

Vinyl 2010 Essay Competition Submission Template

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Summary:

When we approach global topics (of hunger, climate change, energy, and many more) we should take in consideration the causes (or the energies that maintain a certain situation) and the actions that are trying to change it (in good or in better). With whom the activist are fighting and with whom they are working with? If they did some progress up to know, why the progress in the Southern countries is still not that visible? Therefore – if we understand all this, what should we do next?

Essay:

To say more than 800 millions people in the world don't have enough to eat in a day; to say that more than 40 millions people over the world suffer from not having access to drinking water, to now know exactly the numbers of millions that are affected by the climate change; to read and get emotionally disturbed by so many statistics, report from the field, stories of people suffering, news and articles from profiled information sources, I and (maybe YOU also), I'm putting some question on the table; questions about the causes of this situation, the actors, the stakeholders, and very important the victims. The question that is making the biggest damage in my brain is the one that suggest that in this world are people that are benefiting from all this, the same people that most probable contributing to the situation as it is, and the same people that give all of us the impression that they will change it in better, for the victims. With or against this people we must act on?

How can society change his own well-being situation? This sentence has a little absurd in it; society is nobody to change it, self- society just exist. More proper will be to speak about PEOPLE even if only people don't make a society, BUT witch people?

Witch people decide to agree in a "team" of 189 to make famous Millennium Development Goals true? Witch people took some other (complementary) commitments in the Cotonou Agreement; or fair trade procedures? Witch people speak about make poverty history and cancellation of third world debts? Witch people speak about making possible the access of all the people in the world to basic medicine and drinking water supplies? Witch people speak about reducing the global warming and the effects of climate change. Witch people speak about creating and making easy accessible new technologies that will improve the lives of all us and the list is endless.

In fact, all of us (the one concerned, disturbed about this issues) speak about these topics. But we speak differently!

We, the activist speak with honesty, with hope, with a powerful desire to make a change in the world, with a strong belief in the result of our work

- we are careful with our consuming behavior (what, how much and from where we eat and drink; the services we use or produce something);
- we pay attention to each daily, usual behavior that have a significance indirect effect in the world (what we were, how much water we consume, how much energy we consume and for what, how we can reuse the waste);
- we are active, doing awareness projects and actions about these topics in order to open up the eyes of more and more people and slowly by small steps to make a big critical mass of population that by their actions to create a "positive disorder" in the society;
- we go in developing countries and speak with the people; try to understand from their point of view; to see for ourselves the quality level of their lives and the perspectives they have in life;
- we use the diplomat path, and make lobby, advocacy and try to speak with the people that have the power of making radical changes; with the top of the social hierarchy, with the ones that are contributing to the present situation; to make them collaborate with us and them (the victims)
- we raise attention of every human being if is possible, by using Internet tools, press, mass-media, events, schools, "pay it forward" method; to make everybody understand the link between him and every other person in the world;

We are doing all this, maybe even more; we are more people active on this side then couple years before; you can see the change in Northern people mentality and behavior comparative with 10 years ago.

BUT how significant enough changed the situation of Southern people lives?

Isn't that we, in the North of the world become more rich, with lives that have more and more comfort and luxury elements but in plus we have a bigger declarative emphatic and concerned opinion for the South of the world? We speak more about them, we are able to have an opinion in some development debate- we fit the actual trend!

BUT when we can speak about a real progress in African, South American, Asian, Pacific or Caribbean countries? When we will see the 8th development goal taken seriously (the global partnership) and ultimate to see the MDG-s fulfilled by the agreed upon deadline? When we will see all those commitments respected?

It will be easy to hide behind the economic crises (that was created after all by the continuously effort for a maxim of profit in every field) but not a good enough excuse for all the millions of people in the world that other chance don't have to live- just US (activist and politicians)!

We know that words can be beautiful and offer a lot of hope but they don't feed and make warm anybody. MDG-s promise offered a lot of hope and activate a lot of energy from many directions , how many people will die until that day will come-if ever will come?

It is something we, the activists, do wrong? It is something that is still not enough?

Is there a chance that the power of the people that have so many benefits from the situation like it is now, that power to be too high and not vulnerable enough for us the activist?

If we say no to this question we should continue stronger and powerful with our actions; to reach indeed that critical mass of population for creating the wished change.

if we answer yes to that question – we should give up and declare that is not up to us to do anything in this world!

BUT how can we live with the thought of : What if...?