

How can Catholic schools best respond to the need to promote non-discrimination and to respond to cultural diversity?

We have only our world. In this world, there are living organisms, and lifeless materia. Difference between those two sides is life. Life needs anorganic substances to carve itself similar but yet so different forms in which it resides. It could be a tree, a dog or a human. Life distorted in, on the look so various shapes, they all have the signs of life. They become, they grow, they reproduce, and at the end of one generation, the dust that had been transformed into the subject falls in its pieces again. But life continues. In order to adapt to changes, life develops the image of species to be as resistible as possible. We are here, in this moment, to make sure that our nation survives. But isn't this rather too boring? Isn't there a higher aim to life?

You woke up each day, go to work, come home exhausted, watch TV, say a couple of words with the family, the less the better, a word too much and there is screaming all over the place. Then you go to bed, the place of your dreams. And even such a cute thing as a dream can become a nightmare and don't forget some sedatives later on. Oh, but there is weekend and some nice content rolling on TV. And a family trip on Sunday, kids don't like it, but hey, we need to be together right? Repeat this 365.4 times, multiplied by let's say 60 maybe 65, not a small number that we get, do we? If we consider ourselves an animal then the story listed above seems quite appropriate. There's no one in this world that can destroy us. We have large sum of money displayed on the plastic screen powered by electricity. We produce income, we have knowledge, we are the kings.

Is this enough? Actually not. The current situation is so good that we would need to live for ever. We want to control the life itself. We are reversing the program, our program, the way it would revitalize us to infinity. If this is good or bad is not the issue of this topic. What did I want to say with this? Life is simple. The strongest survives, and we, western civilisation think itself to be the strongest. We take care of our citizens, just because they are useful for us. Are they a threat to us? But are we really just animals? In my opinion not. We are more. A lot more. We have a lot of food why do some starve in the name of so called beauty. We have such nice entertainment channels but why are we sad. Why do we lie when we are confronted with the truth. Why don't we help others for nothing in exchange. We are so complex, that all of the computers can not simulate what we will say, how we will behave or figure out what we really need. Each person is one of its kind. And he needs more than a plant needs from environment. We know that there is something good, because we feel it within us. We are curious and we want to find that good. We are not perfect, so we fail. Nothing to be worth mentioning, if we don't get better and keep on our seeking. We all are unique, we need each other, living on the same continent. We have conformed our way of thinking to the environment. Different conditions result in distinct values. My parents bring me up in catholic faith. If I lived in Tibet, this would obviously not be the same. We can still be friends. For as long we all search for the same thing. If we get into irrelevant details, we are just kicking a cloud. I'm not trying to say that the religion is the only possible case. I see the same light in you as in myself. If you consider yourself as atheist or something, I see you as a person who wants to seek the same but in different manner.

The situation with school is identical. There, they see you as a person, potential of one of its kinds. The catholic prefix in the title stands there to summarize the important values for Catholics. As a Catholic they do not impose you an opinion upon how and what you should think. They'll motivate you in the quest to recognize your place within the world. They see a reflection of pure good in you, a person who can discover his own direction. If it looks like a dirty road or a highway, they believe you'll find your direction not only when you reach the destination, they'll prepare you for the journey.

Tomaž Treven, The Diocesan Classical Gymnasium, Ljubljana, Slovenia