

European Youth Forum 2017

# *Action - Discrimination*

## *German Delegation*

*2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2017*



All in all we can say that it was a pleasure for us to be able to do the Action with all the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at our school. It was nice to see that we could really work with them and tell them about all the things we learned in the Kinderdorf Pestalozzi. We are happy that we could convey them the message we wanted to clarify. It was nice to see that our Action was neither boring nor hard to understand for the children so we could both take advantage of the Situation. Overall it was a nice experience for us and the young Participants too.

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For us it is important to show the children what discrimination is and how they have to deal with. Most of them don't know what discrimination is. They are not thinking about it. No one realizes how serious and deep the problem is. Also it is important to show how people who are discriminated feel and how we hurt them, but don't even know them. They are judged by their physical appearance, their disabilities or the stereotypes about them.

We want to tell the little children in our school what discrimination is and where they find it in their own life or in school. We also say why it is important for their future. So we do a special game. The mission of the game is to give those children a chance to put themselves in the shoes of discriminated people, to make them think about this problem and find out how tough it is. At the other side, we want to tell them how they can fight against discrimination.

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First we thought about what we actually did in our discrimination workshop, and we wanted



to give our new knowledge to the kids in the 5th grade. Right at the beginning we recognized that we can't talk to these children just like we did in our workshops because it would be too difficult for them. So we thought that we would start with something easy. First we asked them what they know yet about discrimination and were surprised that just two or three kids were able to say something. So we started

with a little game many of the groups in Trogen played. Every kid gets a point stacked to their head with different colors. Then they are not allowed to talk to each other and need to form groups. First it's a bit difficult to understand, but later they had some great ideas. One of them showed the others the color of their point on his sweatshirt. Then after a while some groups were building. But what they didn't know was that one color had only one point. When they've finished there was one confused kid alone with no group. After that game some of the kids already had some ideas what discrimination could be. One keyword they said was exclusion. To show them what happened we asked them why they made the groups like that and why nobody cared about the lonely one. They didn't really know what to say because as they also realized later, they didn't do that extra, it was more subconscious.

focused on forming said that it was the the groups like that different colors and But that's the them what now able to talk society. We happens all the



Everybody was just their own Group. They easiest for them to form because they had those it was obvious for them. point. After we showed discrimination is we were about this problem in our showed them that it time to minorities are

discriminated in our Countries and that sometimes the others don't actively do that just like they did in class. They were asked if they have ever had contact with discrimination. In our opinion that starts with mobbing in school and many of the kids told us some stories. But then we also wanted to know from them why people should discriminate others. And they had some ideas. They explained that they have heard about people discriminating others due to their religion, their skin color or their nationality.

In a nutshell we can say that it was a pleasure for us to be able to do the Action with all the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at our school. It was nice to see that we could really work with them and tell them about all the things we learned in the Kinderdorf Pestalozzi. We are happy that we could convey them the message we wanted to clarify. It was nice to see that our Action was neither boring nor hard to understand for the children so we could both take advantage of the Situation. Overall it was a nice experience for us and the young Participants too. We

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hope that other young people have the possibility to experience the same things as we did during this wonderful week.