

Luisa: Feeling safe in Timor Leste

Most children feel safe in their homes with their mums and dads. In lots of countries around the world people feel unsafe because of fighting and war.

There has been a lot of fighting in Timor Leste (East Timor) for a long time. Soldiers were fighting the people of Timor Leste as well as each other. Because the fighting was happening for so long and the people were scared and sad, mums and dads started fighting too.

Luisa is a nurse and lives in Timor Leste. She has five children. Her husband died in the fighting many years ago and Luisa and her children escaped to Australia.

While they were here Luisa went back to school to study how to listen to and help people so she could do this when she went home. She and her children stayed in Australia until it was safe to go back. Now in Timor Leste Luisa helps people who are still scared because of the fighting. She works in a special place called a "safe house".

Caritas built the safe house with your Project Compassion money. Mums and children who are frightened can go to talk to Luisa. She listens and tries to make them feel better. They can have a sleepover there too.

Everybody in the world has a right to feel safe. Luisa helps people to feel safe again.



PDHPE

In Australia we have "safety houses". Do you have one in your area? Draw the sign for a safety house. Make up a new sign for a safety house in Timor Leste.



PDHPE/RE

I feel safe when _____

I feel unsafe when _____

There are special people that you can talk to when you feel unsafe.

If I feel unsafe at school I talk to _____

If I feel unsafe at home I talk to _____

PDHPE/RE

Conflict Resolution

What happens when you and your friends fight?

Who gets upset?

What do you do to make up?

Who helps?

What can YOU do if your friends are fighting?

Can you and your friends *Play Fair Today*?

Are there any better ways of sorting things out before you have a fight?

Dear God, we all have the right to feel safe. Many children are not safe because of war and fighting. Help us to be peacemakers in our homes and at school. Amen.

PHOTO: CARITAS EAST TIMOR