“I know what it's like to lose. To feel so desperately that you're right, yet to fail nonetheless”

Thanos – Infinity War

In august of 2018 a friend told me about the opportunity to participate in the Mercosul youth parliament and these program consists of creating a Project to improve in the education of the South American students the best four projects will go to popular vote and the winner will put the project into practice during 2019 and go represent your state in Montevideo Uruguay with the results.

I decide to participate not because the international travel, but for the idea of being a 16-year-old representative of my state while studying in high school would be magic.

Along time ago I thought “If I AM a teacher I wouldn’t do a test or ask for a research, actually I would sit with my student and ask him what did you learn this semester?” a kind of debate with conversation it’s a wonderful way to see IF the student learn and IF He can create his own opinion about the theme which is the true goal of the school specially in social science disciplines, so why not made this a new way to evaluate students.

While I was studying 19 different subjects at high school I work hard to transform the idea in one project. I remember to see my dad always at 2:00AM warning me that I have to wake up early tomorrow.

So I did my best and ask to Diene my advisor, if she could review the project, sign and send with her recommendation letter, she says “Yes of course, go enjoy your weekend and if I had any trouble I send you a message”. That weekend she didn´t send me any message but also didn't answer any of my, she leave me when I most need her help. Ten minutes left to finish the deadline my decision was send the project just to see how good was my idea so I put in that e-mail “My advisor just leave me, I know that I already lose this but we Brazilians believe even after the end! If you guys could just give me a score for my idea I will be thankful”.

Then a miracle happens in my life, in my birthday two weeks later the Ministry of Education sent me an e-mail “We know that you don´t sent the full documentation necessary but we don´t receive projects of all states so we extend the date... ” that’s easy the best gift of that day. I felt like I had never felt before that this whole thing was for me, it´s my opportunity to show for the whole continent what I´m capable.

The new situation was that the four finalists have to collect as many votes as possible of the students between 14 and 18 years old, the local journal asked me and another candidate to do an interview and my mother got so proud that she started to send the link to the whole family.

During the voting week I went in three other schools to talk with the principal and do my political campaign but none of them let me go inside. I asked the vote and talked with hundreds of students by social Medias and inside my school. Result: The winner collected 336 votes while I only 40.

I can highlight three things that I learn with this history, the first it’s **don’t depend of anyone**, I did twice and both my advisor and my school colleagues disappointed me. The second it’s **Believe even after the end** or at least show what you can do, even when it seems like you already lose. The third it’s If you are a man shave and cut your hair before do any kind of interview because I don´t know what pass in my mind at that time.