

## 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 – 5:30pm / PASTOR CHARLES AND EDEN TRINIDAD

Eden is from the Philippines and I knew she came today because she wanted me to invest in a chromite mine in the Philippines. When we sat down at Antique, I explained that I was happy to hear Eden's proposal but as a return they had to come and watch a video.

Deal.

Pastor Charles observed that Linda did not show her own image during the video. There were no men friends. She did show a kind of friends but only one kind. What kind of friends? The kind that would accept her. These friends were with her, they played with her, they talked with her. They are not opposed to her. They were all so accepting of Linda so much so that you almost felt the pressure of being rejected.

And there were a pressure of having children. Maybe she was afraid to have children because of what was done to her. Maybe it was not. But there were no images of the husband, no image of her home. There were scenes of wedding, but it was not of her own. None. There was also an absence of life. The video showed Linda was so full of life with her friends. But equally it showed that she had no life if she had no friends. We all tend to focus on what was important in our lives and this video was all about these women who played a role in her life. These women were important to her. From the beginning where we saw Linda in college somewhere in the US to the very last shot. It was all about life, her life, her world, all linked up by her friends. It was her reality. There was nothing I knew about Linda, I knew nothing about her by watching this video. The only thing I knew was that everything was speeding by except these friends. Then, it paused. The women held the work together. They were like threads; they made a piece of clothing.

The chairs were for people but then there was an absence of people. It was lifeless. At certain part of the day, there were people sitting on those chairs. What would the chairs be talking amongst themselves if they could talk? They would talk about people who sat on them that day, would they not? People that used them. The chairs were upside down, some were reclined back. What did they say about the people who used them that day? Reclined, relaxed people. Circled - friends were talking. Life did the same thing. People talk to you even after they had left. By the condition people left they would tell you what had been going on in their lives. And it was not a coincidence but there were empty pictures too. They would speak to you if you would listen. Why did she have empty chairs? Why not? She did empty pictures too. They were the same thing. The very same thing.

(Gina Wong / LiTA)