

The children in the heart of our planet

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The children, the children ...– it sounds beautiful in the heart of the planet. Is there a better place for anyone than the one called ‘heart’?

In the human and in any other living organism, when the heart is ill or stops, it is death that takes place. As trivial as it may sound, the people who we like, as we say, we keep them right there – in the heart. And children – our present and future, are right there in the ‘center of the planet’. All eyes behold them – family, kindergarten, school ... Their upbringing and nourishment involve so many people, any and all of whom are inspired by good motives. How good and what good are these to those towards whom they are directed? Winston Churchill said: ‘What is the use of living, if it be not to strive for noble causes and to make this muddled world a better place for those who will live in it after we are gone?’

Therefore I, as a person who has, under the oral code, taken an oath to work for the well-being of children, hope that I have served some of them to grow to become good people. And that is because I cherish them in my heart, they are important and precious to me. This is the credo of probably every teacher who has dedicated their life to the children.

The children come to us barely able to walk and talk on their own, filled with confidence, naivety and goodness. They go knowing what they want and standing for their opinions. Among these rough diamonds, more often there are such who would be hard to fit within our understanding or rules and order but that is a personal challenge to me because all people are born equal. They are in the heart of the Earth. I recently read something that has profoundly touched my heart.

“One day an old man was walking on the beach. He saw thousands of starfish lying on shore. He knew that if they are not returned back to the sea, they will die. Despite of this, he did nothing. He felt sad because there were so many of them.

A few minutes later he saw a young boy who was picking something from the ground and throwing it into the sea. When he got closer he saw that the boy was trying to save the starfish. Every time he was crouching, picking the starfish and throwing them as deeper into the sea as he could. The old man approached the boy and asked:

- Why do you make all this effort?

The boy hardly noticed the man as he was just picking and throwing another starfish into the sea. Then he said:

- This one is worth it!"

I am reflecting on the shores in my own life. Maybe someone has placed me into the heart of the planet and as a consequence I am who I am. There certainly are people, teachers, who threw me from the shore into the sea. That is why I desire to be the good owner who leaves behind a good inheritance that is passed from generation to generation because every child is precious and deserves to be in the heart of the planet.