

Educational Unit 2 – Is it about facts or identity? Self-Criticism

A leader convinces great multitudes to view the world the same way he does.
Is he a hero or a dictator?

A dictator is fundamentalist. He considers his vision to be fundamental and unquestionable. He often fights against other visions, some of which are also fundamentalist. He places his beliefs above justice and compassion.

And this could be you!

Have you never offended someone out of a desire to be proven right? How can we escape from this battle of egos?

To maintain authenticity and integrity, you must constantly practice self-criticism, which will undercut fundamentalism. So seek out the hidden truth of the things that happen. To do that you have to be critical and ask yourself: Is it possible that I have committed errors and caused suffering? Is it possible that the complaints of others are reasonable, beyond the principles they defend? Complete honesty when hearing, studying, and knowing the humanity of others is essential for transforming a clash of ideas into a dialogue of persons.

The indefensible must not be defended: we can still maintain our identity while opting to be critical and always condemning violence whatever its source.

We will become capable of separating the person from his deeds, and we will reject the deeds without hating the person. This is the first step for involving the person in the solution.

In order to do all this, it is important to think, but the fundamentalist always tries to undermine thinking by every means possible, to make sure nobody opposes him.

You, be bold! Dare to question everything: what they tell you, what you defend yourself, what you do yourself.

Reality has many faces: seek out the most complete and comprehensive vision and you will find paths for resolving the conflict.