

Respect

Flag raising, Nov. 10 2015 María Matamala y Andrea Gutiérrez

When we think about human dignity there are 2 words that pop-up in our heads: rights and respect, that may be considered the pillars to human rights. Since we are little we are taught to respect others opinions, way of dressing, color of skin etc. And off course we have all heard the quote "Entre gusto y gusto no hay disgusto", that all mothers love. But they have talked so much about respect that we lost the importance of this principle. In our daily life we disrespect ourselves, friends and believes without even noticing, an example of this are all the cursing words we use that have become really common when we talk, we don't perceive how disrespectful we are with the one that listens and also toward ourselves. There are different kinds of respect, but for us we can divide them in three groups: for diversity, for authority, and for ourselves.

Respect for diversity is the one everyone talks about. Respect races, Respect sexual orientation, Respect Religions, Respect cultures. What people don't know is that there is a difference between respect and tolerance. Tolerance is to bear without resistance, meaning that I accept that difference with the condition that they don't interfere with any aspect of my life, because if they do i wont tolerate it. Meanwhile respect is to accept and treat that difference the same way as you'll treat anyone else.

For respecting the authority you just have to think, that you are not so important to be above of the law. And finally but the most important type is to respect yourself, and by doing this you respect others.

However why is respect so decisive in human dignity? Some say it's because it makes possible human dignity, and this is the most important right from which all other fundamental rights derive. Respect is the key factor for this to happen because of the way of looking and treating between hierarchies. If this fundamental principal is present in their relationship, differences will not be resemble as something bad, but as something that can make our society progress.

Therefore we just have a question: If there's no respect in your life, that's a life you wanna live?