Learning how to speak for good

(Original)

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I learned, through various experiences, that peace is about identifying the best positive outcome even from the most "irreconcilable" differences. It's quite difficult to think and realize that any possible good thing could result from an argument with parents or friends, for example. However, these trivial interactions, so common and that are seemingly not worth bothering thinking about, are the ones we should be focused on. With that, we start instilling the culture of peace through dialogue.

In my last year of secondary school, me and some classmates decided to work on a project for preventing bullying in school environments, since the number of these cases increased drastically in many parts of my country. Although it was just the beginning of the journey, we had already found one main issue: we all had different perspectives on what "harmonious coexistence between classmates" meant and on which where the actual roots of the problem we should direct our efforts towards.

Despite the fact we were close friends whose discussions would seldom show up, we couldn't come to a collective decision and the stress upon not being able to reach significant work progress within the deadline we established was starting to disturb us emotionally.

I must confess, I was showing hostility towards my colleagues, even if it was subtle, as well as I was perceiving it coming from them too. Seemed like we all had something to say, aside from our individual input on the project, but we didn't know how to properly express it.

We were at a standpoint, not only being unable to brainstorm any solution, but also to communicate, even if only slightly. Is in moments like this where you question yourself what you thought was already obvious: Why does bullying happen anyway? Maybe I wasn't

seeing the whole picture.

I asked my relatives and friends about experiences they had or know about the topic, and after listening to plenty of them, I found a tendency: when differences arise, people don't know how to express their unease or feel like doing so is too problematic, since it involves strong emotions coming out.

Immediately after, I booked a meeting with my group of work and told them how I was honestly feeling. I tried to be as assertive as I could, and upon finishing, for my surprise, each one continued to do so. We were letting the emotions out and we were finally dialoguing. The same day, we were finished with a big part of the design and features done and a smile in our faces.

It's true that most of us were upbrought with such inadequate dialogue skills, but, after experiencing how beneficial it can truly be for maintaining harmony and peace, we all must considerate to learn how to speak with others, for the best output!

Differences make us unique. Peace keeps us human and further us to a brighter future.