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**Assignment 4**

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# Global Citizenship

Over the last few months of learning about global citizenship has been a real eye opener for me. It has shown me the thing that I will need when going abroad and shown me how to become more of a global citizen than I could have ever even comprehended before. It has widened my opinion vastly as well, for example when I think about going to Germany in third year I am constantly thinking of how am I going to fit in and what do I wear or what do, I do when I am in the workplace. I have also learned that the main thing is to respect I have learned that it is the most important thing when trying to be accepted as a citizen. For example not discriminating against other people or people who believe in something different that you.

Hate is a huge problem and really influences discrimination and racism, unfortunately is something that is bred into people as Nelson Mandela said “No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”(1) Children are the future and they learn by example from the influences around them, if they can be taught to love rather than hate global citizenship would flourish in my opinion and the whole idea of world peace, one nation under one flag would become less of a dream and more of a reality. Equality would be second nature and people would be able to have the same opportunities. In relation to the likes of education I feel that your opportunities are like a door or a window and the less you have the smaller and smaller it gets. Unfortunately for children in third world countries this window gets too small and they have no chance or opportunity. Nelson Mandela also said “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” (2) I agree with him children are the future and to change it we need to give them all the help we can. People nowadays are too greedy and ungrateful and it has a huge effect on the hate in the world today. Countries invading each other and causing chaos. This just creates huge amounts of hate and people seeking revenge and as the Buddhists believe it is that “Revenge is like holding a hot piece of coal with the intent of throwing it, you are the one who gets burned”.(3) These are little barriers we need to overcome to get closer to the goal to becoming one nation.

If we can learn to respect one another and work together as one, as global citizens the possibilities are endless. Rather than trying to steal each other’s ideas to make profit why not work together to change the future in a way that is only possible if we work together. Everybody needs to work together we can have just a few people standing out while the others just follow the crowd so to speak Albert Einstein said “The one who follows the crowd will usually go no further than the crowd. Those who walk alone are likely to find themselves in places no one has ever been before.”(4) People need to stop doing things being afraid of what other people will think. People try so hard to fit into society, if everybody can do this and not just a few it could revolutionise the world. Unfortunately society does not like people who stand out and try to make change as The Joker says to Batman “Don't talk like one of them. You're not! Even if you'd like to be. To them, you're just a freak, like me! They need you right now, but when they don't, they'll cast you out, like a leper! You see, their morals, their code, it's a bad joke. Dropped at the first sign of trouble. They're only as good as the world allows them to be. I'll show you. When the chips are down, these... these civilized people, they'll eat each other. See, I'm not a monster. I'm just ahead of the curve.”(5) There is real meaning in what he says here, the likes are the visionaries we have seen in the past who have been killed off or “assassinated” the name given so that people think it was just an accident. If people stopped restricting each other it could change the course of the future. In my area of studies it could change the course of computing if people would just be seen as equals and put their heads together the opportunities are endless. We would be better than the world allows us to be.

I think that we as students and up and coming global citizens can aid in the promotion of things like equality and respect and bring a sense of unity coming together and acting as one. I feel if we can help others to opening their eyes and stop following everyone else and get everyone to stand up and have a say no matter who you are where you come from or what your background is.

The whole idea of unity and coming together is only around because we are divided if we can stop the division and realise our potential when we do come together it will be of great benefit. I think one of the main reasons we are divided is because of religion. The idea of who is the main God and what is right and what is wrong is tearing countries apart. I do not feel that what is right and what is wrong can be taught, it is learned. For example if someone is in the wrong they go to prison and they get beaten in prison and people think that is right. People are too busy believing in what society think is right and wrong and not learning for themselves as The Joker says to Harvey Dent “You know... You know what I've noticed? Nobody panics when things go "according to plan." Even if the plan is horrifying! If, tomorrow, I tell the press that, like, a gang banger will get shot, or a truckload of soldiers will be blown up, nobody panics, because it's all "part of the plan". But when I say that one little old mayor will die, well then everyone loses their minds!”(6) It is true as long as everything goes to plan as he puts it nobody cares. Soldiers at war being killed daily no one knows or cares. Innocent people being killed in foreign countries no one cares. These little things are making countries hate each other and mostly over religious religions like Palestine and places like that.

Religion does contribute hugely to unifying the world with events like World Peace Day. This brings leaders of main world religions together to help each other get a better understanding of one another’s religion. The concept behind this is fantastic the idea of coming together and helping each other understand about another’s beliefs this idea is a huge part of becoming a global citizen learning about another cultures belief and how to fit in. To become one we need to learn what is right and wrong and make the rules apply to everyone not one rule for certain people and another rule for different people.

As global citizens and students I believe we must show people how to become a global citizen so that you are not alone. We have to keep the faith in the hope that one day we will actually become unified under one flag as Ghandi said ““You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."(7) We cannot let a few people get in the way of this vision because they feel threatened. Because our visions are not going to plan. If enough people come together and seeing that we are all equal, as Carla Jo Masterson puts it “Love does not cost anything. Kind words and deeds do not cost anything. The real beauty of the world is equal for everyone to see. It was given by God equally to all, without restrictions.

Everyone, was given a beautiful vehicle in which to express love to others. Feelings are free to express and give to ourselves and each other through our willingness to give and care.

What is complicated about this... Why have we made others feel they have to climb mountains and swim oceans in order to make a difference.

All we need to understand my friends is that human life was given equally to us all, not partially but in totality.

The sun was given to all. It does not shine on the few. So, just has nature is indifferent to our station or situation, we need to know that we are all equal. We need to focus on the things that are constant and not place our values on things that can be blown away with the next, great, wind.

Value life in whatever house it dwells. For when it comes time that we are all stripped to bare bones before the divine and facing eternity, we will understand that the only law we were meant to follow, was to love ourselves and each other. Nothing more...nothing less.”(8) The world was given to us equally so we should live in it as equals and stop all the division and hate and start showing love and affection and believe that if we can accomplish this that there is a brighter future ahead and it really is within reach for every individual who is willing to fight for it. Belief will change this world as Ghandi said “To believe in something, and not to live it, is dishonest.”(9) Belief has put man on the moon and more if people had a little belief and fought for what they knew in their heart was right they would be a real global citizen in my eyes and I would stand beside them and happily call them my brother. People unfortunately are afraid. They are afraid that life will be too hard on them as Rocky Balboa says “Let me tell you something you already know. The world ain't all sunshine and rainbows. It's a very mean and nasty place, and I don't care how tough you are, it will beat you to your knees and keep you there permanently if you let it. You, me, or nobody is gonna hit as hard as life. But it ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward; how much you can take and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done! Now, if you know what you're worth, then go out and get what you're worth. But you gotta be willing to take the hits, and not pointing fingers saying you ain't where you wanna be because of him, or her, or anybody. Cowards do that and that ain't you. You're better than that! I'm always gonna love you, no matter what. No matter what happens. You're my son and you're my blood. You're the best thing in my life. But until you start believing in yourself, you ain't gonna have a life.” (10) People are afraid to take the hits and don’t want to keep moving forward people are happy to just coast along and not take an opportunity when it arises that is why we need this unity, we need it to drag others with us in the pursuit of this idea of unity. Not one person like Mandela or Martin Luther King we need seven billion of them all standing together and not backing down if we can just spread these ideas and get some belief into people I believe that we can make a strong community of global citizens.

In just a few months I have learned this it will be tough countries have built up years of hatred for each other and that first we need to teach forgiveness. Ghandi said “The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.”(11) He knew that forgiveness was needed to move forward and he believed that it was possible. To build a community you need to build it like a cathedral from the ground up so that it is strong. To start to build one nation each country will have to forgive and see each other as equal and understand that we all share this earth why should we be singled out by where we are from. If we can just stop trying to be better than everyone and try to understand them we can become one nation. Ghandi said “The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.”(12) It is true if people were not so greedy but instead grateful then ultimately there would be no wars no hatred no need to hate. Ghandi also said “An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind.”(13) If only people would see that there is no victory in greed and that peace comes if you are willing to forgive then we would be so much closer to having seven billion global citizens living in the world rather than seven billion individuals.

On a whole to become one nation it will take a huge amount of time but the more people you get buying into the idea and taking time to actually put in some work the less time it will take. To conclude, to make this world become one and have everybody see it as so we need to first teach forgiveness and then we must teach everyone to love each other and see each other as equals and not think they are better than each other. Ghandi said “Whenever you are confronted with an opponent. Conquer him with love.”(14) Teaching people to love is so crucial and also to teach them to understand one another, to learn why they are that way. If we can strengthen the interconnections between countries and get everyone to come together to make the world a better place to get everybody to love everybody then we can get rid of all this hate and all these barriers affecting the world and making people and countries act out in and forgive rather than hold onto revenge and cause more chaos, instead understand why they are holding onto this revenge and see if we can get them to let it go and begin to love. If we can do these little things over time I strongly believe that we can turn this world around and make it a place of equals not individuals.

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