

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

Children learn a lot from their parents, but the real socialization process begins at schools. Kids often make fun of each other, but teachers should really pay attention if somebody is excluded, laughed at or attacked because he or she has a different colour of skin, belongs to a different religion, belief, wearing different clothes... If children learn young, that diversity is a good thing, they probably won't have problems with that later in life.

Catholic schools are supposed to educate kids just like schools which don't have Catholic orientation. But when a student enrolls at high school, he already is a person with a formed personality. Unfortunately sometimes even at Catholic schools, people believe they are better than the others, which can lead to disrespect and discrimination of other cultures. But Catholic schools should use the advantage of having religious classes, during which we learn about other religions and cultures. I think that showing interest in them indicates that we are trying to respect them. We get to know a little bit about their culture by learning about their religion which is usually a big part of culture, though we could spend a little more time on the culture itself. But sometimes all this promotion of tolerance doesn't work. Even so schools should try at their very best and seriously talk to students, but they can't do miracles. In the end the decision to respect diversity is up to a person himself or herself and not up to the school system in general.

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