming a Samoan family problem mainly because the father is the sole head of the nuclear family. There are no other control bodies like the village council of matai or chiefs that discipline a father or a brother to live accordingly to the laws and regulations. The saying is mostly heard is that, "Let the police handle it, leave it to the law.' This is a kind of thinking that let the devil loose and do more harm than good. This is parallel to the saying that Judge Justice Nelson quote during a court hearing, "For evil to flourish it is only sufficient that good men do nothing (Judge Justice Nelson 2016)".

From this work, I have found that incest cannot be avoided but can be prevented. In doing so as I mentioned above is that it is important to continue putting emphasis on our social and cultural values that have been used to guide how our Samoan aiga should live life. Values such as feagaiga and knowing the va-fealoai and should start from within the relationships between parents and their children in Samoan family contexts. The significance of attaching to the extended family is also important to consider again. Living the palagi world lifestyle of individual and nuclear families do not work in our Samoan worlds. It is like detaching oneself from the world. When such way of life is lived loneliness comes in which may end up doing stupid things such as incest. More importantly Christian values need to be learned more and lived more by all people.

I think in this stage from a mechanical stand point, unseeing things are in fact existed right in front of us. Therefore, God is ever present regardless of being visible. We are his tools to fix and keep things in the order according to his will. We can recall how Jesus in the synoptic Gospel and the Gospel of John. He performed miracles, signs and wonders. The Gospels records accounts that Jesus said you are healed and healing takes effect (Matthew 8:8). In other accounts he rebuked the demons and demons obeyed him (Mark 7:29). But there was another healing that Jesus mixed mud and his saliva to cure blindness (John 9:6). It is amazing to see that Jesus knew exactly what type of treatment heal different kinds of illnesses. This shows that Jesus is like mechanic of the proper way of putting it, a mechanic is like Jesus ability to create and re-create. Jesus is not seen but he is always with us. Thus, the message from this work is simple and straight forward because it the message of the Bible. Incest is definitely not an acceptable behavior and practice in God's kingdom and must be condemned. Jesus Christ is the mechanic who is the Son of God and he is the only one who can breath fresh air into the one doing this sinful act of incest. Only Jesus can clean the unclean fuel in that person's heart and only Jesus can give that person a heat-spark that stops him/her from doing those sinful activites.

Appendices

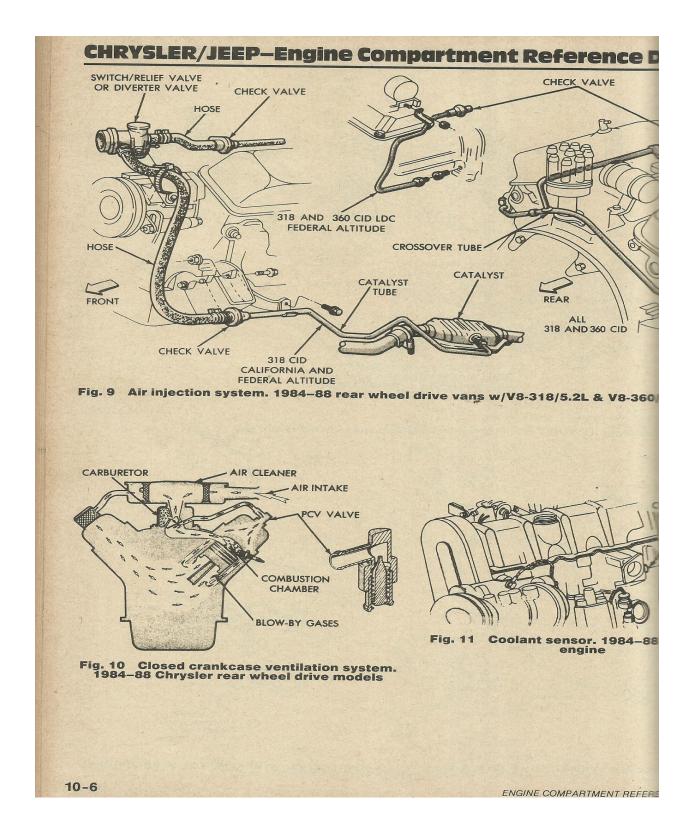
Information Sheet

Malua Theological College Malua Theological College Private Bag Apia SAMOA Phone: (685) 42 303 (685) 42 301 Rev. Maafala Lima Fax: Principal: Email: mtc@malua.edu.ws Vice Principal: Rev. Alesana Eteuati 08 Mati 2018 To Whom it may concern Matagaluega o Leoleo APIA Afioga e, INFORMATION SHEET Working Thesis Title: "Auto-theology; a mechanical point of view regarding incest in Samoa." My name is Charlie Banse, a forty-year old male final-year student at Malua Theological College. I am currently doing a thesis research as partial fulfilment for my degree of Bachelor of Theology. The working title for my thesis is: "Auto-theology; a mechanical point of view regarding incest in Samoa." Incest is one of the major problems in Samoa at present, and part of my research is the collection of data through personal interviews, and statistical data from the appropriate governmental departments like the Department of Police. It is anticipated that the findings of this research would make a positive theological contribution to the conversation, and a possible solution for this problem of incest. This is why I humbly ask for assistance from the Department of Police and its honourable officers of the law, if I could obtain some of the data concerned, and/or an interview with the right officers who know much about this issue. 1

Questionnaire

	Interview	Questions	on the issue	e of Incest								
1	What do you know about incest?											
2	Biblically	it was an	ancient prac	rtice esnec	vially in the	Fovotian k	ingshin?					
2	Diolically,	it was an				Leyptian K	ingsnip.					
3	By law ho	ow is incest	t classified?									
4	State the	causes of i	ncest in Sar	noa?								
5	How man	ny incest ca	uses and vic	tims have	been recor	ded from t	he last 5 ye	ars and cu	rrently?			
6	Ana thana	otherwar	n to troot th	o mormotro	ton on inst	mut thom in	ioil for co	na tima an				
0	Are there other ways to treat the perpetrator or just put them in jail for some time and then release them in due time?											
			due time?									
			due time?									
			due time?									
	then relea	se them in	due time?	e victims a	part from		tim Suppo	rt Group?				
	then relea	se them in		e victims a	part from		tim Suppo	rt Group?				
7	Are there	se them in other way	to treat th			Samoa Vic						
7	Are there Is technol	other way	rs to treat th			Samoa Vic			poost to			
7	Are there Is technol	se them in other way	rs to treat th			Samoa Vic			poost to			
7	Are there Is technol	other way	rs to treat th			Samoa Vic			poost to			
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7 8 9	Are there Is technol the proble	se them in other way logy, espec em of inces	s to treat th	ernet, cell j	phones, bli	Samoa Vic	l television	etc. a big t				

Engine showing Air, Fuel and Heat spark in Figure 10



			S	AMOA V	ICTIM S	UPPORT	GROUP						
				CAS	EWORK		SIS						
2005 - 2016													
CASES	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Attempted Rape	0	0	0	0	5	7	15	26	21	15	18	13	120
Carnal Knowledge	0	3	4	7	9	15	22	25	15	13	10	6	129
Incest	4	4	5	7	8	10	8	12	16	13	17	12	116
Indecent Assault	4	8	10	14	14	16	22	39	30	21	18	10	206
Rape	4	14	16	15	14	15	12	31	30	21	25	18	215
Sexual Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	9	20	38
TOTAL	12	29	35	43	50	63	79	133	114	90	97	79	824
Source: Samoa Victim Support Gr	oup Databa	se											
						Interim Protection Orders		18	54	57	131	260	
						Referrals	from Court	t - DV/FV	30	79	297	194	600
		Sexual Violence		824									
	Acronyms	DV	Domestic	Violence									
		VA Family Violence											

Incest cases from Samoa Victim Support Group

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