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How can school communities help to prepare young people to be responsible citizens in line with fundamental values such as peace and tolerance of diversity?

Nowadays too many school communities don't really think that they must prepare students for life and that's wrong. I agree that the roll of the school is to provide students with knowledge and to prepare them for final examination at the end of the 4-year learning (The Maturity examination). But young people don't just need knowledge. They need more. They need some kind of »up-bringing«. There are schools that are not aware of this fact and students there are just numbers. But I think that all Catholic communities look at each person as an individual with a personality. As a student of a Catholic school I can tell that we can get here more than just knowledge.

Catholic schools have school subjects like other state schools. But besides they have a school subject covering religion and culture. There students talk about burning issues and can make their own opinion about issues. At this object students are taught about values and diversity. I think that this subject effects a lot of students so they can become responsible citizens with values needed. This is all right but I think that maybe it would be good if there was a much bigger stress on discussion and expressing opinions.

If schools want to raise »responsible citizens with values« they need to listen to each other as each is very important and they should discuss the values and show them why something is important and explain why this is so. Because even if students aren't 50 years old this doesn't mean that their opinion doesn't count. I think this is a very important issue and generally speaking we don't pay enough attention to it.

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