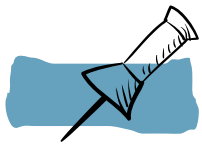


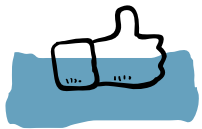
# I will be happy if... **i love justice**

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." (Mt 5:6)



## Goal

To identify daily situations in which we can experience and guarantee justice and become aware of one's responsibility.



## How did it go?

At the start, there is a moment of welcome, wherein it is important to allow space for dialogue and the sharing of what each one has lived, the experiences made, and the difficulties encountered. To welcome means to make each one feel accepted and be at ease: creativity will help us find the best ways. We may recall the goals set at the last meeting: "How did it go?"



## Introductory activity

### "ON THE SIDE OF WHAT IS JUST"

**TIME:** about 45 minutes

**MATERIALS:** post-it, poster, pens, photographs taken previously by the group on unjust situations in one's city.

**PROCEDURE:** A little ahead of the meeting (one week or some days), ask the youth to take a photograph of an unjust situation observed in one's own city. Examples: children who don't enjoy the right to education; refugees who flee from war; the homeless; actions of bullying; accumulated garbage; buying of products at a low price for which the producers are not paid justly; copying from a book during classwork, etc. Start the meeting with each one presenting his/her own situation and eventually how he/she got involved in it (what emotions, thoughts, desire for change he/she felt within him?). The conclusion can be done through poster making: "The gauge of justice in our city". Keywords or phrases may be adapted from some questions: "What can the citizens do to guarantee justice?" "What can institutions do" – "What can I do?"

**CONCLUSION:** In the last part of the discussion, invite the youth to dialogue and reflect on their own daily life, on the behavior that they can change or intensify to be considered active citizens who are "on the side of the just". Each one can make a commitment to do in school, in the community, in the family...



We live this way



In school, a teacher was not aware of a mistake I made in my classwork. I thought of showing it to him because I felt that it was not right to get more than what I deserved. My companions advised me not to do it, but I thought that it was also a chance to give witness to the Gospel. The teacher thanked me for my honesty, and to my great surprise, confirmed the mark that he had previously given as a reward for my attitude. My conviction gave me much joy and also to my companions.

(M. – Costa Rica)

I will be happy if...  
**i love justice**



In depth


### «TRUE JUSTICE»



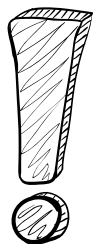
*Chiara Lubich, International Gen 3 Congress, June 20, 1975*

Nowadays there's a lot of talk about justice, but let's be careful because true justice means loving God and loving our neighbor. We want to love God because he has given us everything out of love and therefore we owe him everything - heart, mind and strength - and people because they are our brothers and sisters.

Those who hunger and thirst for justice are those who feel they cannot rest until there is true justice in the world, that is, until God is loved above all else and people really love one another.

And then Gen, we will also be satisfied because God will give us the hundredfold in houses, brothers and sisters, and material things. This is what happened to the saints: the more they gave everything to God and shared their goods with their neighbours and with the poor, the more providence arrived and everyone around them had bread to eat and experienced the happiness of God. 

*Note: The video is also available at the website <http://assistentigen3.focolare.org>*



## I will try!

To concretize our group's commitment, let us choose an action that will also involve the community, the Teens for Unity, our neighbors, the district! Here is an action done in some cities:

- Ethical cash mob: it's a protest action that involves a group of citizens/consumers who meet in front of a sales point to buy products sold at just prices. To know more:

<http://www.economiafelicita.it/cash-mob-etico/>

and on YouTube (Italian only)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZJTMUr5emU>



## At what point are we?

To reach a goal, we must practice daily and keep note of the positive changes and the difficulties encountered.

This will help us until the next meeting when we shall allot time for sharing our experiences.

Identify some daily actions in which you can practice justice (ex. pay the bus ticket, not wasting food, the rapport with schoolmates...). Keep a daily watch of these actions done to others and assign for each a + or a - according to how you lived justly or selfishly. Note all on this table (or on the cell) and at the end of the week, draw the sum: more +? OK, you're on the right track, go ahead this way! More -? Courage, you can always improve!

Actions	On the side of what is just?	Your notes

For the gen assistant



## Evaluation after the meeting

- Did the proposed activities increase the youth's interest for this beatitude?
- Has a particular area emerged from the Gen 3 in which they feel it is difficult to live justice?
- What commitment have they taken to live justice? Aim at accompanying and supporting them in their commitment until the next meeting.
- Do I consider the topic finished or is there still something to discuss at the next meeting?
- Did difficulties arise? What must we keep in mind to improve the next time?