

The Legacy of Loving the Next:
Young People Transforming the World into a Better Place
(Original)

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From the moment my grandmother departed this world, I felt like a part of me had been abruptly ripped away. Her absence left an emptiness in my heart and the peace that once reigned in my life dissipated like a breath of wind. The loss of my grandmother brought with it a whirlwind of emotions and challenges, transforming my worldview in ways I could never have imagined.

Her presence was an inexhaustible source of wisdom, love, and comfort. She taught me many of the values that I carry with me to this day, the simple idea of not being able to share laughter, hugs and deep conversations with her was devastating, losing the love of my life was devastating.

I found myself facing the challenge of rebuilding my identity without influence or guidance, now the uncertainty of my position in a world so uncertain, I was just a young girl. My grandmother Vera Lúcia was a living example of love for others and dedication to the community. Her concern extended beyond family boundaries, she genuinely cared for everyone around her. She brought groups of people together, regardless of their differences, and welcomed them with generosity and compassion. His welcoming spirit and ability to bring people together was inspiring, his actions and caring are still remembered today. With her example, I learned that building a world of peace for young people begins with the commitment to love one another, to take care of everyone, without distinction. It is by uniting groups and welcoming diversity that we can build a more harmonious society, where each individual feels valued and included.

Through this splendid example I had in childhood and adolescence, I learned that rebuilding

a peaceful world begins with the commitment to love your neighbor and take care of everyone, without distinction. It is by creating and bringing together groups and welcoming everyone regardless of race, way of thinking, belief, disability, that we can build a harmonious and more humane society where each individual feels valued and respected.

I learned that the loss of my grandmother should not be the end of my peace, but an opportunity to grow, to put into practice everything that was passed and inherited to me. I found solace in the certainty that her presence is woven into my essence because I am her blood of blood, and that her legacy lives on through me and everyone she sowed without wanting anything in return. The peace that seemed lost was slowly being rebuilt.

Nowadays my biggest motivations and aspirations are to try to help others in any way, be it a simple gesture like a hug, a message of comfort, making donations with my family to those in need because a little becomes a lot. Our society lacks empathy, loving each other more and supporting their ideas and what the other has to say. In 2023 I became a class leader, a project developed at my school so that young people have more autonomy, practice citizenship and be responsible. When we are away from the problems, being just a young person, we are not so worried about everything that is happening around us, when you are given the responsibility and the possibility to look beyond, you realize how young people are full of conflicts and difficulties. As peace has been taken from them lately, we need to show that unity makes strength, expressing that we are human and we are temporary yes, but what we sow in the lives of others will never be forgotten and our flame will still be lit, and we will be inspirations through compassion, projects, and dedication.

Young people play a key role in this peacebuilding journey. Young people are agents of change, capable of bringing incredible ideas and an innovative vision for the reconstruction of a more peaceful world, so we are the new generation, and we need to act and learn from the mistakes of past generations so as not to make mistakes again in the future.