



fairplaytoday Action Stations!

Why do we need to take action?

Pope Paul VI's encyclical, *Populorum Progressio – On the Development of Peoples*, sends the message that we all have a role to play in empowering people to help themselves break free from poverty and be “architects of their own progress”.

This can only happen if we act **justly and play fairly**.

Important messages in the six Lenten stories are.....

- Striving for fuller growth
- Development is the new name for peace
- The importance of challenging discrimination
- Development is more than economic growth
- The value of education for all
- The necessity of involving people in their own development



These stories can be found at: http://www.caritas.org.au/project_compassion_07/lenten/index.html

You can also download a powerpoint about *Populorum Progressio* at:
http://www.caritas.org.au/project_compassion_07/interactive/index.html
We need to take action to spread these messages.

Taking Action at School

- Connect with the Caritas Global Family through the website. Go to: <http://www.caritas.org.au/howtohelp/globalFamily.htm> Learn all you can about the countries mentioned, the people and the cultures.
- Make a visual display across the back of the classroom that represents the lives of one or more of the communities featured in Project Compassion and Global Family.
- Invite someone from one of the cultures to visit your class/school and talk about his /her experiences.
- Learn crafts, art and cooking styles from that culture. Investigate the history and learn about their hopes for the future; eat simply for one day and join them in solidarity.
- Produce a brochure listing all the things your school is doing to PLAY FAIR!
- Send copies to your neighbouring schools and invite them to join the campaign.
- Send copies to your local members of Parliament and to your federal representative.
- Make a PowerPoint presentation, invite the school community to a special screening and celebrate your efforts to bring about a more just world. Your local MP could be the special guest.

- Celebrate Harmony Day on March 21st, (focus on the Project Compassion story that challenges discrimination). Make a pledge that every day in your family, school, parish, community is Harmony Day.
- Plan a school/community event on “07-07-07” - Saturday 7th July, 2007. This date marks the half way point to 2015 - the date set by the United Nations Member States, including Australia, to see world poverty halved.

Here are some more ideas.

Action through Art and Craft

- “Art for Justice’s Sake” - showcase the creative talent of your school community at an art and craft exhibition and use the opportunity to raise awareness and educate about global issues.
- “Create an artwork” - depicting the life of one of your brothers or sisters in the global village
 - a mural, banner or collage
 - a sculpture (use clay, cardboard-boxes, wood, wire etc)
 - pavement art
- “Be crafty”
 - produce woven fibre and fabric creations
 - design and print a T-shirt, a protest flag, a bumper sticker or a stamp
 - make puppets
- “Colour Your World”
 - be aware of the colours associated with the Millennium Development Goals and use them to send the message whenever you can.

Orange	Poverty
Yellow	Education
Purple	Gender inequality
Light Green	Child Mortality
Pink	Maternal Health
Red	HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
Dark Green	Environmental degradation
Dark Blue	Fairer Trade, Debt cancellation, More and better Aid



Action through Music

- “The power of song and music” – make a noise to *Make Poverty History*. Organise a concert and invite staff and students to perform songs with a justice message.

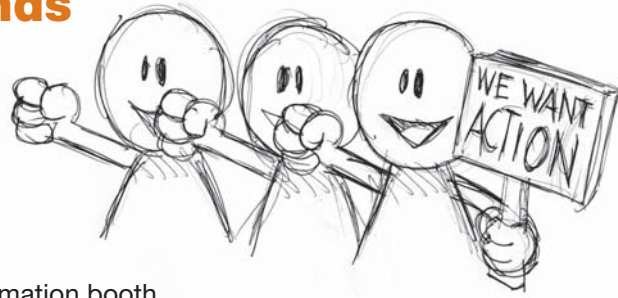
Action through Sport

- “Caritas Ks” – organise a sponsored walk / run / swim / cycle and show solidarity with marginalised peoples of the world.
- “Just Walking” - organise a “Walk to School” day in solidarity with the tens of thousands of students who must walk long distances to school every day.
- “Not playing fair!” - stage an uneven sporting event, eg. between Yr 7 and Yr 1 - an obviously unfair contest. Many people in the world are not competing on a level playing field.
- “MDG Olympics” – design a “snakes and ladders” style game. In the race towards 2015, how well will various countries compete in the “education event”, the “health hurdle” the “debt decathlon” etc compared with Australia?
- “Strike Out World Poverty” and go bowling for Caritas - make, paint and label eight pins to represent the 8 Millennium Development Goals. Discuss what the other two pins could represent: eg. goals for your school, Catholic communities or the Australian Government aimed at eradicating poverty and hunger.

Taking Action with a group of friends

Plan a time and place and ...

- Make up your own chant – eg. Action, Action, WE WANT ACTION! A-C-T-I-O-N
- Organise simultaneous mobile phone calls or text messages with the message “Answer the call! Action for Fair Play today!”
- Have your say - set up a soapbox, a “Speakers’ Corner” or an information booth.
- Choose an issue - stage a mock protest, a candlelight vigil, a mock awards ceremony.



Taking Action for the Environment

- “Say No to Plastic” - sew calico shopping bags, print a message on them and encourage others to use them.
- “Keep Australia Beautiful” - check out your State’s link on the website www.kab.org.au
- “Play Fair with the earth’s resources” - become a “green” school.

Is your school using green power?
How would your school rate on a water audit?
How wasteful is your school community?

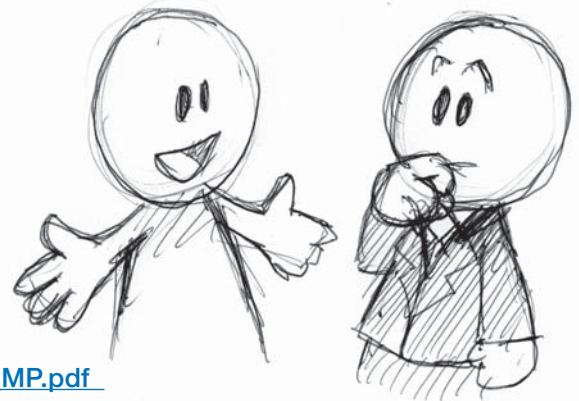
For a copy of Catholic Earthcare Australia’s Environmental Audit go to:
<http://www.catholicearthcareoz.net/audit.html#auditrevised2006>

- “Reduce, reuse, repair and recycle” – promote and model the message.



Taking Action in the Community

- “Investigate” – find out what you can do. Visit www.caritas.org.au/education/whatcanido.htm
- “C-c-c-c-call for Action” - 2007 is an election year. Caritas Australia Calls on Catholic schools to Convince Canberra to Confirm its Commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.
- “Visit your MP” – see the guidelines for a successful visit at http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/downloads/Visiting_your_MP.pdf
- “Get Involved” – look at this site for ideas <http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/getinvolved.html>
- “Send a basket” - inspire and enthuse your local federal member (or senator) to learn about and take action to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Provide them with a basket of gifts which relate to the eight Millennium Development Goals - a powerful symbol of the challenge and hope that these goals represent. http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/downloads/Gift_basket_for_an_MP.pdf
- Make a difference – there are lots of additional ways. Over to you!



Banner making
Awareness raising
Experiencing
Reflecting
Lettering writing
Blogging
Walking

Networking
Petitioning
Confronting
Protesting
Supporting
Community building
Problem-solving

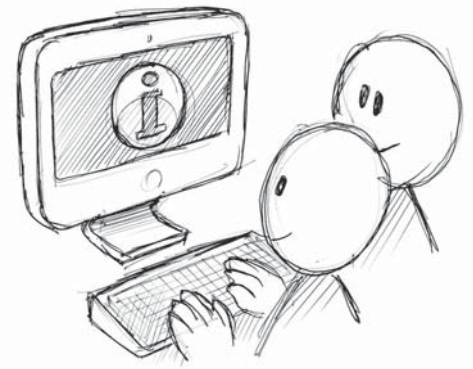
Placard waving
Questioning
Listening
Mentoring
Emailing
Talking
Campaigning
Demonstrating

Persuading
Lobbying
Challenging
Protecting
Volunteering
Empowering
Pleading
Speaking up

Getting informed and equipped to take action

Search and Read!

- websites eg Caritas Australia: www.caritas.org.au
OzSpirit: www.ozspirit.com
Make Poverty History:
<http://www.makepovertyhistory.org.au/home.html>
- news stories, articles and interviews for background knowledge and ideas.
- Project Compassion 2007 materials – especially the six Lenten stories at:
http://www.caritas.org.au/project_compassion_07/lenten/index.html



Look and Listen!

- PowerPoint presentations and videos that highlight the Millennium Development Goals.
<http://www.caritas.org.au/education>
http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/downloads/Make_Poverly_History_Powerpoint.ppt
http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/downloads/What_can_Australia_do_to_halve_extreme_poverty.ppt

Ask!

- teachers, Caritas Australia's Global Education Advisors, Catholic community organisations for more information.

Think and Reflect!

- on Social Justice ideas from the Bible

Be an advocate for the voiceless.
Proverbs 31:8-9

God doesn't want empty worship but a conversion of heart that produces justice, love and mercy.
Isaiah 58:1-12

Rescue the victim from the oppressor.
Jeremiah 2:3

Woe to the complacent and the oppressive rich.
Micah 2:1-2

Combine prayer with action.
Matthew 7:21, Luke 6:46-49

God's chosen servant, persistent until justice triumphs.
Matthew 12:15-21

Compassion and a sense of responsibility.
Matthew 15:32

Christians must be servants.
Matthew 20:26-28

Don't neglect justice and mercy.
Matthew 23:23-24

Be a servant.
Luke 22:24-27



Use your freedom to serve others; love fulfills the law.
Galatians 5:13-15

Bear one another's burdens.
Galatians 6:2

Do not tire of doing good.
Galatians 6:9-11

Be doers not only hearers of the word.
James 1:22-27

Faith without actions is dead.
James 2:1-9

Put your gifts at the service of others.
1Peter 4:7-11

Thanks to Terry Quinn, Catholic Social Justice Council, Perth, for this list of quotes