

## Love each other - serve others in the global world today

In this brochure, theses are put together that come from students of schools owned by the Protestant churches or organisations. They were written by children and young persons who joined the global network schools500reformation for the Reformation anniversary. Inspired by the 95 Martin Luther's theses, the students have developed their own ideas for a better world.

The theses were submitted in English, French or German. They are here published in the original language – as far as they are sent in English – or, if they were filed in French or German, in a translated version. A very few of these theses are not reprinted as they take position against human rights standards (for example against equal rights for men and women or if they express discrimination against homosexuality or peoples of other cultures, religions or denominations). The entries are sorted into three groups: first in submissions from elementary schools and lower secondary levels, that means from the fifth to the eighth class level, secondly, in submissions from the upper school, i.e. classes 9 to 12, and, thirdly, in submissions of teachers and teacher training institutions.

The comments submitted by the pupils and their teachers show vividly aspects that touch and move children and young people, what they would like to see changed in the world and in which they themselves wish to contribute to change. These theses reflect the different concerns and needs in different regions of the world. They call up to get to know each other's schools, to perceive their concerns and needs and to be committed to the One World. "Start with yourself!" is the wording of students of the Martin Luther Secondary School in Eisenach / Germany. This sentence should also inspire and motivate you!

We are looking forward to further submissions of theses - especially from Asia, Australia, North America and Latin America. Enrich the project "schools500reformation" by contributing from your school and from your world region! The theses will be published continuously.

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Bamberg, June 2016 Evi Plötz, Simone Kohlmann, Annette Scheunpflug & Henrik Simojoki

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## Theses from primary and lower secondary schools

## Colégio Evangélico Alberto Torres, Lajeado, Brazil

## Students from 8th grade wrote:

- 1. More Jesus, please!
- 2. Less religion, more Christ!
- 3. Everybody must have conditions of access to their rights.
- 4. We hope perfection won't be the illness of the humanity; we pray to unconditional love to be the basis of our lives.
- 5. It is imperative to break paradigms: knowing, studying and interacting, to respect what we consider "different".

## Students from 9th grade wrote:

- 1. Parents need to optimize the time they spend with their children.
- 2. The church must be motivating, challenging and speak the language of its people...

  People have to visit it. It's necessary that people want to visit it!
- 3. While there is bullying, there is suffering... Projects to recover people who practice it and people who suffer it, it has to be a priority to any society. Family, schools and church must show they are together on this issue.
- 4. The education is the basis for any society.
- 5. We must be open to what we consider "different".
- 6. We take shots to get rid of diseases, we fence our houses to get rid of the thieves, we spend on superfluous things do compensate our faults... What about taking care of the environment, invest in education and work on our spirituality?

## Collège Alfred Saker, Cameroon, students at the age of 10-15 years

- Nowadays, the wit of effort is no longer relevant because students, parents and teachers do not seriously take what they do. All of them show laziness in their respective field of competence.
- 2. Nowadays, young people are no longer interested in religion; they focus on other things more than on problems related to spirituality.

- 3. Violence is present in many schools and manifests in several ways: students abuse each other, teachers abuse their students and abuse each other. This leads to beatings, fights, intimidation, hatred ...
- 4. Nowadays, social networks among young people have changed attitudes and behavior: although they help communicating, these networks are real threats for young people.
- 5. Young Africans and globalization: globalization is good for young people in Africa because they can know what is happening elsewhere in the world through ICT and other means of communication, the development of Africa through globalization.
- 6. Young people are only interested in leisure instead of focusing on their studies; however, there is leisure that contributes to their development: reading, arts, writing, theater, are leisure that can help them in life.
- 7. Corruption is a plague for our society today; it is more present in schools and must be fought by all. Everyone must put their hands in the dough in order to defeat corruption: leaders, teachers and even students at their respective levels.

Written by: ENOUMBA ENDENE- EKWALLA KWEDI - MOUTO MAKEMBE - NGANDO NDOUMBE - ZANGUE DONGMEZA - PENYA EBOUMBOU - EBELLE SUZANNE - KOUOTOU MBOHOU - WAFO JUNIOR - ZEBAZE DJOUAKA - KENGNE TAGNE - NSIBOA MBARGA - TATHO

## Complexe Scolaire Epiphanie 2, Democratic Republic of the Congo

This is our contribution to the celebration of the Reform 2017. This Reform should be considered by all Christians as a restoration of the human being in recent centuries in all areas of life, for example.

## At Church, reform about:

- 1. The way of evangelizing, because, currently, evangelization in Africa, particularly, is based on the prophecy and miracles.
- 2. The way of preaching because preaching became intimidations and is based on the private lives of the faithful.
- 3. How to offer, because offerings are enforced and based on the interests of the clergy

Conclusion: this is a comeback to the period before the Reform.

## At schools, reform on:

- 1. The methods of teaching religion classes, because religious courses are given by people (pastor or lay people) who have been teaching in higher education.
- 2. The weightings assigned to religious classes,
- 3. The organization of the administrative structure, because it gives very few points in religion because the clergy want to use Christian laity to manage schools themselves in some areas in Africa.

## Ecole Primaire Bolima Boele, Democratic Republic of the Congo

We protest against the fact that in today's world, there are associations of criminals who are none other than our compatriots. In our life, let us identify biblical examples of this type of unfavorable attitude and let us call upon people to not adapt to them.

## Ecole Primaire EEC Deido 1, Cameroon

#### About our school

We protest against:

- 1. Theft at school,
- 2. Smells into the toilets
- 3. Breach of school rules,
- 4. Dirtiness around our school,
- 5. Misuse of toilets,
- 6. Presence of feces in front of toilets.

#### About our school we also want:

- 7. Teachers and principals who are not dirty,
- 8. Discipline and compliance with rules,
- 9. Calm classes.
- 10. Good teaching,
- 11. Good explanation and good exposition of lessons,
- 12. Kind teachers.

## About our Church

We protest against:

- 13. Noise in temples,
- 14. Very long preaches that make participants being tired,

15. Theft in the church,

For our church, we also want:

- 16. Reading of the word of God,
- 17. Right lessons from the pastors,
- 18. Prayers for children.

## **About our Country**

We protest against:

- 19. The BOKO HARAM sect,
- 20. The fact that people are dying,
- 21. The music played with too high volume,
- 22. Theft in neighborhoods,
- 23. Murder,
- 24. The absence of government.
- 25. The failure to respect of democracy.

For our country, we also want:

- 26. Involvement of the president of the republic into the country's life,
- 27. Respect for human rights,
- 28. Respect for civil freedom,
- 29. Harmony in social life,
- 30. Exhilaration and freedom to feed.

Theses written by students of class 7, primary school of Evangelical Church of Cameroon- DEIDO 1

DOUALA Cameroun

## Ecole Primaire EEC Deido 2, Cameroon

## At the level of our school

We protest against:

- 1. Banditry around our school.
- 2. Lack toilets in our school.
- 3. Short break time
- 4. Failure to respect of the rules by classmates
- 5. Rough games and use of dangerous objects during break time

- 6. Students who do not respect hygiene and sanitation rules
- 7. Presence of smokers around our schools.

## We encourage:

- 8. Religious education provided.
- 9. Commitment of teachers.
- 10. Respect given to teachers by students.
- 11. Teachers who are not very harsh
- 12. Good explanations given by teachers.

#### At the level of the Church

## We protest against:

- 13. Temples which are always under construction,
- 14. Delay of Christians during worship,
- 15. Failure to respect the commandments of God,
- 16. People chatting in the church,
- 17. Garbage thrown into the church,
- 18. Children rushed by adults when to the exit of worship.

## We encourage:

- 19. Pastors who sing with joy,
- 20. Prayers for children,
- 21. Pastors who speak about God with love,
- 22. Reading the Bible.

## At the level of our country

## We protest against:

- 23. Banditry,
- 24. High number of death by murder, accident, illness,
- 25. Nearby of bars with residential houses,
- 26. Failure to respect the laws of the republic,
- 27. Fights
- 28. Waste material spilled everywhere,
- 29. Contrast of social classes,

30. Unsafe neighborhoods.

#### We encourage:

- 31. Food self-sufficiency,
- 32. Police presence in the streets,
- 33. Bilingualism
- 34. Love of neighbor,
- 35. Brotherhood and life in society,
- 36. Freedom and peace.

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# Ecole Primaire Elom'Efitaka Ngolo and Ecole Primaire Habitat, Democratic Republic of the Congo

## We protest against the fact that in today's world,

- 1. Human being has become the enemy of another human being, yet for a better future, there is a need of change in mental structure.
- 2. Money is more powerful than law, whereas for a better future, there is a need of restoring of justice.
- 3. The lack of discernment of good and evil, whereas for a better future, there is a need of avoiding evil and do good.
- 4. The political system has become a sort of witchcraft, whereas for a better future, any political system must be in favor of human being (of his well-being).
- 5. Racism, tribalism, nepotism... are common practices in the today's world whereas for a better future, there is a need of the removal of these bad practices.
- 6. Leaders snapped power by force (guns), whereas for a better future, the power is supposed to be in the hands of the people.
- 7. The economic colonization continues, whereas for a better economic future there is a need of freedom for all the nations.

## At school we criticize what follows,

- 8. The decline of intellectual education, whereas for a better future, there is a need of strengthening of the educational system.
- 9. The deterioration of student discipline, whereas for a better future, there is a need of implementing existing standards of conduct.
- 10. The anti-educational values in our schools whereas for a better future, we have to ban anti-educational values (such as corruption, extortion ...)
- 11. The low scientific qualification whereas for a better future, there is a need of inservice training.
- 12. The lack of dedication, whereas for a better future, there is a need of love of work.
- 13. The derisory wages of teachers, whereas for a better future, there is a need of improvement of their living conditions and their post-career.
- 14. Schools just prefer academic success, whereas for a better future, there is a need of acquiring knowledge.
- 15. Schools are poor, whereas for a better future, there is a need of educational partners to provide schools with teaching materials, textbooks, laboratory, library

## Church must renew itself because,

- 16. What people say is more suitable than the word of God, whereas for a better future, Bible should be the only reference document.
- 17. The doctrine is more valued than faith, whereas for a better future, there is a need of knowing that only faith saves.
- 18. The lack of love and truth, whereas for a better future, there is a need of believing in worship of God, love and truth.
- 19. Churches are as private companies, whereas for a better future, church is a godlike institution.
- 20. Freedom of churches implantation, whereas for a better future, there is a need of the unification of the churches.
- 21. Conflicts between churches, whereas for a better future, there is a need of avoiding politics in churches.
- 22. Infidelity towards the word of God, whereas for a better future, there is a need of being devoted to the word of God.

## Ecole Primaire Mabanga, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

1. We protest against corruption in school, in church and in our country.

- 2. Some teachers when angry hit children because of problems they faced at home; thus, children are those who are victims.
- Some pastors sow hatred and tribalism among Christians whereas Jesus came for everyone.
- 4. Some Christians come to church to disturb instead of listening to the word of God.
- 5. Many teachers do not respect the rights of children. They punish children without a valid reason.
- 6. Some pastors and church leaders go to church just to look for offerings instead of preaching the word of God.
- 7. We protest against some teachers and principals who put out children because of school fees. Children are not working.
- 8. We say no to killings and insecurity in our country because of the selfish interests of some people.
- 9. Children are despised in churches. They are driven out to the benefit of old people who come to occupy their places. For God there is no children and no adults.
- 10. We protest against the misuse of offerings by some Pastors. The offerings should be used to preach the word of God.
- 11. We protest against the payment of teachers' salaries by parents. It is necessary that the state pays teachers as our parents pay various taxes to the government.
- 12. We are against some singers who sing in disorder in the church with disturbing sound. Our God loves order.
- 13. We protest against pastors who are jealous each other due to seeking of power in the church.

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## Ecole Primaire Majengo, Democratic Republic of the Congo

- 1. We protest against the fact that in today's world, there are many wars, it is necessary that we avoid wars.
- 2. Because of their egoism, pastors and priests cannot agree; one should avoid conflicts in churches.
- 3. We protest against the fact that injustice, sexual violence, tribalism are manifested in the world.

- 4. Some Church leaders drink alcoholic beverages that we do not want in Protestant churches.
- 5. Today, every leader wants to dominate others in order to reigning forever; this causes hatred, jealousy and war. We want people to fear God instead of loving money.
- 6. We protest against polygamous pastors in Protestant churches.
- 7. Students are victims of whips to school. Do not hit us without any reason.
- 8. We protest against the fact that children and adults are still victims of kidnapping for research money especially here at home in the eastern DRC/North Kivu.
- 9. As children, we are very unvoiced; we need our freedom and our rights have to be respected.
- 10. Let's fight together against wrong pastors that are used by the satanic force.
- 11. There are a lot of famine, water shortage in our country, insecurity reigns; we must correct them all.
- 12. Countries are driven by those who do not fear God! Let's choose good presidents.

submitted by MAYETO RABBI Victoire, 6th B, Kasereka KISORONGOTO, 6th year primary, TSONGO MBUGHEKI Jovanie, 6th year primary, MUHINDO KIKUSA Prince, 6th year primary, FAZILI KALYO, 6th year primary, MUMBERE WINE, 6th year primary, KAMBALE KIKUMU, 6th year primary, KATEMBO KYAMUNDU, 6th year, KATUNGU VWALIKE (girl), 6th year, David KAMBALE MANYANGWA, 6th year, MUMBERE MUKE, 6th year

## Ecole Primaire Mapamboli, Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Prelude: What ambitious project.

It is time to wake up after a long sleep.

The world has never experienced as much serious problems than today. Problems threaten and affect our lives. The evil is growing in our society with dizzying speed. Faced with this universal scourge, we cannot be uninterested and cross our arms. We must fight and peel all these defects that are destroying our society and look for new orientations in life for a better future.

## We protest against the fact that in today's world...

- 1. People destroy and demolish human life: violence, terrorism, killing, butchery, war and use of chemical weapons.
- 2. One wants to remove all the virtues: disseminating and spreading corruption, hatred, conflict, jealousy, cheating and immorality.

- 3. The love of money, luxury and comfort, becoming a passion, drive people in committing all sorts of crimes and corruptions.
- 4. There is moral depravation: rape, debauchery and living with concubines.
- 5. Indignation and disrespect facing female gender: sexual abuse (against women and girls), early marriage.
- 6. Use of wickedness, mistreatment of parents' vis-à-vis their children (causes: street kids, anxious children)
- 7. Health concerns, accessibility to drinkable water, conveyance, everything that can make everyday life being better is not taken into account.
- 8. There is making use of people by others.
- 9. Failure to comply human rights, children's rights and freedoms.
- 10. Social unfairness and mistreatment of human beings (arbitrary arrest and detention, torture).

## A good school ...

- 11. Ensures good coaching to the child, grants him complete moral, physical and scientist training so that he will be useful to society.
- 12. Creates an attractive and good living environment: good infrastructure (effective buildings, premises and sanitary facilities), fence, cleaner environment, and flowers with fruit trees.
- 13. The parents follow and participate in all that is related to the education of their children.
- 14. Is one whose teaching staff with special status, meets all the required working conditions, and fulfills its duty and its educational mission.
- 15. There is love and harmony.
- 16. Culture, extracurricular activities, support to self-financing, diversity of educational sport and gambling for the development of the child.

## A good church...

- 17. Christians must live and show the love of Christ (self-denial).
- 18. In case of problem, forgive each other.
- 19. Is one in which Jesus Christ is the only model to follow.
- 20. Knows the authority of the word of God and is guided by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, is illuminated by his presence.
- 21. Must go out to evangelize other countries.

- 22. Must follow the Lord, pray, baptize, celebrate the Lord's Supper.
- 23. Must work and direct the preaching for the salvation of people, to prepare the faithful to overcome sin and live a holy life in a corrupt world.

## At school, we criticize the fact that...

- 24. There is no better condition (equipment, materials) to a quality education.
- 25. The environment and the school are not remediated.
- 26. There is a serious lack of interest of the country's authorities on the survival of schools (building, equipment and social life of the teaching staff).
- 27. Today, students lack interest in better training, fully understanding of knowledge and self-training (at all levels).
- 28. Indiscipline, lack of respect, lack of humility and politeness reigns everywhere.
- 29. The education broadcasted (TV and cinema) sullies children's morals due to certain disallowed emissions and leads them to acts of immorality.
- 30. Poor teachers training (inability, low qualification).

## The Church must renew itself, because...

- 31. It has lost its mission: the Christian faith is based on non-spiritual (perishable things) and not on the word of God. Thus most messages are announced to please the fleshly needs and not for the salvation of souls.
- 32. Christians, as believers, have abandoned their virtue and they have forgotten their calling: they live as antagonists, without love for others or mutual support.
- 33. The truth of the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ has gone; everything is based on human wisdom.
- 34. The spirit of falsehood and seduction that brought the downfall of humanity has invaded our churches.
- 35. Most leaders of the Churches of God are fleshly, lacking the Holy Spirit; they are blind, leading other blind people.
- 36. Worship and Christian assemblies are not in accordance with the word of God. Some purely pagan tendencies have entered the church, such as dance, rhythms.

## A good world...

37. Is the one that loves others, the one which is from God, source of life for a better future.

- 38. The peace of the heart, that of people who are born again by the word of God: sustainable and fruitful peace that these people bring to our families, our homes and all the society.
- 39. Honesty, sincerity and truth in our behavior.
- 40. Remediated environment, access to safe drinking water and to medical care for a good health.
- 41. Access to information and communication by new techniques.

## <u>Evangelische Gesamtschule Gelsenkirchen Bismarck, Germany – Grade 6</u>

## We protest against

- 1. We protest against the fact that in today's world there are so many wars. We protest against ISIS. We protest against the fact that there are so many killers in the world today. We protest against the fact that in today's world is so much in the war Iraq and Afghanistan. We want to combat against the fact that the world today, for example in Iraq, children do not have to fear to step on a land mine, if they want to play outside. We protest against people who force children to go to war. Children should not be forced into military service against their will and incited to kill.
- 2. We protest against rape.
- 3. We protest against famine. We want to combat that children in Africa do not have to starve and not to cry if no water comes out of the water tab. We think that the government should do something that not many people have to die of hunger.
- 4. We protest against poverty. We protest against the fact that in today's world there is a lot of poverty in particular in Africa. The particular rich countries grant to little support to very poor countries. On the contrary, they deliver weapons to the countries with civil war, take away natural resources from these countries in order to get rich. We should share with other humans and consider also other people who are not doing so well.
- 5. We protest against racism.
- 6. We protest against the injustice in the world today. We in Germany have too much food and people in poor countries have too little food. We protest against the fact that poor people get too little help. We protest against the fact that in today's world there is much injustice. Many people have a lot of money and a lot of food, but others do possess neither money nor food. That is unfair! We protest against

- the fact that in Africa children do not have the same possibilities as we do and we want that all of them can go to school.
- 7. We protest against the fact that not all people are treated normally. We protest against the fact that the people with disabilities are not to be treated normally and that they are often addressed in a stupid way.
- 8. We protest against human trafficking. People are not a property. We protest against abuse of children. We protest against the fact that in today's world children are maltreated.
- 9. We protest against the fact that other people are persecuted because of their religion and that the state does not intervene and refugees not rescued from drowning on the coast. When they arrived in Germany, they are sent back. We protest against the fact that many children and adults must flee. They should get family, food and a home. In our community, no one should be marginalized because of a different religion.
- 10. We protest for more animal welfare. They are locked in animals' shelters and have to sit in small cages. Sometimes it happens that some people torture their own pets. We protest against the fact that on Carnival Monday so many geese are killed. We protest against the fact, that the animals are kept in small cages and stuffed with drugs. People should give animals a lot of free space to move before slaughtering them. Cruelty to animals must be stopped! Immediately! We protest against the fact that in today's world there is cruelty against animals. It has to be stopped, that animals are tight or beaten! We protest against the trade with animal trade, because trade with animals is bad. We protest against all the people who torment animals, for example, by imprison, kicking, punching them and dealing with animals. We protest against cruelty to animals, trafficking and abuse. There would be a reasonably good world if those things wouldn't exist! We protest against the fact that animals are not treated according to their species.
- 11. We protest against factory farming.
- 12. We protest against the extinction of the rainforests, because otherwise the ozone layer breaks apart that we need to breathe. There should be more nature.
- 13. We protest against the pride of the people they should say sorry after a struggle. I protest against hatred. I protest against violence and torture. I protest against bullying, because just because someone is different or not a beauty queen it doesn't mean that this person is stupid; on the contrary, everybody is particular with his/her faults and tricks. It is stupid, that even children lie to their parents.

- 14. We protest against the fact that many children, especially girls, cannot go to school. More schools should be built around the world.
- 15. There should be more rights to women, because in some countries women are allowed to have a say.
- 16. Those who throw garbage on the ground should pay 1200 € penalty. It should be taken even more care to address the issue with the wolves because they got indeed already accustomed to humans. There are far too many wall paintings and destructions.
- 17. In today's world there are still Nazis although the war where the Nazis ruled, has already ended many years ago. The Nazis have learned nothing from it.
- 18. I protest that there should be no housebreaking.
- 19. More research should be done concerning drugs.

#### At school we criticize

- 20. At school there is nothing to criticize; at the school everything is OK.
- 21. At school we criticize that student behaviour is often not right. Some students are bullied by classmates and excluded from community. If an individual is something else, small or large, corpulent or slim, red-haired or physically disabled, he or she is often attacked by the very active and taken down.
- 22. At school we criticize that there is too much homework. It could be improved, to get less homework.
- 23. At school we criticize that we have to write tests quite often consecutively and that the whole of the blackboard is full of tests in different subjects when we have at the same time much homework to do; so we haven't any free time and we get many thousand words to memorise and we have only 2 hours for learning them. At school we criticize that we have to do too many tests; we are only learning for these tests and do not know anything afterwards.
- 24. At school we criticize, lessons last mostly until 4 pm. We criticize that school lasts too long. I protest against too little leisure time. Nearly every day we spend long time sitting at school. I think it would be better if we would have only four hours of lessons every day. In school we criticise that there are also far too many lessons. We should have fewer lessons.

- 25. At school we criticize the fact that some teachers treat students in a wrong way, for example, if they are sent to the training room just because they are made to laugh.
- 26. At school we criticize the fact that teachers do not treat all students equally. Nobody should be exposed from school, because everybody should be treated equally and have equal rights. Some kids are allowed to do more than others because they are preferred by the teachers.
- 27. At school we criticize that too many children are get annoyed. More AS lessons (note: time for planning the weekly schedule) are needed.
- 28. At school I criticize that we work far too little in the garden. For example, when it is warm we don't have lessons outside or we don't plant any flowers.
- 29. At school I criticize that food from the cafeteria is thrown into the garbage instead of sending it to the poor or to a free dinner for poor people.
- 30. We are against extortion at school.
- 31. At school I criticize that many students are marginalized. Children are excluded and annoyed by others.
- 32. We want that there is less fighting at school, otherwise there are too many children injured.
- 33. At school I criticize that sometimes there are too many weekly plans!
- 34. At school I criticize that the classes are usually very large (for example 30 students). If there are more school teachers, the classes could be smaller and the children could be better supported.
- 35. At school I protest against the ban of chewing gum and cell-phones.

## A good school

- 36. A good school should have more free time and less homework. A good school would be if we had more time. A good school relays on week plans instead of homework.
- 37. A good school is much more than just a school.
- 38. At a good school equality prevails. A good school is a school without bullying and exclusion. A good school is when all stick together, the teachers are nice and friendly and if there is neither beating nor disputes. In a good school there should be no violence. A good school is a reasonable school with reasonable students. Our school should be the best school. A good school has a community that accommodates and tolerates different students in its community.

- 39. A good school should start later in the morning.
- 40. A good school should not be too strict and not too nice.
- 41. A good school should allow cell-phones.
- 42. A good school is without test, because when doing tests you do not learn anything new but you only repeat things.
- 43. A good school is where children have fun to go to school.

## The church must renew

- 44. The church needs to renew itself, because it has to address people in a good way.
- 45. The church must be so interesting, that it makes fun to go to church for a service.
- 46. The Church must motivate people to participate and to revive the community.

## A good world

- 47. In a good world, there should be no war. A good world should look peacefully. A good world means acceptance and love, no war. A good world is a world without war and famine. All people are treated equally, donate money and food and provide a dwelling for poor people.
- 48. A good world is if rich countries do not deliver weapons to poor countries. Instead, those countries need help for their development (food, technology, good roads, good medical care).
- 49. In a good world, good wages are paid for good work in poor countries. In a good world, families earn enough money and can sometimes afford to go on holidays.
- 50. A good world should accept everyone as he/she is. In a good world people should be helpful and not show unsocial behaviours towards other people. In a good world there should be no homophobia. Children, gays and lesbians should be accepted. They should be on an equal footing as we all and not be arrested for their feelings.
- 51. In a good world no one should stay hungry. In a good world people share food with other people in the streets. In a good world nobody has to starve or die from severe diseases. In a good world there should be food for everybody.
- 52. A good world protects the environment. In a good world trash will not be thrown on the ground but into the waste bin, because otherwise we have a world of garbage world. Nobody wants this. Therefore, put the waste into the waste bin! A good world should not be polluted. People pollute the world with cars, trains, motorcycles, buses, etc. This break down the trees, and there was recently an

- earthquake. This is very bad as there is no air without trees, and without air there are no humans. That's a big problem.
- 53. A good world should be without cruelty against animals and humans. A good world without racism and thieves. In a good world people should help others.
- 54. In a good world all children can go to school.
- 55. A good world produces good smart-phones.

Written by Zoe 6e, Laura 6d, Mei 6e, Lukas 6d, Henring 6b, Jonas 6c, Jana 6b, Janus 6e, Lea 6a, Cartman 6d, Ezra 6b, Malin 6e, Mateuz 6b, Sarah 6d, Angelina 6a, Fabian 6e, Sina 6c, Eva 6b, Ezra 6c, Carolin 6c, Yesim 6b, Svenja 6d, Justin 6c, Nils 6e, Lena 6d, Marieke 6b, Layla 6a; Joyce 6e, Marie 6e, Kejsi 6a, Jule 6a, Tobias 6e, Lena 6e, Jonas, 6c, Lea 6c; Andrew 6d; Hanna 6c, Valentin 6c, Tim 6b, Alexander 6a, Elena 6c; Hannah 6d, Timon 6a, Adrian 6b, Florian 6c, Jason 6c, Lea 6b, Jill 6a, Steven 6c, Celine 6e, Marina 6b, Felix 6a, Steffi 6d, Anna 6a, Linda 6e, Maya 6b, Florian 6c; Valentin 6c, Kai 6c, Vera 6c, Laura 6d, Steffi 6c; Vanessa 6d, Marina 6b; Valentin 6c, Leonie, Luke 6d, Luca 6d, Joy 6d, Svea Sophie 6d, Tinja 6d, Jason 6a, Simon 6a, Nele 6b, Alexander 6c, Lindidat 6c, Maria Chiara 6c.

## Freie Evangelische Schule Lörrach, Germany (Grade 7)

- 1. We protest against the fact that in today's world ...
  - ..friendship becomes increasingly less worth,
  - ..the rain forests are being cut down,
  - ..many people in the world are starving and suffering.
- 2. At our school we are criticizing, that ...
  - ..the food in the cafeteria does not taste,
  - ..there are not enough physical classes,
  - ..the teaching is not designed vividly enough.
- 3. The Church must renew itself, because ..
  - ..the service is designed for adults only,
  - "people in the back rows cannot see what is happening in front,
  - ..the service begins too early.
- 4. A good world ..
  - ..should have solar and hydroelectric power plants,
  - ..should not be racist,
  - ..should have no wars.

- ..should have enough food.
- 5. A good school ..
  - ..should offer cosy places or locations to relax and switch off,
  - ...should have no bullying,
  - ..should have good school social workers,
  - ..should have a swimming pool.
- 6. A good church ..
  - ..should have modern premises with cheerful colours,
  - ...should have many offers,
  - ..should have a church band with beautiful songs,
  - ..should have a good pastor.

#### Groupe Scolaire Mugonero, Rwanda

- 1. We protest against the use of condoms and sex in schools.
- 2. We protest against the abuse of the right of the child to the detriment the rights of parents.
- 3. We protest against the Church which meddles in misleading politics in order to please the state authorities.

written by Ikoribikomeye Emmanuelia; Niyodusenga Emmanuel; Uwineza François; and Niyontegereje Samuel

## Institut Nzanza, Democratic Republic of Congo

- 1. A good church must base its teaching on the Bible but not on globalization.
- 2. We criticize schools that are running behind gifts regardless of their origin and donor goals.
- Church must be renewed in the apostolic teaching as it is based on it. (Eph 2: 20).
   A Protestant church must criticize corruption as this is poisoning development of mankind.

- 4. We protest against terrorism maintained by rich people and developed countries with the aim of exploiting raw materials from developing countries, making them poorer.
- 5. In this sense, we protest against massacres of civilians perpetrated by politicians and religious (such as Boko-Haram in Nigeria, ADF/ NALU in DRC, EL-Shebab in Somalia...)
- 6. We also protest against tribal wars that continue to cast a pall over the communities.
- 7. We protest against the recruitment of youth membership in Islamist movement that contributes to massacre Christians in the world.
- 8. Adherence to these extremist movements is due to lack of employment, war, poverty.
- 9. We protest against the fact that the woman's rape has become a weapon of war used by antagonists (militias, loyal soldiers). That's why the number of orphans has become very high with consequent increase of street children.
- 10. We also protest against high rate of unwanted children born of raped mothers and who remain sources of perpetual conflict (e.g. a girl raped and pregnant by an ADF, shall deliver a child who will suffer discrimination and will never have inheritance)
- 11. We condemn the use of child soldiers by parties in conflict: the result is of moral depravity.
- 12. We protest against wars that have also caused the increase of AIDS in conflict areas (young people are the first victims).
- 13. We protest against the proliferation of highly alcoholic drinks breweries as a result of the destruction of the nervous system of humans especially youth (drug)
- 14. We encourage closing of drug production industries in the world advocated by WHO, knowing that ethanol and drugs are the main causal agents of cardiovascular disease and stroke (Cerebral Vascular Accident).
- 15. A good Protestant church must be strict in prohibition of the use of alcohol and drugs. (Prov 20: 1, 1 Corinthians 3: 16-17).
- 16. A good Protestant school should discourage consumption of alcohol and drugs.
- 17. The Church must renew itself by adapting the spirit of Elijah who feared no one with the aim of refusing sin.
- 18. We criticize the fact that some students and teachers engage in this dirty business.

- 19. If youth awareness on taking alcohol and drugs failed, would jeopardize their future. (The youth is the future of tomorrow).
- 20. We condemn the use of alcohol and drugs to flying, source of several fatal accidents.
- 21. We protest against drinking alcohol by pregnant women because ethanol destroys the nervous system of the fetus.
- 22. We protest against the practice of pledge cards in Protestant churches causing discrimination between rich and poor. Since the church's adherents are addressed to the giver more regularly than the one who gives less. (Luke 6: 24)
- 23. We protest against the girl child discrimination by parents at the expense about boys. Boys children are privileged by African education community views and heritage over girls. Yet all children regardless of gender have the right to enjoy their parents to have seen the child a gift of God.
- 24. We criticize the fact that at school, girls suffer from formlessness complex face the boys. Yet there are girls who have a very high intellectual ability than boys. A Protestant church must increase awareness of girls' education as well as boys.
- 25. We protest against the presence of nuclear weapons in this planet. Knowing the effects of nuclear weapons, it would be better to destroy it so that humanity can live in peace (destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki whose effects are still evident nowadays). Seeing the disasters caused by accidents of nuclear power plants we discourage the exploitation of uranium worldwide.
- 26. We protest against environmental destruction through the use of chemical and nuclear weapons.
- 27. We believe the church must teach the faithful peaceful coexistence, conflict resolution in a peaceful and biblical way. The school in turn must teach young people, all the innovations and scientific prowess but by insisting on the management mode of conflict (dialogue, mediation, negotiation). That said we can aspire to a lasting peace in the world and this will facilitate the development of human society.
- 28. We condemn deforestation without reforestation. Because this leads to climate change and provokes suffering of the population (erosion, land-slide, exaggerated sun ... desertification, reduction of food production...). Climate change causes conflict between developed countries and those in development.
- 29. We criticize schools that have failed to raise humanity to the management of the environment before what we live happens.

- 30. A good Protestant school must educate young people in environmental management (reforestation, proper management of non-degradable packaging, ...)
- 31. A good church must ensure the protection of the environment through sensitization of the faithful.
- 32. Church must renew itself in its involvement in the proper management of the environment that gives health to the faithful.
- 33. We support the organizations working under the protection of the environment.

  Nevertheless, the great powers must change industries use system using products from oil using solar energy, hydroelectric power plant, ...
- 34. We protest against destruction of world heritage as the case of hunting okapi, elephants, rhinoceros, Peacock and some tree varieties such as: Limba, ebony, ...
- 35. We encourage Protestant church in its teachings against poaching.
- 36. We support French approaches that promise funding for countries that will develop agriculture as the exploitation of oil. This being concretized the rate of environmental pollution will decrease because there will be fewer CO2 emissions.
- 37. We denounce the mismanagement of God's servants in Protestant churches of Congo. Pastors are doomed to life of parasitism since they have no living wage. They are not used enough in terms of cash. This is why many are turning to request donations of Europeans, seeking mutation in churches of the city. As a result, their children are not attracted to the pastoral and many became criminals. Their children are forced to study and follow the options of schools organized by the parish where his father lives for lack of living wage where they have no choice.
- 38. A good church must equip its pastors so that they lead a decent life.
- 39. Women pastors must undergo training on self-financing because it suffers so much (in the absence of the husband when he is on a mission). Thus, the mission of evangelizing all people and every man will have a meaning.
- 40. We protest against servant pension system because the vocation to God has no limit. What's the use someone when he is strong and abandon it when it has more strength? How will he live?
- 41. The Protestant Church of Congo must be renewed by equipping its personnel with valuable pension asset (e.g. palm tree plantations, concrete houses ...). The abandonment in old age is spirit to hasten their death. (Heart attack cases, hypotension, hypertension, overwork, loneliness ...)
- 42. We protest against different divisions of the Protestant churches because of carnal interests. These divisions have led to hatred, jealousy, poisoning, inferiority

- complex or superiority between the servants. While all fruits Luther's teaching would be united in faith in Christ and thus the Protestant Church would be strong.
- 43. At school we criticize the pockets system that is based on religious confessions although all Protestants. While it is the school that is supposed to teach love, union and prepares executives of the future.
- 44. A good church must avoid discrimination of servants of God because all are united in the ECC and should focus on the love of God and neighbor.
- 45. The Protestant church must renew in a spiritual vision carnal. Offering a general meeting of Protestant churches with the theme "Fellowship". It seems that Protestant church begins to imitate the Roman Catholic Church in the youth movement organization such as Scouting, Junior and Cadet whereas at the beginning of the Lutheran church, it was not so.
- 46. The mode and globalization should they affect the church or not?
- 47. If Martin Luther resurrected today, in what Protestant church he could enter? As Christ is unique, the union of Protestant churches is essential.
- 48. We denounce carelessness in the management of music in Protestant church (church is in the process of gradually slip into the rhythm of secular music and loses the divine unction).
- 49. We criticize Protestant schools because they are beginning to organize promoschool in that it is only played secular music and dance of Holly Wood.
- 50. A good Protestant school must ensure to maintain the purity of God's word.
- 51. A good Protestant Church must verify in every moment if all the doctrinal points are respected and followed.
- 52. The Church must renew itself by organizing meetings of servants to assess whether Protestants education is still based on the Lutheran doctrine.
- 53. We decry carelessness in clothing of the faithful Protestant pastors from churches. (Deut. 22: 5) (transparent clothes ...).
- 54. We criticize Protestant school in which it has followed suit in the servants of God let them go in clothing while education must be physical, spiritual, intellectual and moral.
- 55. A good school should ensure morals of children as this are its mission deems appropriate by the State.
- 56. A good church must base its teaching on apostolic teaching and must stand as an overseer, a shepherd, a controller and sometimes must apply punishments for black sheep.

- 57. The Church must renew itself by stressing the Christian Apparel (with decency, modesty and self-respect ...).
- 58. We protest against the clandestine inhuman treatment mode. Because they behave as a result of the mismanagement of resources by the leaders of their countries. Normally are the leaders of various governments that would be arraigned when apprehended illegal.
- 59. The school should emphasize patriotism and love of work but also developing teaching of self-care.
- 60. The church must get involved in the denunciation of evil committed by the government and carry out advocacy with governments to receive the employment and wage population.
- 61. The church must teach its followers to be in order with the state (have his ID, passport, visa, avoid fraud and have love his country).

written by KAMBALE KANYUNGU, 5th pedagogy, Kasereka Kikuku, 5th Forestry, KAKULE MUTSUMANGWA, 4th Pedagogy, MASIKA KAVULIVWA, 5th Pedagogy, Kasereka VINZULI, 3rd Forestry

## Jumapo Presbyterian Basic School, Ghana

Today's world is changing rapidly with a worldwide trend of globalisation and modernity, wealth and fashion, pleasure and prestige, among others, which have even eaten into the very fibres of the church. The church which should be the light of the world and a perfect model of righteousness to the world is now wallowing up in these very vices. For this reason, we the students of Jumapo Presbyterian School forward these protests:

- 1. We protest against the general breakdown of the family system which used to bind all members together with the bond of love and unity.
- 2. We protest against the high rates of divorce incidence in our cities, towns and villages, giving rise to single parenting and its rippling effects on innocent children.
- 3. We also protest against the high globalisation and industrialisation of our world leading to a shift of focus from the family to business.
- 4. There is the need to identify the lack of justice in our judicial systems. Many, especially the poor and the vulnerable, are denied justice and are wrongfully incarcerated.

- 5. We protest against the destruction of lives and properties in the name of religion formulated by the Arab uprising groups such as Isis, Boko Haram, al-Qaeda, among others, whose veracious attacks are directed at Christians at large.
- 6. A good world must be able to create a peaceful atmosphere for all to live in.
- 7. God has given the riches of the world to be controlled and distributed for the benefit of all. The churches must stop amassing wealth for their own gain and support others, especially believers.
- 8. A good church must uphold the good virtues found in the Holy Bible and stand to defend it at any time.
- 9. We protest against the complacence of some of the sister churches to the neglect of the apostolic commission supported by our dear Dr. Martin Luther to proclaim the good news to the entire world.
- 10. We also protest that the church must go back to the teachings held by the reformation and what they stood for.
- 11. The disciplines inculcated in children in the various Basel Missionary Schools had churned out highly disciplined students who have become good role-models unto others. We protest again that these models of teaching should be revisited by the school to help the future generation.
- 12. During education weeks, there is an exchange of ideas between the school and the community, moral values are taught, the schools organise communal labour to clean up the various communities. This makes the children feel being part of the community and the community also feel that the school is part of them. We protest that these things be strengthened.
- 13. The teaching of Presbyterian hymns in schools instils moral lessons in us as children and reminds us of the faith struggles of our early fathers. We protest for this to be continued.

## Northwest Christian Schools, USA (Grade 5)

## WE PROTEST...

- 1. That some Christians are put in prison for their faith.
- 2. The terrorist group ISIS.
- 3. That people are destroying the world that God made by being careless.
- 4. That people are destroying themselves (drugs & alcohol) and each other (war and murder).
- 5. That there would be less shooting in America, especially school shootings.

- 6. That innocent civilians are killed sometimes.
- 7. The killing of unborn babies who have the right to live, even though they are made in God's image.
- 8. That there are orphans in the world who are not adopted.
- 9. How many children in America are getting spoiled.
- 10. That there are not enough foster parents for children who need a home.
- 11. People who are boastful and full of themselves.
- 12. Our American worship of immoral celebrities.
- 13. Inappropriate language and actions.
- 14. Inappropriate clothing.
- 15. Too many bad words in Hollywood movies and TV.
- 16. That people do not go to church very often.
- 17. How many churches don't teach the truth of God's Word.
- 18. That some people around the world do not have clean water close to home.
- 19. How many people are homeless.
- 20. When people who are not poor act as if they are poor to get money.
- 21. How hard it is to find honesty, because of "fakers" or hypocrites.
- 22. That there is still racism against non-white people.
- 23. Communism, which takes away freedom of religion.
- 24. Government when it promotes separation from God.
- 25. Politicians who run for president who are not a good example for us.
- 26. Stealing from others.
- 27. The belief in atheistic evolutionism to explain how the world began.
- 28. The belief that there are many gods.
- 29. The poaching of animals on public or private land.
- 30. That our city is not very clean.
- 31. That we don't have enough organic farms.
- 32. Bad sportsmanship in sport competitions.

## Presbyterian Secondary School Mankon-Bamenda, Cameroon

## We protest against

- 1. Bad practices in church by eating the offering in church.
- 2. Seclusion of female in church.
- 3. Bad treatment of poor people in church.
- 4. Talking about God's name in vain.

- 5. Paying of money to be in a good position.
- 6. Pastors drinking excess alcohol and smoking cigarettes.
- 7. Unfaithful pastors involved in sexual immorality
- 8. Making of noise in the presence of God
- 9. Manipulation of the phone in Gods house
- 10. Kidnapping of Christians in church shedding their blood because of wrong things they did.
- 11. The violation of God's10 commandments.
- 12. Practice of bribery and corruption in church.
- 13. Practice of bribery and corruption in school. Some parents bribe principals of school for their children to be admitted in school. Some student fraud their report cards in order to be promoted to the next class.
- 14. Worshiping false Gods.
- 15. Talking or chatting when preaching is going on.
- 16. Blessing rich children from rich homes and ignoring poor ones.
- 17. Quarrelling in church.
- 18. Using bad language on children in church.
- 19. Indescent dressing is one of the major ills and downfall of Cameroon. "Taille basse" is the act of boys placing or wearing trousers on the buttocks level in the name of fashion. Not buttoning all the buttons of their shirts exposing their chest in the name of fashion
- 20. Church prostitution, which is changing from one church to another and leads to confusion.
- 21. Love of earthly things such as money which separate people from God.
- 22. Bribery and corruption which is part and parcel of Cameroonian society.
- 23. Embezzlement which is a factor that destroys and handicaps a country inspiring to emerge in 2035.

Written by Nyenty Pride Ashu (10 years old, girl), Doh Ruth Kah (10 years old girl), Brithney Ngwa (12 years old girl); Favour Nji Anyam (12 years old boy) Justa Nintai (13 years old girl) and Nformi Chantal (12 years old girl)

Compiled by Ms. Mercy Lemnyuy Fai Njobati & Mr. Djiatsa Jean Pierre; supervised by the principal Mr. Kimah Constantine Bimela

## SIVYOLO Primary School, Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo

- 1. We protest against the fact that in current churches, evangelization is about money. Prayer is conditioned by the amount requested by the pastor; however, money divides communities and creates conflicts. Prayer is void if it does not happen with all sorts of mortifications of the flesh. True prayer is into the kingdom of heaven. The pastor cannot impose itself by its own prayer or the authority of money.
- 2. Why do churches fail to satisfy the conditions of their faithful in social, moral, political, economic and religious? Every individual in the world belongs to at least one church. So where do wars come from? Where kidnappings? Why tribalism in churches? Churches need to be renewed and become involved in government action to restore peace in the world.
- 3. We protest against the fact that in current churches, offerings are published by donors: they announce them before offering whereas the Bible says that the left hand should not know what the right hand gives to God.
- 4. We protest against the fact that in some churches, pastors violent girls and moms.

  And in some Protestant schools, teachers violent girls
- 5. The churches need to renew because some older people do not respect the rights of children as the Bible says. The kingdom of heaven is for small children.
- 6. We protest against leaders who encourage corruption in churches and in schools.

submitted by Jesmile Keukeu, girl student,  $4^{th}$  class, Kavugho Mwira, girl student,  $2^{nd}$  class Masika Masumbuko, girl student,  $3^{rd}$  class, Sanata Micheline, girl student,  $6^{th}$  class, Kakule Muyayalo, boy student,  $2^{nd}$  class, Ushindi Luendo, boy student,  $4^{th}$  class.

## Sonrise Christian School, Rwanda

We criticize that; the rich should not be the only ones to study.

This approach favors a group of people and leaves out the unprivileged group hence promoting divisionism among us and provoking indecent behavior. As a Christian school, we believe that "all people were created in the image of God and therefore deserve equal treatment" formally, our education system was characterized by inequality, where schools were only attended by the rich(the privileged) and the school management marginalized children at school but after the 1994 genocide, there was education reformation in schools where according to the government millennium goals, universal

education was implemented, in support to the government, sonrise offers equal opportunity for students to participate in school despite our indifferences by the school's vision bearer (Bishop Rucyahana) who couldn't hold to see the young victims of 1994 Genocide die at the hands of fate but to partner with various countries for sponsorship and now we are happy that we live the same conditions as the rich.

However, the challenge is that, we had many sponsors but later sponsors reduced, to a considerable number. We struggle to pay a certain amount of money for the upkeep in order to continue our studies. As orphans we were raised together since we were young, we developed love and commitment for one another, which is to a great extent is brought about by our faith in the word of God; we are given the best education equally no matter which status.

We would like you to help us as well as encourage everyone to think about these children, the future generation with no hope for the future, on how they can get the education while avoiding this statement that people with money are the only one to Study. Love is the key for every success; in order for us to pass in our exams at school we explain to each other, we are never happy to see our fellows repeat a class. Due to giving us the courage and hope by allowing us who had no school fees come to school, therefore due to mercy and the humanity sunrise had for us we strongly criticize such statements.

## Theodor-Fliedner-Gymnasium, Düsseldorf, Germany, Grade 8

- 1. All people should learn to go through life with a bright mind and a friendly heart.
- 2. They should prove to be people whom you love and in whom you trust.
- 3. The most important thing is not that one pass all class tests and exams, but that one becomes a lovable person you can always rely on.
- 4. A good world without hunger and war.
- 5. A world in which children can play in nature and do not sit in front of electronic devices.
- 6. A world in which people do not judge superficially.
- 7. A world in which every human being is equal and no racism prevails.
- 8. A world in which there is no danger.
- 9. A world in which children grow up in community with others.
- 10. A world in which all people have a big heart and tackle things with kindness.

- 11. A world in which people do not have to flee.
- 12. A world in which you don't need to have fear of the future.
- 13. A world where animals are allowed to live in their habitat.
- 14. A world in which everyone has a job.
- 15. A world in which everyone has a right to education.
- 16. A world in which justice, love and hope are paramount.
- 17. A good world consists of tolerance, acceptance of colour, religion, appearance, disease and origin. We must try to help actively and to create respect. If you give them your heart, the will give you their heart.
- 18. It's typical for a good world that people are actively working against deforestation and support aid projects. In addition, the residential and economic policy in Brazil should be stopped immediately as far as it affects the rain forest, except those projects which are aiming at the preservation of the rainforest. There must be other ways!
- 19. A good world highlights through speeches, reports and education how terrible child labour is and how exploitation and poverty can be combated in order to support such people.
- 20. Peace? Peace should be more than a human right and can be achieved without violence. In particular, in the Islamic war there should be finally reached agreements. Peace should be self-evident for everybody.
- 21. The protection of species makes a good and diversified world. It should be a matter of course to support peaceful environmental organizations and to contribute to the species protection. Everyone can do something, such as separation of waste, not leaving electronic devices in stand-by mode and so on.
- 22. Many people experience discrimination day by day. We as Christians have to ignore colour of skin, origin and many things as reasons why many people are discriminated and help these people!

Asia - Which things we do not consider right?: In countries like Bangladesh better rules and regulations are necessary, because most people have to work excessively long for too little payment. For us here it would be inconceivable and impossible to accept such conditions. Moreover, it would not compensate the means of subsistence. So the working time should be shortened, because the workers often have to work overtime. Women get paid even worse and more disadvantaged and furthermore many children have to work in industrial factories and to spend hours slaving away on the field during

the time they should learn and be educated at school. Although they are still young children, they are like us or even younger. This is the reason for the poor education or the lack of school training. This leads into a vicious circle. As a result, many children cannot find or exercise any steadfast or professional work due to the lack of education. In addition, the sexism prevails in many countries, where women are discriminated, although everyone should enjoy just and equal rights.

Another point is the war between the two Korea. Although there is no more a right and real war after the Korean War (1950–1953) much is still unclear and under pressure. Every time a war could erupt again; there is no real peace, only a ceasefire. This can still be dangerous, and the dictatorship in North Korea should be abolished, as people should have a happy life there and be free like here in the Democratic Republic of Germany. It points to the fact that in more countries democracy should prevail also with better rules, which also can have severe effects. This applies also to new environmental regulations! Or even for better rights and a better life for everyone. These conditions can only be fulfilled and met if all of us together want to maintain our earth fair and free for our descendants in the future. Together we can achieve more! Even beyond our imagination!!

submitted by students of grade 8a, Julius, Elian and So-Young

## Students from the schools of the "Rede Sinodal", Brazil (Grade 1-5)

- 1. I like a better city, without bullying and violence. I wish that the air becomes clean and that animals and babies are no more abandoned.
- 2. A better world is a world full of love.
- 3. We protest against the fact that in today's world there are people who throw waste on the street and in the sea, destroy forests, hunt animals, and there are people who choose to be on the "bad side" instead of being on the "good side". We need to think twice before picking "our side", and always discuss the problems in order to solve them.
- 4. The world would be better if all are friends.
- 5. Women have the same importance in society as men. Women must have the same rights as men have, to work and earn the same amount of money, nothing more, nothing less.

- 6. A good school is a school in which all respect each other and learn that respect is very important for a friendship and that the learning time is our future.
- 7. We protest against the fact that people are sadder. They love each other less than before, due to the financial worries they have. We protest because people are forgetting to love, forgetting to be happy and how good it is to be loved. Nowadays, people think about solving things so that they do not remember to have joy. We must help one another.
- 8. We protest against a fact that is really bad in our world. Our green areas are disappearing and we need to stop this deforestation. We have to remember that we will live in a dirty and polluted world if all the trees and plants come to an end.
- 9. We should practice more honesty and lie less; we should have less corruption and practice more responsibility for the needs of the population.
- 10. I want a world without poverty.

Pietra, Angela Guimarrães Ijaille (Colégio Bom Jesus/IELUSC), Marco Octávio Andretta, Rafael Gonçalves Borba e Henrique Sonntag Riether (Centro de Ensino Médio Pastor Dohms), Otávio Augusto Grossl Simões (Colégio Martinus), Isadora Martins Della Giustina de Moura (Colégio Sinodal Ruy Barbosa), Luisa Schlemper Beber (Colégio Sinodal Rui Barbosa), Maria Paula Silva Machado, Luana Burei Linares da Silva (Instituto Educacional Luterano), Johannes Ferster Schneider, Taciana Ferster Schneider (SETREM), Carolina Weiss (Instituto de Educação Ivoti)

## Students from the schools of the "Rede Sinodal", Brazil (Grade 6-9)

- 1. We protest against child labor, inequality, corruption and inhumanity. We want a better world!
- 2. I hope for a better future that people will see what's happening around them, that they will keep their eyes wide open, that they will watch and think about politics, that they will think about poverty and about those suffering and that they will always have faith and hope. We should all be aware that without our own contribution the world will not change.
- 3. Nowadays, money has a great impact. Some people believe that it is more important than one's own family and that generates corruption. So we protest against greed.
- 4. AN IDEAL WORLD IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE ANY PREJUDICE. IT IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE LIVE IN HARMONY AND RESPECT ONE ANOTHER.
- 5. The world would be a better place if people learned how to appreciate those simple things that can turn an awful day into a wonderful one.

- 6. We protest against the fact that there are in society a lot of social inequality, discrimination against women and others. To improve the situation we believe that there must be a greater awareness of this which schould start with the education at home and at school.
- 7. We are protesting not only against the great current issues such as war, corruption and environmental problems but also against the small problems, because we need to improve concerning the little things in everyday life.
- 8. We stand for a world where the norm "to be born, to learn, to work, to retire and to die" does not exist. We need openness and new ideas for our lifestyles and occupations, new thoughts. We can experience the unbelievable.
- 9. As long as the greed speaks louder, our planet will continue to die until there is nothing left; then they will discover that they can not eat money.
- 10. When we look around, no matter where we are, we can see that there are noticeable differences. Physical qualities can differ drastically from one to another; they may vary or may be almost the same. People are like that. When I walk through the streets or even in the corridor of the school, I can see that people have different personalities, different tastes, different feelings, even if they are twins. These differences can sometimes lead to the fact that people join or against each other. As society we have to fight against this. No matter what differences there are, whether social, ethnic, racial or cultural if it is our desire to live for others with respect and if harmony and peace are greater than these differences, then it is possible to get a better world: a world where everyone can live well for him/herself and with other people without having to worry to be well accepted. It is our duty that everyone exerts him/herself to respect the opinions and differences of colleagues, friends or even people we do not know. We value respect, education and ethics in our relationships.

Bernardo, Augusto (Colégio Evangélico Augusto Pestana), Djussy (Colégio Gaspar Silveira Martins), Laura Weber, Gabryele Gerhardt (Colégio Martin Luther), Ana Carolina Steyer, Caroline Scherer Thiessen, Tainara Pedroso Campos (Colégio Sinodal da Paz), Sabrina Marschalek Nascimento (Escola Barão do Rio Branco), Júlia Blume, Ana Júlia Cassol, Ana Luísa Dal Forno, Brenda Luisa Buttinger Rodrigues e Moors Júlia flower (SETREM), Rafael Klaus Pilz, Arthur Tonial, Carlos Westermann, Ana Bagatini, GabrielaDias, Ingrid Knewitz, Isabella da Rosa (Colégio Sinodal), Juliano Graeff (Instituto de Educação Ivoti), Eloísa Della Senta Pinzon (Colégio Sinodal Rui Barbosa)

### Students from the Philippines (Grade 1-5)

### 9 boys, 18 girls

- 1. Go to church every day with my family and pray in the church. My family loves me always.
- 2. Pray in the church and listen to the pastor to learn a mass.
- 3. Always pray to God, listen to mummy, daddy and teacher and do fun activities that are not bad, not too far and not offensive to other people.
- 4. My idea is to pray and make my morning happy and better. I will do different things that I can't do. I will be brave on what things I am going to do. I will think before I do my choices I am going to do.
- 5. Tomorrow can be better if we do the right thing for our country and do our best for our country to be better. We should pick the right person to handle our country for a better future with our family and friends. Think about the better things life would give, we should think about the positive side more than the negative one. Then we will have a better tomorrow and a better future.
- 6. All of us should be more responsible and make everything possible and positive, rather than doing some actions that aren't nice or making something bad. We can share each other's opinions and understand each other and make everything possible. And also we can help to make our country better, and also our whole world, that we can be a better person and improve our community that we live in.
- 7. My ideas are: I wish that tomorrow I will have a room full of things that I didn't have before. I wish that my parents and my brother will never shout. I wish that I will never be hungry. I wish that everyday God will always guide me everywhere I go.
- 8. Each day has many different happenings; in each day, sometimes you get lucky but sometimes not. Many people commit sins but some do not. When some people go to church, they pray and get blessed. People get luck when they have faith in God and praise Him. When children are born, they are supposed to get baptized in holy water to get away on sins. Some people get baptized when they get older.
- 9. My ideas for tomorrow will be different because God will guide every day. He also knows what will happen tomorrow.

### Students from the Philippines (Grade 6-8)

### 10 boys, 9 girls

- 1. I am a child with a heart to help some people that I have to. God please protect us from dangerous things and persons and please always keep us safe going home from work.
- 2. For me, living in the ways of the past may affect the future. It's better to reach the future having the same traditions than reaching the future without the history of its own. Honestly, in the Philippines having justice is slightly slow because of many cases that have not yet been investigated. Just a unity from each other can help us to be better than today.
- 3. My ideas for how tomorrow can be better than today is to start opening up, not judging people by how they look, or not judge at all but start helping out the poor side by side, listening to the laws that you know that can help you through life, starting to take care of our surroundings including animals, trying to lessen crime in the world, trying to lessen pollution and respect, understand and help each other in different ways and have peace.
- 4. I'm going to be better behaved than today and I will give my teachers a perfect score.
- 5. My ideas for how tomorrow can be different, if people believe in themselves they can do things better and they can encourage each other to help the country and solve their problems clearly so our tomorrow can be better.
- 6. Tomorrow is better than today because you don't know what's coming for you.

  Maybe some blessing will come to you and you'll never know what can happen to you.
- 7. I will try my best to encourage our citizens to think before we act. We must think fast and wisely if the action or the act that we are going to do will help other people or will make it bad for them. If a person will ask me why is this my idea? It's because my mother used to tell me that you must think about ten times to know if are you doing it for a good or bad purpose.
- 8. Some people may help to find justice while some do not. Of course yes because they can provide us with information regarding those justice.
- 9. People still kill each other even though there are laws that prohibit hurting other people. There are even people killing many people, even 20. They get killed or persecuted and even humiliated in front of a bunch of people. They kill because

- they have problems, they steal to eat. If no one were hungry, then no one would do bad things to harm people.
- 10. Many people feel that their grandmothers and grandfathers lived with superstition and many corrupt governments. In the villages, many individuals, such as the poor, are in need of assistance, so people turn to politicians to help, but over time I have seen villages without justice. If I have the idea of changing the world I would focus on trust and cooperation with each other for modern life.
- 11. A number of people in this world are confused because of our beliefs and all the laws we must obey so some people will not obey other laws. We choose the president to stop corruption but also there are many corrupt presidents.
- 12. Our life nowadays is quite better than before, we can change our nation if we like, we can make it even better if we like to improve ourselves.
- 13. Each day, people face a different kind of sin, like killing and commonly stealing. Some people don't get justice for the sin they experienced. Saying the truth is a guide. We always hear the saying, "Honesty is the best Policy," which is true. In everything we do, we must always remember to be honest not just to other people but also to ourselves. I have no idea if tomorrow will change, if the people that God created will change and realize everything. People are so blinded by some things that they never realize what is really not important in this world I'm talking about money. Tomorrow will change IF the people will change.
- 14. We live in this world for decades. Not just cultures are passed on, even history and social life are passed on. We humans have different types of manners and conduct. We are now living on an unjust planet. The best example is the rich people and the poor people. While the rich are spending their money for nonsense, the same time the poor people are suffering. Religion is one of the things that separates us humans from each other. Injustice has taken place because of religion. For example, the Christians are destroying Syria. Pride was lifted and humanity was gone. Have faith and remember we are all serving just one God. Justice will take place.
- 15. We have traditions that we follow as Filipinos, similar to rituals. There are laws. We must obey the law, but what if it is contrary to our people? Do we need to follow it?
- 16. To have a tomorrow that is different from today, we should be doing the specific thing we do in our everyday lives now, but doing it more right than we did it in the past.

- 17. There are many traditions we live out each day in our contexts. They are like printing, writing and many more. Spiritual texts can guide us in understanding how these injustices can exist in the world.
- 18. Upon reflection, things we live out each day may perpetuate injustice in our society. Maybe we should provide advocates for justice. I just do what I can to change my world to be happy every day and make my beautiful day every day and always.

# Theses from upper secondary schools

### Akropong Presby JHS, Ghana

- 1. Why should people drink so much alcohol because they claim they are happy but afterwards end up bringing shame to themselves and their families, hurting themselves and can't even locate their way home? Is this happiness?
- 2. In some tribes in Ghana, widows are made to drink the water used to bath their dead spouse in the name of widowhood rites this is very cruel because we may not know the disease that killed the person. It looks as if culture has made us lose respect for human right.
- 3. Why should people be given awards for acting pornography, while we all know adultery and indiscriminate sex is a sin and the bible even speaks against it?
- 4. The youth of today are not interested in work but are interested in getting quick money. They want to get 4 cars and 4 houses at the age of 19, while their parents have worked hard for about 50 years without boasting of a single car. Some can wickedly go to the extent of using their parents for rituals just to get money.
- 5. Most Ghanaians make rubbish and throw them in gutters, when it rains and the place gets flooded, they call on the government to come and clear the gutters, while the government is not the cause of it. When it becomes a disaster, they associate it to some so called gods and some will foolishly quote the bible by saying in all things give thanks to God.
- 6. It is difficult to understand why people know the right things to do but will not do it. Many girls in their youthful ages just jump from bed to bed and commit unscrupulous abortions when they get pregnant. When they grow old and are not able to give birth, they blame their innocent grandparents who death has failed to take them away.
- 7. Why should African leaders (politicians) drive in porch cars, give themselves huge salaries and yet claim Africa is poor.
- 8. Why should Muslims kill Christians and vice versa while we claim Allah and God are the same one and true God.
- I don't understand why my mother finds it difficult to pay my school levies but is able to afford new and expensive clothes for each family member or friend's funeral.
- 10. Why do Christians fight Christians while we claim we are worshiping one God.

- 11. Why do we have morally bankrupt pupils who attend protestant schools and are taught by protestant teachers?
- 12. Why should there be a difference in Christian doctrine while we use the same bible?
- 13. I always thought being a virgin is pride and honorable .But now indiscriminate sex is the order of the day. When you are a virgin it is regarded as a lack of opportunity to have sex, but not an Honorable virtue. Why should it be so?
- 14. Many people misinterpret the bible to suit themselves, but when the law gets hold of them, they claim it is human right abuse.
- 15. In Africa, many young girls are forced to get married to people without their consent or approval. My little knowledge tells me marriage is based on love and understanding. But in some tribes in Ghana it is not like that.
- 16. My science teacher taught me that, 'H' in Chemistry refers to Hydrogen and 'N' also refers to Nitrogen. Some few years ago we heard of a disease called H1N1 which I believe was a laboratory manufactured disease meant to kill people, after infecting us with it they later on produced drugs to cure the same disease. Wickedness

submitted by Kingsford Agyei, Abigail Nyarkoa, Kutufam Tetteh Philip, Owusu Quintin, Christiana Offei Akuffo, Mary Gyamfi, Derrick Offei Akuffo, Emmanuel Tetteh, Adu Larbi Ishmael, Kokor Sarah, Abugri Nathaniel, Prince Sakyi, Priscilla Appiah, Abeiku Kelvin, Clement Oduro Takyi, Abugri Mercy, Kutufam Tetteh Philip

### Cameroon Baptist Academy Yoke Muyuka, Cameroon

It's been roughly 500 years since Martin Luther wrote the 95 points against the Roman catholic church which led to the reformation of the papacy. The negative customs have been gradually but steadily creeping back into our schools, society and churches. Here are some of the negative customs that are writing against.

#### Schools

- 1. There are many rising chaos activities taking place in some schools. However it shall be brought to light with the hope of taking a new dimension, hence some of the chaos can be seen below:
- 2. Looking at schools today, the teachers take upon themselves to brutalise students in the name of discipline. Here this inhuman act is seen failure of diplomacy and child centered approach of resolving issues.

- 3. Furthermore, teachers in schools hush at their students whenever they ask a question to a teacher in class and it is answered wrongly or stupidly. Rather other students would have been given the opportunity to express themselves for the rest to learn.
- 4. Not leaving the fact that most girls sell their bodies to teachers and lecturers for marks which might lead to unwanted pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted infections.
- 5. In addition to the above three points, students are discouraged to go to school because they are being abused physically, mentally and emotionally.
- 6. Also students are being deprived from going to school because of the enormous activities of the sect groups such as the Boko Harams, so because of this fear the future seem to be uncertain.
- 7. Some students don't attain full education because of the negligence of teachers who don't teach or don't cover up all syllables but at the month collect their salaries.
- 8. Concerning the issue of favoritism, some teachers are recruited to teach who have no certificates to show for it; also favoritism between teachers and students hinders the teaching /learning process.
- 9. Some Schools are being advertised on the internet which do not exist at all and hence fees paid by parents, fall into the hands of fraudsters, hence leaving the students/pupil frustrated and confused.
- 10. In Boarding schools today, students are maltreated and undergo in human brutality from the senior students a situation that violates the child's right.
- 11. Obstinate students in some schools provoke teachers to the extent of fighting with them which portray that students must be morally brought up at home.

#### World

- 12. In the world today, education is being neglected, thereby causing some children to be frustrated, equally causing them to get involved in prostitution, drug abuse, gambling, robbery, thereby increasing the rate of crime.
- 13. Generally, political leaders stay in their position for a long period of time, thereby disregarding the young educated youths. This needs to be discouraged through education of the youths by way of introducing democratic principles in schools.

- 14. In the world today, the aspect of lending money out on the condition that it shall be brought back with interest causes failure in staying put with the promises, because some money lenders become Shylock Cursory.
- 15. It is unacceptable to allow bribery and corruption. For instance in Cameroon, some officers collect bribes instead doing the right thing and this has caused a decline in moral values.
- 16. In some third world countries today, it has been realised that politics has turned into a dirty and deadly game as the case of M. K. Abiola of Nigeria, Charles Taylor of Liberia, Laurent Gbagbo of Ivory Coast. Some are forcefully removed from power hence the leadership of such country cannot be effective in serving their people. Most future leaders of tomorrow in some third world countries have a kind of doubt on the future they will inherit.
- 17. Another chaos is that many girls are forced to get married to those they don't love leading to emotional distress.
- 18. In some African culture, women are left to suffer after the death of their husband, as they are made to sit with their buttocks on the floor for at least a week during the period of mourning.
- 19. Also in some part of the world such as Cameroon, capital punishment is still implemented such as the burning of thieves alive which is abuse of human right, instead of corrective punishment through imprisonment.
- 20. Also in some African society it is believed that succession or inheritance is attained solely by males making it gender biased (gender discrimination).
- 21. Furthermore, some parents out of negligence send children of tender ages to hawk of which some of them are being kidnapped, raped, sold and even killed (child abuse).
- 22. The governments of some countries embezzle money which is meant for the development of our country e.g Cameroon.
- 23. In our society today, it is believed that when a person who carries a bomb and brings it to a market, church or a school and explodes it, God will take him body and soul to heaven. Whereas the bible says "thou shalt not kill or murder".
- 24. In the society today precisely in some home, parents fight, siblings fight which is a bad influence on growing young children.
- 25. Gender related violence: Some tribes in Cameroon, such as the Northerners, Bayangi, practice female genital mutilation and breast ironing which may lead to impotency and breast cancer.

26. The judiciary in Cameroon to a certain extend is very corrupt and therefore needs to be given the independent it does deserve.

#### Churches

- 27. Today in many churches, pastors sometimes ask for money in order to deliver demon possessed Christians (worshippers).
- 28. Despite the fact that Christianity has been introduced, some people still practise polytheism which the belief in many gods and worshipping natural forces which is their own opinion.
- 29. Adding to that, the freedom of worship is not properly respected that is, not everybody is given the opportunity to freely worship, of which every citizen ought to enjoy religious freedom both privately and publicly which may discourage the display of inborn talent.
- 30. Also in some Muslim mosques, women are not allowed to worship with the men, which portray gender bias in worshiping.
- 31. In addition to the above chaos, some churches to an extend implement laws that are not found in the bible such as abolishing the wearing of earrings, watches, rings, trousers, high heels and women are not allowed to preach on the pulpit for some protestant denominations.
- 32. Looking at the bible, Jesus Christ flogged some women because they were trading in the temple but today people still sell in churches.
- 33. Some pastors turn to pay more attention to their rich Christians than the poor ones, hence defeating the goal of the great commission.

submitted by Nanyongo Leonelle, Eyong Janyse, Nesah Royene, Batey Tambe, Beri Marvelous, Ofon Jusly, Tah Ayuken, Elad Lyona, Bokwe Isaac, Ayuk Arrey,

Organised by the teacher Nnde Eric

### Collège Alfred Saker, Cameroon, students at the age of 16-18 years

- 1. Young people are no longer interested in religion. They give importance to worldly things namely, illicit enrichment; that is why the wit of the effort has gone. These young pretext that the time when Jesus performed miracles is past.
- 2. Citizenship is no longer part of the language of young people today. They exhibit behaviors that are not citizens; they vandalize public places, destroy monuments, pollutes environment; in short, they don't have any respect for public good.

- 3. Globalization today just dive young Africans in the disaster. To embrace the world, African youth want to abandon their traditions and customs, and focus on what comes from outside. This tends to destroy African traditional values.
- 4. Through social networks, young people share their common interests, their passions, their ideologies with those of other regions. But these networks have a major drawback: the loss of young people. These engage in activities that are not beneficial. Thus, social networks become a threat for young people.
- 5. Nowadays, parental responsibility is no longer ensured. Some parents who have paid school fees for their children, no longer take care of them at home. Children are abandoned to themselves and parents have really become irresponsible. Some are not even able to pay tuition, which leads children to become criminals, prostitutes, bandits.

Written by: TJAHE ESSOMBA JULES - Marthe Audrey ENDALLE - MANGONG Kevin - Alisson DIKONGUE - ADAMS DEXTER - KOUMIGNE Elise - Princesse MINKENG - NITO Dora - KAMTA Fiona - EBONGUE KEGNE.

#### Ecole Secondaire de Gikonko, Rwanda

- 1. The church must renew itself because church leaders, even though we had protested indulgencies, in today- churches are undergoing such things as we have to pay a lot of money for weeding ceremonies, confirmation and baptism.
  - A good church must give all those services for free as Jesus Christ, John Baptist, Elijah didn't ask any price for that.
- 2. The church must renew itself because Christians who believe that they are good at praying, are praying in caves, dark forest as if God is not near of every ones more than his or her clothes
  - A good church must teach the main concepts of Bible to everyone, we have the Bible as our constitution, but we do not agree to the concepts and fundamental principles of Bible.
- 3. The church must renew itself because the terminology of church, whereby church become monument, great house built by human being whereas the church is our body, our heart, therefore when you miss to attend that house ,they are not hesitating to say that you didn't pray God because you were not present
  - A good church must know that the house we are used to attend is not a church; it is a house where Believers meet. Even when they will destroy the building, church will remain.

4. The church must renew itself because the idea of so many church leaders about work. Works are visible to them but faith is invisible. Church leaders ask Christians to work before they believe. We protested last time saying that we are not saved by work but faith.

A good church must know that Christians are not for pastors, priests or Apostles. Christians are for Jesus Christ. He wants us to believe in him only. Priests have to preach the Gospel.

5. The church must renew itself because the misuse of terminology called Church and denomination .Church leaders they are used to say my church, whereas is it for them! They even say my Christians as if we are for them. No! We are here for Jesus Christ.

A good church must know we are here for Jesus Christ our Savior.

6. **The church must renew itself because** people who believe that they can change the will of our almighty God .As if it does things we want.

A good church must know that the will of God is best in our whole life; they have to know how Jesus taught us to pray. He had said Our Almighty God, everything you want be done on earth as in heaven. Let's all do as the will of God.

7. The church must renew itself because church leaders who are transforming the church into a market. They pass more than hours selling what they have offered. Every Christian forgets immediately the gospel and good news of Jesus Christ that they learnt during church.

A good church must know a good way of collecting gifts .They can do it after the prayer or they choose another day.

8. The church must renew itself because concept: "To go in the Church" even though we have to pray together with other believers as God said, it is not a mistake to pray outside. I am a church, our God will never fit in the house built by people but it can fit in my body.

A good church must learn that we are the body of Jesus Christ. Church leaders fear that if Christians will know their Christians will not attend what they call a church (meeting house)

9. The church must renew itself because the of the misuse of God's gift of tongues and prophesy: So many Christian in Rwanda come in our church to see the miracles only, others to hear what God wants, therefore this pushed them in heresy .It

seems to be now witchcraft activities in the church, Christians pay money for receiving message from God. They don't do like Elisha who refused to receive the gifts of Naaman (2 Kings 5:16).

A good church must know that it is prohibited to sell or to buy a gift of God, or to use it for your own benefit. The gifts of God are equal and belong to all believers, they are given to believers for helping them to live in this Earth, it is not our home.

- 10. The church must renew itself because the recruitment done in the church in the form of evangelism is looking like competitors. Sadly we are not preaching to unbelievers, Muslims, Magician, Buddhism, Hinduism, Brahmanism and others.
  - A good church must know that the ideal behind this competition is MONEY (THEIR BENEFITS). Let's join hand all as Christians for preaching good news of the Gospel.
- 11. The church must renew itself because the idea that there is a special Area, God wants, nowadays People are mounting high hills and mountains to meet Jesus Christ, other ones are used to pass whole nights in the swamps, rivers ,lakes as special area that God Prefer to meet with his people.
  - A good church must know that our God is omnipresent. He is closer than our clothes.
- 12. **The church must renew itself because** the concept of nowadays Christians that the sins are not equal, therefore faith and grace to save us lose their values.
  - A good church must come back on its ideas of Reformation that we have been saved grace and faith
- 13. The church must renew itself because church leaders always preach laws of Moses as if we are in Judaism or as if we have been saved by laws.
  - A good church must know that we are enjoying time of grace and faith.
- 14. **The church must renew itself because** praying is not a gift. Christians are saying that they are gifted because they pray regularly.
  - A good church must know that a prayer is an obligation in our kingdom of Jesus Christ.
- 15. The world must renew it self because of wars, and mushrooming of terrorist groups. They use the church of Jesus Christ to seed anger, wars, and fight among population across the world, mainly in Africa and Asia.
  - A good world must know that politicians are using different religions to separate people/countries/states/ who are unified.

16. The schools must renew itself because so many Christian schools are being headed by unbelievers. Therefore there is no change because the Gospel has no way to work.

A good Christian school must be headed by our fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Olive Nyiransengimana, Ndizeye Philbert, Gerardine Umuhoza, Bizimana, Adrien

### Evangelisches Firstwald-Gymnasium Mössingen, Germany (Grade 10)

#### Church:

- 1. We welcome the fact that in Germany no one will be judged or valued on the basis of religion and everyone is free to represent and to live his or her faith.
- 2. We welcome that the church keeps its doors open, even if somebody is not a church member.
- 3. We protest against the marriage-restrictions for homosexuals and Catholic priests as this interdiction deprives the lovers of the blessing.
- 4. Church can give support but also lead into the absolutely wrong direction. For example, sects convince emotionally weak poeple by manipulated means and cast their spell over them.
- 5. We demand more current references in the sermons.
- 6. We call for more modern elements of worship including for example more modern songs.
- 7. Each community should have a youth worker as they can better empathize with young people. They can accompany and support children and young people in difficult situations.

#### School:

- 8. We criticize the school that we learn a lot of challenging and demanding items, but that we can use only a little for our later working life. It would be more practical to learn how to complete a tax declaration or to what you have to pay attention regarding contracts.
- 9. We would like to annul the conversion from nine to eight years of Secondary school, as learning has become much more stressful because we have to learn the

- same or even more content in less time. We have to work a lot for the school in our free time and do not have time for social aspects.
- 10. As the working and professional world is demanding more and more skills in media and technology, it would be practical to learn how to correctly deal with useful computer programs, because we can use this very well, also privately.
- 11. Due to the globalized world there are also here in Germany more and more people of other religions. It would be good if either the appropriate religious education would be offered for these students or ethics lessons for all. People would become more open minded and would understand other cultures in a better way.

#### World:

- 12. We protest against the exploitation of developing countries and demand justice. It is not right that countries benefit from the poverty of other countries.
- 13. We call for world peace and active cooperation of all countries. All countries should resolve their problems by political means, without war.
- 14. We demand that all countries should receive war refugees and that the responsibility can not only be loaden on few countries.
- 15. We are also concerned that the reporting of the media might not always be done in a truthful and objective way and that we could get a false or distorted image of other countries and cultures.
- 16. We protest against all forms of cruelty to animals and demand that animals get more rights worldwide, especially regarding factory farming and animal testing.
- 17. We demand that all countries do participate in the World Climate Summit, that they make meaningful agreements and also comply with them.
- 18. We call for responsible use of groundwater.
- 19. We call for universal human rights worldwide.
- 20. We demand better and more just social and health systems as well as, finally, complete equality between men and women in all sectors of society.
- 21. We protest against genetic engineering and deforestation in developing countries.

### Evanjelická spojená škola, Slovakia

- 1. Don't be ignorant and get involved when you see that you can improve something.
- 2. Become a volunteer.

- 3. Donate anything you can: for example hair to people with hairloss, old clothes to people in need, time to your peers.
- 4. Take initiative, don't wait to be asked.
- 5. Encourage the ones who are different.
- 6. Encourage the ones who lack self-confidence.

### Freie Evangelische Schule Lörrach, Germany (Grade 11)

- 1. We protest against the fact that in today's world refugees are being deported and treated as a burden rather than as people with dignity.
- 2. We protest against the fact that in today's world religious convictions are lived in an extremist way and thereby do harm to others.
- 3. We protest against the fact that in today's world the Church does not take a clear stance toward contraception. We demand that the Church takes back its reservations.
- 4. We protest against the fact that in today's world some people put themselves above others and claim to be something better.
- 5. The Church is too superficial and performs only rituals such as weddings.
- 6. Concerning the school we are criticizing that we are forced to learn subject knowledge without getting the opportunity to develop our thoughts freely.
- 7. Concerning the school we are criticizing that the individual skills of all are reduced to sheer numbers.
- 8. Concerning the school we are criticizing that social skills do not count enough.

  The school should not only promote intellectual skills but also other talents.
- 9. Concerning the school we are criticizing that too little knowledge lasts that is really important for life.
- 10. Concerning the school we are criticizing that grading is not always objective.
- 11. The school should give students more choice of subjects and nevertheless prepare generally for professional life.
- 12. The Church needs to renew itself, because it will die out otherwise and lose value.
- 13. The Church needs to renew itself, because it must not lose touch with today's youth.
- 14. The Church needs to renew itself, because the society is also changing, but the Church must not give up basic values such as the 10 commandments, charity, love of the enemy and non-violence.

- 15. The Church needs to renew itself, because it has to be a counter pole to society, especially if the society is in contradiction to fundamental values, such as it was in East Germany.
- 16. The Church needs to renew itself, because the liturgy in the services is too rigid, too boring and too emotionless.
- 17. The Church needs to renew itself, because it has too much become a habit. The content should count instead of the obligation to attend.
- 18. A good world is free from mandatory church tax, because faith should not have a price.
- 19. A good world needs to accept people regardless of their origin, their gender, their sexual orientation, their income or their religious affiliation.
- 20. A good world is based on justice, solidarity and freedom.
- 21. A good school encourages the students and offers them the chance to believe in themselves.
- 22. A good school encourages each student sufficiently so that he/she can successfully complete the school.
- 23. A good school is a role model and teaches people quite early important skills for life and for living together.
- 24. A good church accepts also other religions, because our imagination is limited.
- 25. A good church adheres firmly to old traditions but adapts also to the present time and renews itself in order to reach the believers of today.
- 26. A good church must also respond to other faiths with respect and appreciation.
- 27. A good church must be available especially for blended families (patchwork families).
- 28. A good church should be open-minded to other religions and cultures.
- 29. A good church should be more present in the public.
- 30. A good church cares for the homeless.
- 31. A good church is thinking of people who have not yet found themselves.
- 32. A good church is tolerant and does not judge. It has no right to judge about the way of life.
- 33. A good church is open to other people.
- 34. A good church must deal with their finances in a good way, because it is a well-known role model for the society.
- 35. A good church must forgive the faults of its office bearers but throw out corrupt bishops.

- 36. A good church does not pass judgement on people no matter how great their sins. It leaves the judging to God.
- 37. A good church is available for all and its doors are open also for people who have once before turned away from God.
- 38. A good church welcomes anyone.

### Freies Gymnasium Bern, Switzerland

- 1. In our school system it should be required that every student should be confronted with foreign cultures and religions which are strange to her or him.
- 2. The exchange with other religious groups is necessary to form a better world with less misunderstanding.
- 3. Despite its Christian roots a good school has to be open to other religious world-
- 4. A better world is based on acceptance, tolerance and respect.
- 5. A good school should invest into the discussion of religion and how to apply its values in everyday life.
- 6. A good school provides an insight into different religions, so that students and teachers can become aware of the diversity of cultures and learn to respect them.
- 7. If the individual person would know more about any religion, one could better empathize with people who think differently and disputes could be avoided.
- 8. It is important that you know your own religion and that you integrate religion into life. But you should still be open for other cultures.

#### Institut Majengo, Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo

# We protest against:

- 1. The rape of women's rights all over the world, especially sexual violence.
- 2. The lack of alternate political power in some countries, especially in Africa.
- 3. We protest against discrimination of people living with disabilities or because of their race; they are also able to work like any other.
- 4. We protest against war as a means to solve problems between people of different faiths, between humans. We protest against tribal, religious and political wars in the world, because man destroys man, yet all of them are creature of God.
- 5. We protest against the fact that parents care more their activities than basic education of their children at home.
- 6. The fundamentalism in Islam whereas Christians are also sons of Abraham.

- 7. Social inequalities in a church yet based on the model of the Church of Jesus of Nazareth.
- 8. The multiplicity of religious sects within the Protestant Church due to disagreements or lack of common vision between Christian leaders.
- 9. Corruption and cheating are the two major scourges that plague the world and the Church. We protest against the fact that in some Protestant churches, pastors care more offerings than the salvation of Christians.
- 10. The lack of a united Protestant church practicing the values of the Reformation.
- 11. A good school has to fight cheating and corruption; it should promote moral values and excellence. We want a church that teaches discipline in accordance with Christian moral values, and encourages sanctions for violations of these values.
- 12. A good Church must avoid nepotism, injustice and tribalism. It must promote love of neighbor and protection of vulnerable segments of the population as well as refugees or people displaced by war.
- 13. I protest against discrimination of people living with disabilities or because of their race; they are also able to work like any other.
- 14. I protest against war as a means to solve problems between people of different faiths, between humans.
- 15. I protest against the fact that parents care more their activities than basic education of their children at home.
- 16. I protest against the fact that in some Protestant churches, pastors care more offerings than the salvation of Christians.
- 17. I protest against tribal, religious and political wars in the world, because man destroys man, yet all of them are creature of God.
- 18. I protest against the tolerance of disorder in the church in the name of freedom; that's the case of marriage for all which is accepted in some Protestant churches.
- 19. I want a church that teaches discipline in accordance with Christian moral values, and encourages sanctions for violations of these values.

submitted by Kahambu Wivine, Kavira Mbalu; Joel Kihugho, Kakule Kihokolo, Furaha Wanzualunghendo Gisèle, Kahindo Wivine Winnie, Mumbere Promise, Yves Paluku Mathe

#### Institut Visoke - Vocational Training Centre, Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo

1. Artisans of conflicts, divisions, and wars collect great means in order to conquer territories, towns, villages, and less (or no) available means are used to put out

- fire and repair damage: poverty is widespread. I condemn this practice of supporting evil rather than to support what is good.
- 2. Stop to dehumanization in DRC: dying mercilessly in prison without never have been with his complainant, enabling young people to take narcotics to destroy themselves and encourage them to despicable acts of violence. Human life is sacred. I protest against narcotics and imprisonment without appearance.
- 3. There is no ridicule that would dishonor a leader than to give his people the promises that never materialize. This is to be an enemy of oneself. I support the idea of the leader who remains true to his promise and not to the idea of the demagogue leader.
- 4. This is an error to believe that we must torture, kill, rape populations, snatch power and reign supreme. I condemn every power executed in the jungle.
- 5. In the kingdom of sheep, there is a wolf leader: someone who snatches power by torture, blood, and threats, is terror leader. I hate the one who rules with human blood, thus terrifying his people.
- 6. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, even with gold bullion, parents continue to die prematurely. The reason is the heavy work to educate and feed their children. Who is responsible for the carnage of souls prematurely died? I detest inertia, impotence, and lack of will of the Congolese government against the wellbeing of its people.
- 7. Crisis of identity in relation to the Christian life: the hypocrisy reigns, persists and causes a kind of discrimination in lucrative community services: confusion between pagan and Christian is the complete loss of consciousness. I like the fact of putting the right man at the right place without discrimination.
- 8. A good community or nation is one in which, rather than condemning, accusing each other or destroy each other, people choose the peaceful way "to get together and talk open heart".
- 9. Someone is said to be right and wrongly assign the other. The other does the same. The third who is the judge said: "Nobody is neither right nor wrong, because you are the same but different, you're different but the same: you need tolerance". I adopt the idea of the judge.
- 10. A good world is characterized by sharing, cooperation to fight against selfishness and promote development for a better future.
- 11. Schools where marks are minted or assigned under influence do not contribute to human construction, but contrariwise to its destruction. Some are ashamed of

- Goma where every degree can be sold cheaply by some well-known people from state services. I hate this culture of anti-values.
- 12. Things against which the apostles and servants of God who preceded us in the ministry of evangelization have fought are things for which some so-called servants of God fight for. It's for their belly: you have to be rich to benefit from certain graces of some servants of God. I refuse bias in the ministry of God.
- 13. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, people have much more confidence in the leaders of their tribe and believe they guarantee their protection and that they can subjugate other tribes: this is the birth of tribalism causing thousands of deaths and ruling on innocent human blood victims. I hate these tribal and malicious manipulations.
- 14. Never ever! In prisons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo there are many innocent inmates who are criminalized, and culprits who remain at large and who are found innocent. I am against injustice that tramples human rights.
- 15. Youth is the hope of tomorrow. A good government should train youth at all levels; the lack of promoting youth in political, economic, ecclesiastical, artistic and cultural, is spoiling the future. I oppose all those who do not promote youth in training and in professionalism.
- 16. We protest against the irresponsibility of the Congolese government failing to objectively support teacher and allowing the packaging of student success through the creditworthiness, sexual harassment and tip. Indeed, this irresponsibility makes education discount
- 17. Can we move from reform to reform, sowing ideological division now as many sects are born? No. I support the reform to strengthen community coherence of the Church.
- 18. If people could imagine damage that war would produce, they would prevent themselves from starting it. I rebel against those who provoke war causing poverty, orphanage and widowhood.
- 19. This is outrageous! They only think on their interests and spit on those of the people. They absolutely want to change the constitution to reign supreme over the people. I hate the selfishness that makes people languish in misery.
- 20. Dying ridiculously, is having allowed torture, conflicts, poverty as a remembrance to people. I condemn those who die having caused harm to living on earth.
- 21. Thinking that we are the only one to build a church, a school, a most beautiful countries and that we need to perpetuate in power is feeding our mind with

- childish dreams. You should know leaving power. I support those who want the alternation of power within the constitutional deadline to establish democracy.
- 22. It's horrible to be in 6th grade and miss the state examination because of the war between the militia and loyalist armed forces. It is condemnable to not allow education to people living with disabilities: physical disabilities, mental, deaf mutes.... I accept peace and education for people with disabilities.
- 23. A good church must not deviate itself entirely from politics so that politics can take care of it. So the shepherd may prevent his flock from danger both political and spiritual that awaits it. I protest against those who take the church politically hostage.
- 24. Dare! Dare to give a chance to girls and women; they will prove that they are able to changing the world, to succeed where men displayed a weakness. I am shocked by those who do not dare to give a chance to women to flourish. Nothing has been able to prove the inability of women. In the field of science which is considered as reserved for women, for the same number of opposite sexes, women defend valiantly and even outweigh men. In DRC, educational outcomes, for example, are a proof. I am against the fact that woman is an inferior force, an incapable.
- 25. Resignation, resistance, wife submission are a force to the image of a quiet stream that supports heavy loads. Believe me: the weight of a heavy burden is lightweight for a woman and heavier for a man. I confirm that woman is capable of anything.
- 26. In technical section, as well as in any other field of science, girls, as well as boys are able to face training. Categorizing the field in relation with sex would be a wrong thinking. Reality does not prove in thought, quite the contrary, in verification. I do not accept discrimination in technical training by gender.

Submitted by Kabuo Matabishi Lucia, Muhindo Muyisa Alain, Kasereka Katsongo Bercy, Zeka Malangulo.

### Instituto Evangelico Americano, José C. Paz, Argentina

- 1. For those who believe that a better world is possible...
- 2. For those who fight so that a better world could be possible...
- 3. For those whose convictions, actions and faith, work day after day, in order to make us understand that it depends on ourselves to build a better world.

### Lutheran Academy in Martin, Slovakia

### Civil society

- 1. That our country would rid itself from all forms of discrimination.
- 2. That our country would be more tolerating and open toward foreigners, including legal and illegal refugees from other countries.
- 3. That our country would care more extensively about its natural beauty and cultural heritage.
- 4. That people in our country would be in general nicer and more positive toward each other; as for example by greeting each other more openly and heartily.

#### School system

- 5. That that the school system would not focus on memorization and sheer facts, rather that all study materials would be practically applied and collectively discussed.
- 6. That the students are allowed the freedom to freely express their opinions and attitudes; without being judged or discriminated by their teacher. Also that the students will have the freedom to express themselves without limitations and consequences in the way they dress and have their appearance.
- 7. That the teachers in our schools would be granted the opportunity and also that it would be mandatory for them to continually upgrade their professional education.
- 8. That the teachers of our schools would get more decent salaries in order for them to be more professional and offer the students more quality teaching time and focus solely on their academic profession.
- 9. That the educational process would be more interactive, fun and enjoyable.

#### Church and Christianity

10. That certain individuals would not intrude the privacy of others by trying to talk them into switching other person's beliefs.

#### Lycée Mgr Shaumba, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, upper secondary

#### 1. Theft, an antisocial value

Stealing is the action of one who takes stealthily or by force, the good of others to keep it for him. Theft is the most common cons-value in our societies; this is something that is forbidden by the Bible because God has given us laws or rules to follow called "10 commandments" in which He forbids us to steal: this commandment is found in Exodus

20:15.

By committing theft, we are moving away from some physical and spiritual blessings that God had promised; in addition, we also mess our image (reputation) in society. As a child of God I criticize this practice: I am against all other antisocial values that plague our society and I denounce them as did Martin Luther when he noticed several deviancies within the church. By condemning them, he led the church to reform. We must fight for the respect of laws established by God and by the society to make it better and be a model for the other. We must be those who push others to abandon for anti-social values and work the well -being of society. A thief is the one who brings only misery, sadness, grief, shame, dishonor, and in return he receives the curse and many other negative things such as poverty, because of the bad words pronounced by stolen person (John 10: 10a)

Let us be people like Martin Luther who had risen to denounce any act contrary to God's laws as well as those established by societies. We, too, let us rise to complete the work and the works of Martin Luther and fight against these antisocial values that plague the community (churches, schools, NGOs, companies...). by criticizing, we may well move towards "a better and guaranteed future."

#### 2. Corruption

Martin Luther opposed the papal authority, to Catholicism, to the imposition of dogma such as that of purgatory which is the origin the Reformation. I compete against corruption in my country, my environment.

Corruption is the fact of diverting someone from his duty to persuade him to do something against the honor, using finance. The Bible too is against this (Hosea 9: 9 refers to the sins of the Israelites). Nowadays, corruption is actually quite "normal". Formerly, it was not accepted.

Corruption is felt more and more in the world in all areas. I notice that it is often caused by a thirst for power, poor governance, and low salaries. But the more one corrupts, the more he is corrupted; one becomes addicted, and provides less effort. Finally, corruption makes us lazy. Really, even having financial or substantial problems, you must never fail, as Martin Luther fought to the end; he has never capitulated. Despite the pressure, the events, he remained firm on his decision, his determination. He is really a model for me, not only as a Christian but also as a student. Actually, it is a great moral lesson that Martin Luther has left us, that of "never give up regardless of the events." He even displayed his 95 theses to the chapel without considering the risks he was running.

Being corrupted, someone completely loses one's dignity, and becomes a person with weak personality. Regardless of my age and my tribe: as Martin Luther, I will fight against corruption until the end.

Written by Minta Grâce & Tchumb

### Martin-Luther-Gymnasium Eisenach, Germany

- 1. We call for affordable, healthy food for everyone.
- 2. We demand the abolition of intensive livestock farming.
- 3. We wish a tolerant society and justice for everyone.
- 4. We call for a better and more just distribution of vital products.
- 5. We are against the oppression of every individual.
- 6. We demand the abolition of all animal experiments, zoos and circuses.
- 7. We call for an unconditional basic income.
- 8. The arms industry must be restricted.
- 9. We protest against the discrimination of minorities.
- 10. We protest against religious wars.
- 11. We call for more police operations.
- 12. We call for better support for the socially disadvantaged people.
- 13. We call for more support for single mothers.
- 14. We are protesting against the waste of taxes.
- 15. We urge for support for refugees and asylum seekers.
- 16. We demand from all people a stronger commitment to the preservation of the environment.
- 17. We call for the acceptance of same-sex love.
- 18. We call for more government support for education.
- 19. We demand an end to all wars.
- 20. We protest against xenophobia.
- 21. In a good world, there is no cruelty to animals.
- 22. People need to use less plastic.
- 23. We protest against child labour.
- 24. We demand the reception of refugees.

- 25. We protest against the fact that in some parts of the world children's rights are not being implemented.
- 26. A good world is free of war.
- 27. We demand that no human being around the world needs to go hungry.
- 28. We call for more humanity towards foreigners and refugees.
- 29. We protest against the fact that more and more oceans become polluted with plastic and thus the underwater world is at risk.
- 30. We demand equal rights for homosexuals.
- 31. We want that no one is discriminated because of his origin or skin colour.
- 32. We demand freedom of opinion for all people.
- 33. We protest against religious hate campaigns and extremism.
- 34. In a good world, everyone takes responsibility for his fellow men.
- 35. The emissions of CO2 must be reduced.
- 36. We demand that in the parishes there should be more offerings for children.
- 37. A good church will not allow xenophobia.
- 38. We call for the abolition of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.
- 39. In order to preserve our world as it is now, every human being must have an awareness of the environment.
- 40. Do not criticize others, but start with yourself!

#### Presbyterian High School Batibo, Cameroon

As young students of a protestant school we have noticed the critical problems that have affected the society. It is in that light that this essay has been written so that solutions can be given to our worldwide problems. These problems need great attention as our world is gradually getting destroyed as the days go by.

1. The first problem is on discipline. Discipline defines a person. Indiscipline has become a problem world-wide. Disrespect of elders and older persons has also been a problem. Even in our schools students are very disrespectful to teachers. Some even go to the extent of comparing or fighting with their teachers. Solution: Let the government encourage parents to teach morals and discipline to their children from childhood. Schools should also double their efforts in the moral lessons given to students.

favoritism. In the society of today many people discriminate and favor others. In schools some teachers falsely award marks to students from their tribe or village. Some teachers treat other students with love and care than others. In the case of appointments, state administrators appoint leaders in a discriminative manner, not considering skills. Merit is no longer considered in many cases today.

Solution: Let the government see into it that skilled people are appointed to duty posts. Let citizens know that we are one indiscriminate of birth place, race and color. Hence equal opportunities should be given to every citizen of the world.

The second group of problems includes; discrimination, tribalism, racism and

2.

3. Another group of problems are prostitution, stealing and pick-pocketing. In our world of today most thieves, prostitutes and pick pockets are youths. Prostitution has become a normal phenomenon. Girls at all stages of life do prostitution and even boys do male prostitution and have sex with other boys for money. Stealing and pick pocketing has reached its apex as people do it with no fear. Girls go into sexual relationships with boys because of poverty and even with married men especially in the Universities. Sexual Relationships between students are not good worse of all when it exists between teachers and students of the opposite sex.

Solution: Free education should be instituted at Primary school level to all citizens of the world. Vocational education should be improved upon at the post primary level so that many youths can be trained towards self-employment. This will be a big weapon towards fighting poverty. Let the governments help to give some allowances to these students so that their basic needs can be taken care of. With these allowances youths will not think of stealing, selling their bodies for money. Youths should be discouraged from browsing sex-related websites on the internet and these sex websites should not be put in the net. Youths should be discouraged from pre-marital sex.

4. Some other problems affecting the world today are the problems of wars, terrorism, kidnapping. During wars and terrorist attacks innocent people are killed. Properties are destroyed and as a result causing tension and fear among the citizens. Kidnapping today is very rampant, especially children and making our society unsafe.

Solution: Let the U.N.O. try to solve problems in war countries by letting sign peace-treaties. Let the government do same to states which fight tribal wars. Let our armed forces be conscious of kidnappers and prevent kidnapping at all cost not to let any loss of life. Many persons should be educated or trained towards the easy identification of terrorists. The slogan 'terrorism never solves any problem but instead creates disorder' should be given the widest possible publicity.

5. Other problems include occultism and murder, also suicide bombers and suicide committers. Occultism has grown rapidly especially in higher institutions. The occultists threaten, beat up and even kill citizens, students and lecturers. People prefer to kill hundreds and thousands of people including themselves for money or other reasons. Also people who think life is cruel and unfair to them decide to take their own life. It is wrong no matter the reason.

Solution: Let the government organize radio and television crusade programs informing people about the disadvantages of suicide bombing, occultism and murder. More psychologists should be taught on how to stop suicide bombing.

6. Embezzlement, misuse of state funds is also major societal problems. Embezzlement as led to slow development in the churches, schools, other social institutions and the state as a whole. Some areas are fast developing than others because of misuse of available funds in some areas.

Solution: Let the state control the running of its budget with more strict control in order to avoid embezzlement or misuse of funds.

With all these problems the world is crumbling day after day and therefore needs effective attention. If the above proposed solutions are implemented, the world would probably be a better place for human existence and for the future generation. We all stand for a change.

Written by The Executive Members of the Reformation Club, P.H.S. Batibo. President: Nwanchan Lukita Abong (upper sixth Science), Vice president: Tatamiyih Soumiatou (Lower Sixth Science), Secretary: Buma Bronhilda (Lower Sixth Arts), Treasurer: Trevor Afanyu (Lower Sixth Science), Student Co-ordinator: Acha Pasky (Lower Sixth Science), Press Editor: Fongang Kenny Roy (Form Five), Public Relations Officer: Tuijah Courage (Form Five), Logistics: Nyoung á Zock Vanina (Lower Sixth Arts)

### Presbyterian High School Nkambe, Cameroon

We have the honour most respectful to forward to your office of authority the following theses from the students of Presbyterian High School Nkambe:

- Muslim students in all Christian institutions should not be deprived of their religious beliefs and customs.
- 2. An average duration of 5 years should be put in place for church workers and the clergy to avoid frequent transfers and prolonged stay in particular stations.
- Medications in our schools should be administers by competent medical personnel at all times.
- 4. School administrators, church and state officials should declare their assets before taking over certain offices as well as posts of responsibilities.
- 5. The clerics should not get fully into politics as it is the root cause or corruption, embezzlement and murder in the church.
- 6. Sanctions meted on school and church workers as well as civil servants should not be based on envy, jealousy, blackmail and slander.
- 7. Church workers should always complete their term of office in serving God's children and not leave because of greener pastures.
- 8. A specified duration and term of office should be instituted in the schools, church and state constitutions in different educational, denomitional and political systems.
- 9. The marginalization of the Anglophones in Cameroon still remains a bitter pill to swallow. We advocate for the return of the country to a federal system rather than cessation.

Compiled by Linwe Virginie, Ngeh Collins, Gabsoya Junior, Okwonko Pascal, Kwanke Blaise

#### Presbyterian Secondary School Bafut, Cameroon

We, the Students of PSS Bafut, protest against:

# Public leadership:

- 1. Poor state of roads in the country, especially roads inking major towns in the country.
- 2. Poorly executed and/or abandonment of public contracts.

- 3. Culture of promoting mediocrity at the expense of meritocracy.
- 4. Placing self-interest before collective interest by people in authority.
- 5. Slow and disturbing rate of economic growth and development in the country.
- 6. The propagation of emergence in 2035, with no concrete steps towards reforming the educational and health sectors as well as the primary and secondary sectors of the economy.
- 7. A high rate of unemployment of among youths, especially graduates.
- 8. Poor medical infrastructures, with some enclave areas having no medical facilities.
- 9. High rate of mismanagement of public funds with some of the perpetrators put to jail rather than recovering the funds.
- 10. Generalized poverty that has pushed youths into crime, prostitution and drugs.

#### Proliferation of Churches

- 11. The irrational legalization of Churches, some of whom have strange doctrines, with the tendency of deceiving followers into believing that heaven can be brought down on earth and by so doing, extorting money and assets from people.
- 12. Misuse of Church money by those charged with safeguarding such funds.
- 13. Frequent demand for funds/financial contributions from Christians.

#### Schools

- 14. Abuse of the fundamental rights of students through corporal punishment
- 15. Use of abusive language in class and lack of mutual respect by some teachers
- 16. Non-involvement of students in decision making on matters concerning their welfare.

### Presbyterian Secondary School Mankon-Bamenda, Cameroon

- 1. Love does not exist again in church because leaders compete. True love is seen in Corinthians 13.
- 2. The church now depends on what they can do and not on what God can do.
- 3. The church is not united. They have developed the satanic trinity: "Me, myself and I" and not father Son and Holy Spirit.
- 4. The church has chosen some LAWS of God to obey and leave out some. The church does not obey God anymore.

- 5. The church desire today is to serve man and not God. This has turned the church into vanity seekers and not righteousness seekers.
- 6. The weakness of the church has opened the way to Satan to capture believers.
- 7. Desperate Christians who do not wait for God's time and rush to false prophets for instant solution to their problems. Having faith in doubt is having faith in fear and not in Christ.
- 8. Practice of praying in tongues. The church today is a political dictator.
- 9. Terrorism in all its forms
- 10. The church is so busy that God's messengers have become cacophonic musicians.
- 11. The church is so lazy that they preach what they don't practice.
- 12. The church finds pleasure and pressure over material things than spiritual things.
- 13. Self-disillusioned spiritual leaders have turned into spiritual killers.
- 14. The church has interest in the Christian numbers and not in Christian members.
- 15. Church leaders are chosen based on prosperity and not capacity.
- 16. The Church is conforming to the world instead of converting the world to Christ.
- 17. The world thinks sex is the highest limit of pleasure in the world
- 18. The search for power which is eating the earth up, yet scientists don't see it.
- 19. Corruption has turned out to be and fastest transferred tradition in our generation.
- 20. Economic giants sit on poor countries' wealth.
- 21. The world is active in making laws that will tear it apart.
- 22. Graduated intellectuals are social idiots.
- 23. Schools have created a phobia called respect. People respect others because of fear and not love.
- 24. Appearance does not make a man.
- 25. Schools are not patient enough to create citizens because they want money. They create thieves and futures destroyers.
- 26. Everyone, be in the church, school or society should know that "an impression without expression will lead to depression".
- 27. Presidents of some countries stay in power for more than three decades and this constitutes a hindrance to democracy for example the president of Cameroon has been in power for thirty two years.
- 28. The manufacture of arms and bombs to destroy humanity. Peace, unity and love should reign amongst people irrespective of race, sex, social standing religious affiliation etc.

- 29. Single sex schools because life is meant to be lived together and face the reality of life
- 30. In many churches today wealth is valued more than spirituality. Christians are levied on what to give as harvest thanksgiving which is not correct.
- 31. Gender inequality wherein women and girls are treated as second class citizens. In some areas in the world, girls are not supposed to go to school.
- 32. Christians being taxed a particular amount of money for thanksgiving in the church is not good because giving to God comes from the heart and it is not by force.
- 33. Social inequality in many societies. The rich continue to get rich while the poor continue to be poor
- 34. Political leaders make promises during campaigns and when they win the don't fulfill the promises
- 35. Fovouritism in public examinations. When candidates sit in for public examinations, some are considered successful when they have simply bribed their way and this leads to mediocrity. Some people are even declared successful when they have not sat for the examination
- 36. Embezzlement of public funds. The high ups in the country embezzle government money and go free. In some cases they are imprisoned and the money not retrieved meanwhile for me I think that what is more important is retrieving the money.
- 37. Spiritual leaders carryout dirty dealings for example sexual immorality, embezzlement of church offering, extortion of money from poor Christians under the pretext that they will be healed of their diseases.
- 38. Corruption and power struggle in the church and in the society.
- 39. Indecent dressing especially by the youths
- 40. Exploitation in the church as Christians are taxed to contributed particular amounts of money against their will
- 41. Bureaucracy in Cameroon. The government is so bureaucratic and makes life very difficult for its citizens who want to process one document or the other in the ministries.

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#### Presbyterian Secondary School Nkwen, Cameroon

### Political problems

- 1. The illegal demand for money by members of the armed forces at check points, especially in African countries.
- 2. The misuse of the term "immunity" by presidents, to commit several crimes.
- 3. Fraudulent elections especially in Cameroon that is the administrators in power use their influence to win elections and even stay in power for several decades.
- 4. The preparation of fraudulent certificates.
- 5. Appointment of government officials to key positions in government, based on ethnicities especially in in Cameroon and not base on competence.
- 6. The illegal use of explosives and combat weapons produced in Europe by terrorist due to the combination of the Europeans desire to test their new advancement in technology and the desire of terrorists to destabilize governments.
- 7. The great number of wars that take place in United Arabic Emirates and other parts of the world due to land disputes as in the case of Israel.
- 8. The despotic rule of many African head of states.

#### Economic problems

- 9. The desire to developed nations to dominate global economy spear heads a lot of range amongst great nations which makes them to pass economic resolutions that favour them only. Cameroons continuous links to France is a pointer.
- 10. The use of life destructive theories such as the Malthusian theory enhance neglect of population and give priority to those in high social class.
- 11. High taxes levied by government especially in Africa on individuals tend to leave businessmen financially handicapped. This is the case with the private sector in Cameroon.
- 12. The huge sums of money borrowed by mostly African states are most often attached to strings. The glaring case of Cameroon and France is a pointer to this.
- 13. The lack of economic independence that causes Cameroonians to buy European goods at higher prices when all the resource come from Africa and Cameroon in particular.
- 14. The existence of mass hunger zones that leads to refugees and migration, caused by wars, famine and lack of a well-developed economic system.

- 15. Unemployment and delay in payment of workers caused by little investments and holding of multiple posts by some key government officials.
- 16. The existence of piracy that destroys the producer's income.
- 17. Devaluation of currency which is pegged to the French treasury is a big headache to the Cameroon's economy and this problem can be checked by creating an indigenous currency for Cameroon.

### Social problems

- 18. The uneven distribution of world literacy due to lack of educational facilities in many hinterland areas of Cameroon, Africa, Asia and even South America
- 19. The use of "Mushroom churches" to make money is distorting the worship pattern in Cameroon and leading to break ups of some families
- 20. Embezzlement, bribery and corruption is rife in Cameroon. Embezzlement of public funds is serious and for this issue to be eradicated, constant audits should be conducted and defaulters ask to pay all missing money without delay. Bribery and corruption is very alarming in Cameroon and for this to be completely eradicated, there should be the creation of a task force to check especially the forces of law and order who are reputed to be the most corrupt.
- 21. Female and male prostitution is prominent in Cameroon. Prostitution is still a problem in Cameroon and this always occur at road sides at night and as a solution to this problem policemen have to stand at the road sides at night and anybody caught there at night should be taken to the cell for detention.
- 22. The rapid increase of adolescent pairing and fornication especially in the developing world.
- 23. Favoritism and nepotism is rampant in government.
- 24. Instability orchestrated by the Boko Haram sect is having a heavy toll on Cameroonians.
- 25. Falsification of educational certificates and testimonials by some Cameroonians.
- 26. Class distinction especially in the case of the rich and famous and the poor leaving many Cameroonians impoverished.
- 27. Immoral acting and releasing of pornographic pictures and videos on the net by the youth due to a lax government control. Viewing of pornographic films in Cameroon is also high and all movie companies should ban the sale of pornographic films and if anybody is still caught in the sale of the films should be punished because it destroys the reasoning faculty of youths.

- 28. The indiscipline treatment given to kids especially in the developed world.
- 29. The breaking of bounds in schools is so rampant and as a solution to this problem, the school should be fenced all round and security guards should be put in place.
- 30. Youths of nowadays dress mini-skirts exposing their thighs, tops that exposed their chest and for this problem to be stamped our parents have to follow up their children strictly while the government should come out with a resolution to check such habits.
- 31. Body piercings are very rampant e.g. the bursting of the eye brows, the chin, the lips to put earrings and this can be eradicated by severely punishing those involved. For instance, a sanction of six months imprisonment could be enacted by the government.
- 32. Breast ironing is the use of sticks, stones and other objects to press the breast so that it cannot develop. This is always done by parents because of the fear of high sexual libido by the female sex. This could be checked by creating continuous awareness on the negative effects of breast ironing on the girl child considering that this borders on some cultural trends needing conceptual change which is gradual.
- 33. Female genital circumcision is the cutting off of the sex organs of a girl or woman and this is a very serious case in Cameroon and as a solution to this problem, government should pass a legislation prohibiting this act and all those involved in it should be punished.
- 34. Fraud during elections in Cameroon is too high and for this case to go into extinction Cameras should be put in the voting rooms so that if there is any fraud the camera can detect and expose the culprits for sanctions.
- 35. The rate of consuming alcohol is too high and for this issue to be stamped out the sale of alcohol should be drastically controlled especially within working hours so that people should consume less and prevent drunkenness.
- 36. The rate of drug intake is rampant and as a solution to this problem the sale of illegal drugs should be banned.
- 37. The poor use of road signs are rampant in Cameroon and in the problem could be checked by improving first on the road infrastructure and secondly, ensuring that all drivers are trained in recognized driving schools.
- 38. Poor infrastructure is another case study in Cameroon because some government workers embezzle money that is supposed to be used for infrastructure and for

- this case to be checked, all seized monies from embezzlers could be used to improve on infrastructures.
- 39. Poor hygiene and sanitation is very high in Cameroon making the country very dirty and as a solution to this trash cans should be put along the streets especially in markets and this should be emptied daily.

### We protest against

- **40.** Child abuse is very alarming in Cameroon. The sending of children of 4 years to 5 years to sell items like groundnuts, avocadoes etc. in the market is child abuse and government should enact a law preventing this.
- **41.** Unemployment is another case study in Cameroon and so far this issue can be handled with the government revamping the private sector.
- **42.** Low water in some regions is very alarming and as we know "water is life" and as a solution to this public taps should be installed with the protection of the water catchment areas with the planting of trees.
- **43.** Inter-ethnic wars is also another problem in Cameroon. This problem can be stamped out if politicians stop manipulating traditional leaders.
- **44.** The lack of specialised hospitals in Cameroon is alarming. This can be handled if the government invests heavily in such facilities.
- **45.** There is wide range between the poor and the rich in Cameroon and as a remedy to this, government resources should be equitably shared.
- **46.** Over taxation of incoming investors is another problem and as a solution to this, the government should reduce the tax given to the investor.
- **47.** Wages that are being paid to workers are low and for this problem to be remedied, the government has to increase the wages of the workers.
- **48.** There are also little or no factories in some areas and as a remedy more factories and industries should be built in these regions to increase the production of goods.
- **49.** There are few or no scientist in Cameroon and so scholarships should be given to people in the science field to encourage others to join the science field. They also pay little or no attention to the science field and therefore the government has to pay attention to the science field by giving out scholarships.
- **50.** There is a very poor political system in Cameroon
- **51.** Air pollution is another cankerworm and this can be prevented by providing good cars, modern industries etc.

- **52.** Cheating during public exam like the G.C.E, BPC, BAC is so common and therefore to put this act into extinction, the maximum number of invigilators in a hall or room should be 4 or 5.
- **53.** Excess money spend on unnecessary things like the plane the president bought and to eradicate this thing all the money should be kept in the bank and should only be withdrawn for useful thing.
- **54.** In balance of regional development e.g. the development in Yaoundé compared to the one in Bamenda is not equal. As a solution more attention should be paid in these towns which are undeveloped.
- **55.** Tribalism means favoring people of your tribe and this can be eradicated by the respect for meritocracy.
- **56.** Discrimination between Anglophones and Francophones in Cameroon leading to suspicion. This can be checked by enabling equal development
- **57.** Poor lighting systems in some regions and to put an end to this the government should emphasize on putting lights in these regions.
- **58.** The problem of witchcraft in some villages and to stop this many ministries should be established and trained pastors put in place.
- **59.** There are also poor transport facilities e.g. old buses which makes people feel uncomfortable when traveling and as a solution new buses should be bought, should always be clean at all times.
- **60.** There are few or no psychiatric hospitals in Cameroon and there are many mad people roaming around the street and therefore psychiatric hospitals should be built in all the regions and trained personnel should be put in place.
- **61.** Scamming is also another disease in cybercafés, it has to be stamped out by punishing the culprits.
- **62.** The sale of expensive goods in the market is so alarming. So the price of the goods should be reduced to increase the number of consumers especially the poor.
- **63.** Overcrowding in markets is another problem in Cameroon and as a solution to this problem, many more markets and shops should be installed.
- **64.** Gambling also is another problem and to put an end to this anyone caught in gambling e.g parifoot (a form of sport bets) should be punished.
- **65.** Abuse of authorities e.g. not obeying policemen and this can be stopped by fining those who disobeyed the authorities.
- **66.** There is a lack of social facilities in Cameroon like playground. This can be corrected by constructing them.

- **67.** The sale of expired product is also very rampant and it has to be stamped out by throwing all expired products in stores, pharmacies, companies. Etc.
- **68.** The Installation of merit goods is rare and so the government should put in place merit goods like street lights.
- **69.** There is a lack of educative programs and so the government has to put in place educative programs in the school curriculum.
- **70.** The lack of teachers in some schools which make students to be slow learners and so, the government has to train more teachers training colleges to increase the number of teachers'.
- 71. The Lack of pastors in some congregations which increases the rate of backsliding and so the people of that congregation should be allowed to vote their pastors instead of appointing them.
- **72.** The felling down of trees in forest which increases ground radiation, hence endangering humans' life and so, a remedy to this solution is to have a permit before felling down a tree.
- **73.** The killing of endangered species is very rampant and to put a stop to this a permit also has to be given to hunters.
- **74.** Wildfire is also another major problem in Cameroon and to eradicate this anybody caught burning the bushes will be fined and punished.
- 75. The Lack of research centers. They have to be established especially in towns.
- **76.** Tattooing is also another disease and for this issue to be eradicated anybody caught with tattoo should be punished.
- 77. The rate of initiation over the internet is too high and so the internet should be banned.
- **78.** Low exploitation of minerals due to few or no miners and so schools of mining should be built.
- **79.** Lack of technology in the armed force which makes the tracking down of defaulting locomotives and as a solution to this, there should be technological advancement in the army and this should be done by the government.
- **80.** There is high illiteracy rate e.g. in the agriculture field, education etc. as a solution, or remedy to this problem schools of agriculture learning etc. should be opened.
- **81.** Gender inequality is another problem in Cameroon and as a solution to this single sex schools should be banned and attention should also be paid to the girls and only boys.

- **82.** Fake foreign jobs in Cameroon are posted rampantly. As a solution, these jobs which are posted and advertised should be stopped by closing down the agencies.
- **83.** Maltreatment of Cameroonians in the Diaspora is also another problem and to eradicate this problem is to stop foreign jobs.
- **84.** Over speeding also which leads people into accidents is another problem in Cameroon and this can be stopped by putting policemen in all the highways.
- **85.** Fraud of report cards is another case study in Cameroon and this can be stamped out by giving the report cards directly to parents.
- **86.** Disobedience of the law in Cameroon is already at the peak e.g. the banning of plastic papers but people still use it and this can be stopped by finning those who continue with the disobedience.
- **87.** Abortion is the act of killing an unborn baby in the womb and to eradicate this. Those who are pregnant should be educated on the dangers of abortion.
- **88.** Adultery is the act of a married man or woman sleeping with another married man or woman and to stop this husband or wives should always follow up strictly their husbands and wives.
- **89.** Terrorism is the use of violent action in order to achieve political aims or to force a government to act and this can be eradicated by recruiting more armies in the army for.
- **90.** The Lack of security in the country which can lead to more terrorism and so the government has to increase the number of soldiers in the country.
- **91.** Discrimination against government workers because the government always takes francophone workers and not Anglophones and this can be prevented by the government seeing into it that Anglophones should also work in the government.
- **92.** The poor use of public toilets is another big problem and this can be prevented by cleaning these toilets after every use.
- **93.** Fighting at road side and bars is very common and so if anyone is caught, he/she should be punished.
- **94.** Poor town planning is also very common in Cameroon because of lack of trained architects that cannot plan a town very well. This can be eradicated by putting into place good architects and well trained personnel in the field.
- **95.** The poor use of fertilizers by illiterate farmers which can be washed away by rain water into rivers which contaminate them and to end this, schools of agriculture should be used and less fertilizers should be used.

- **96.** Lack of wild life centers, national parks for the storage of animals is another problem in Cameroon. Animals escape and are found in forest and all humans. So this can be stopped by building more nationals parks and reserve centers.
- **97.** Premature sex should also be another problem and to solve this problem, parents have to caution their children on the dangers of premature sex.
- **98.** Identity theft is using somebody else's name and personal information in order to obtain credit cards and other goods or to take money out of the person's bank account. And this very common in Cameroon and can be stopped by putting passwords in your personal information.
- **99.** Piracy is the act of making illegal copies of DVD's, computer programs in order to sell them and this can be banned by punishing anybody who is found doing this.
- **100.** The use of perfumes and other toxic scents which destroy the ozone layer and therefore a threat to human life should be banned.
- **101.** Bestiality is the act of a human sleeping with an animal due to the high anxiety for sex and this is very common in some areas in Cameroon.
- **102.** Fornication is having sex by two unmarried people and it is very popular in Cameroon and this problem can be solved by people being faithful to their selves and only having sex when married.
- **103.** Counterfeiting is another major problem in Cameroon and so as a remedy to this problem is that money should be made too complicated in such a way that money can only be produce by the bank.
- **104.** In some areas, banks are few and that is why money is being stolen every time and so banks should be built in these areas.
- **105.** Maltreatment of house helps is very common in Cameroon and this can be stopped by the people showering house help s with a lot of love and care.
- **106.** Bad practices like killing of twins is very common in some villages or areas and are very bad practices.
- 107. Nepotism is also very common in Cameroon and these are very bad practices.

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# Söderblom-Gymnasium, Germany

#### Social disparities

- 1. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world unqualified workers have increasingly difficulties to integrate into the world of work and thus they are threatened by poverty.
- 2. A good church supports unemployed people who are in lack of money, selfesteem, and recognition to find back again in the world of work.
- 3. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world social problems and political conflicts emerge by social inequalities.
- 4. A good school helps students to find their way out of socially low milieus and gives them courage and hope.
- 5. A good school supports students in their pioneering projects, helps them to implement these plans and opens by this a gateway into the world of work.
- 6. Referring to the educational balance in Germany proving that pupils from less educated social classes have lower school qualifications we are requesting to provide these pupils with dynamic assistance, for example volunteer tutors, in order to enable them to leave the cycle of poverty.
- 7. Therefore the gap between the richest fifth of the population and the poorest fifth of the population not only in Germany but worldwide should be reduced.
- 8. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world social disparities are getting bigger and no one is doing anything about it.
- 9. In a good world it's unacceptable that politics and the church do not take action against social injustice. Wealthy elites and big companies manipulate the system for their benefit and Church and State are only watching.
- 10. The Church must stand up and take action that the gap between poor and rich does not opens more widely, that the income will be distributed more fairly and that the economic growth, as a consequence of globalization, does not provide advantages only for the one percent of the world population who owns 50% of the total assets of the earth.
- 11. In the future, the Church must pay attention that church funds are not misappropriated, but are used for charitable purposes rather than for luxury construction of episcopal sees, such as for the bishop's see in the diocese of Limburg/Germany by Franz-Peter Tebartz-van Elst, who provoked a scandal concerning the balance sheet of total financial planning.

- 12. We are criticizing the growing importance of material goods in the Western society, which resulted in the European Union's isolation policy towards refugees, which has cost the lives of too many refugees and will continue to cost.
- 13. Even though the Church was partially criticizing these states, this criticism does not have the slightest impact on the reality and is not taken seriously by politicians. An urgent change must happen!
- 14. The Church must renew itself as, primarily, in non-European, Christian countries the human rights standards of Western countries do neither exist nor being respected.

#### Dissemination of ego-centrism in society

- 15. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world people do more take care of the satisfaction of their own interests and therefore the Christian values such as compassion and charity are neglected.
- 16. The Church must renew itself because we as humans look only at ourselves and not at God. We should be oriented "exo-zentric" i.e. towards our environment and our fellow human beings.
- 17. A good church is focused on Jesus Christ and his actions. We should help poor and sick and not take advantage of them.
- 18. A good world is inhabited by compassionate people who do not exploit its resources.

#### Institutionalized racism

- 19. A good world overcomes the omnipresent racism in various societies.
- 20. A good world recognizes that racism exists in many facets and that, partially, it is already institutionalized so strongly that it is difficult to recognize it.
- 21. This institutionalized racism manifests in excessive police violence experienced by minorities in many places of the world as well as by tougher punishments they are forced to go through because of civil servants showing racial prejudice.
- 22. We are protesting against the media's suggestion that foreigners represent a specific risk, not only physically but also to the prosperity of a country.
- 23. In a good world the racism that we encounter in our daily lives must be combated actively.
- 24. We as a society show a much too wide acceptance of racism in many life circumstances as it is almost completely internalized by us.

25. We call for uncovering racist remarks in everyday life, for addressing these problems and for questioning racist behaviours actively like jokes which trivialize racist thinking. The Church must be modernized in a way that it recognizes the mentioned racism and calls actively for change.

#### Renewal of the Church

- 26. We are protesting against the fact that Protestant congregations do take into account the changing age structures and interests within the congregations caused by the societal modernization, that they do not keep up with the times and adhere to the old worship agenda and forms of faith interpretation.
- 27. The Church must be renewed in its structure and its offerings by take attention of the world of the young generation in order to become an attractive, age-appropriate and stability offering haven to young people.

#### Violence and war

- 28. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world people use their religion as a pretext to exert violence.
- 29. We are protesting against the fact that in today's world higher priority is given to interests of States that to human rights and democracy.
- 30. We are criticizing the fact that people fight wars instead of peacefully taking to each other.
- 31. A good world is characterized by the fact that people can openly express their opinion without being persecuted for it.
- 32. In a good world money should be invested for the needy not abused for fighting wars.

# Dealing with refugees

- 33. We are requesting that refugee children have access to education, medical care and social participation.
- 34. We are protesting against the fact that there are too many prejudices against asylum seekers and that the psychological barriers are too high to get in contact with them. In this regard we call for more social openness, so that asylum seekers meet with less rejection.

- 35. A good church is a refuge and place of recognition. Here the contact between refugees and their fellow human beings should happen and be deepened. The Church can and should primarily establish a connection through faith.
- 36. In a good world all human beings should care for each other and support each other. Thus we are calling for more help and support for asylum seekers by refugee counselling offices which should assist them in finding housing and provide support in case of problems.
- 37. In a good world there should be no circumstances that people force to leave their homelands.

# Human rights and values orientation in a society

- 38. Everyone has to have admission to human rights, no matter where this person lives, which gender or sexual orientation he or she has or where he or she originates.
- 39. We are protesting against the fact that today superficiality does count more than inner values.
- 40. World peace is the prime objective for a good, new world.
- 41. The Church must not be abused by violent or political motives.
- 42. A good church should offer support, especially to those who are in difficult situations. This includes the fight against addictions caused by drugs, alcohol, tablets or other reasons.
- 43. We are protesting against the fact that in many countries around the world there are no restrictions to get weapons.

#### Theodor-Fliedner-Gymnasium Düsseldorf, Germany

#### Grade 9

- 1. It's our mandate to continue passing on Christianity from generation to generation.
- 2. A good Christian church should distance even more explicit from extreme Christian tendencies of fundamentalism and Christian sects and express this statement even more clearly with straight words. But with other Christian churches the consensus should be deepened. After all, it's the same God in whom we believe.
- 3. We as Christians preach peace. The hostile sentiments of religions against each other should be stopped and be replaced by a non-violent coexistence.
- 4. There should be no wars for religious reasons.

- 5. In a good world all people should support and help each other and work together to ensure that all are doing well and everyone can live according to just and favourable conditions.
- 6. In a good world, there are equal rights.
- 7. We protest against the fact that in today's world on the one hand food is thrown away in huge quantities and on the other hand people die from hunger.
- 8. In a good world, there is no racism.
- 9. We protest against the fact that refugees are rejected and that they have to live under miserable conditions.
- 10. We think that in today's world everybody who is capable to accommodate refugees should do so!
- 11. We protest against the fact that many people have no equal rights, because poorer countries are getting poorer and richer countries always richer.
- 12. A good church strengthens the cohesion of the congregation.

#### Theater-Class

- 1. In a **good world** all can get together.
- 2. The Church must renew itself, because we do not want to be treated ritually. We want to experience the church service as a real dialogue. Do not read off but talk about the faith.
- 3. The Church must **renew** itself; it should play contemporary and age-appropriate music and should sing English songs. We want to be addressed in the worship.
- 4. The Church must **renew** itself, because the Bible is no longer relevant in everyday life.
- 5. The Church must **renew** itself, because the Bible texts have to be interpreted up to date and (newly) in relation to everyday life.
- 6. The Church must **renew** itself. We are considered strange, if we talk about our faith in a way that we are seem to be quite a back number.
- 7. **A good church** adapts to the youth for example by publishing a calendar of the church year which is linked to the life of young people.
- 8. A **good school** rejuvenates the church.
- 9. We seek the truth of the biblical texts.
- 10. **We want** a playful church which brings the Bible in a modern interpretation also on the stage.

# Basic Course Catholic Religious Education, Year 11

#### Theses on fundamental human rights and the rights of children

Then God said, Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds of the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (Gen 1:26)

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love!... This is my command: Love each other! (John 15: 9.17)

- 1. In a good world, there should never be victims of torture or of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment. This is a foundation in international law which is based on the Christian understanding of the dignity of men and of being an image of God. Torture is incompatible with the message of love proclaimed by Jesus Christ. In many passages the Bible contains a request to assist the weak and disenfranchised and to work for justice, so that all people can live in dignity. Our role model is Jesus. This model should be followed by all men.
- 2. We protest against the fact that in today's world the fundamental rights of children, set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, are not yet being implemented in many countries. The right to life, to education and to protection from violence, but also the right to be heard, should apply to each child in the world irrespective of gender or origin. Children are the future of our world. Their rights must be implemented today.
- 3. A good church supports the recognition of human rights and the recognition of the duty to advocate for the rights of fellow human beings and to respect their rights as limits of our own freedom of action. To standardize these rights worldwide should be the objective of today's world society. But we are still far away from this aim. All countries have an obligation to work for the implementation of these rights.

#### Theses against armament, war and violence

They will beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

(Micah 4.3)

- 4. We protest against the fact that in today's world, the trade volume with weapons continues to increase (from 2003 to 2012 the worldwide trading volume with weapons increased by 17%). In a good world societies negotiate on a peaceful level, to which disarmament is a prerequisite.
- 5. In a good world organizations working for peace (for example the international peace movement) should be supported.
- 6. In a good and just world, priorities should be set in a way that all people can live in safety and with good supply. The money should be invested less in armour but in adequate nutrition.
- 7. A good church should speak out clearly against violence and war crimes. The 10th commandment "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods" should be respected in a way that in a good world there is no warfare for the expansion of land.

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. (Romans 14, 19)

- 8. To strive for peace is a worthwhile goal: The Church should advocate that the arms production in Germany and the exports in general should be reduced considerably; delivery of arms into crisis regions must be excluded.
- 9. The church should support the people who help refugees and condemn those who disturb the peace by hatred and violence.
- 10. We are obliged to help the refugees rather than to punish them for their suffering by fences, surveillance and harassment.

#### Theses about Refugees

"Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe." (Gen 12, 10)

"Now there was a famine in the land—besides the previous famine in Abraham's time and Isaac went to Abimelek king of the Philistines in Gerar." (Gen 26,1)

11. Abraham - an economic refugee; Isaac - an economic refugee: We protest against the fact that in today's world famine and civil wars continue to occur and force people to flee: a good world should help to resolve conflicts on the spot in the respective countries.

Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt. (Ex 23, 9)

12. The Bible calls for the legal protection of foreigners: in a good world, all should be open and ready to welcome refugees; also the churches should grant asylum.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' (Mt 25, 35-40)

- 13. A good church should provide a variety of assistance to refugees and help charity organisations to the best of its abilities.
- 14. Refugees need protection: Around 60 million people worldwide have to flee their homes because they are threatened by war, detention, ill treatment and torture in their home countries. But those who can save themselves into another country are not necessarily safe.
- 15. Religion should not be a criterion: in Germany and in Europe refugees should be received because of their need for protection and regardless of their religion or denomination.

## Theses concerning the preservation of the creation / ecology

Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." (Revelation of St. John, 7,3)

- 16. A good world protects the oceans from chemicals, plastic waste and mineral oil. It protects the resources and the living beings as they were given by God to this world.
- 17. We are claiming the position that in today's world there should be given more attention to the loss of biodiversity the conservation of biodiversity is essential for the preservation of the creation.
- 18. A good society does not allow that the consumer behaviour of the rich destroys the whole world.
- 19. The world is the most valuable one which was given to mankind; so we should, in particularly, take care of it. This was also stated during this year by the Pope in his "green" Encyclical.
- 20. A good world respects the principle of sustainability: We stand for sustainable energy and ecological awareness to preserve and protect the earth in a future-oriented way. A good world uses sustainable raw materials instead of limited resources.

- 21. We protest against the fact that in today's world many people conduct their lifes in an irresponsible way in regard to future generations.
- 22. A good economy shows awareness towards quality and operates sustainably.
- 23. A good person conducts her/his live consciously in terms of the environment.

#### These about Fair-trade

Do not take advantage of a hired worker who is poor and needy. (Lev 24, 14)

If you sell land to any of your own people or buy land from them, do not take advantage of each other. (Gen 25,14)

- 24. FAIRTRADE is a trading partnership based on dialogue, transparency and respect seeking greater justice in international trade. FAIRTRADE cares for a contribution to sustainable development through better trading conditions, by securing social rights and fair payment for marginalized producers and workers especially in the South. The threat to the existence of small farmers by large landowners must be prevented!
- 25. Exploitative child labour and harmful working conditions are inhumane and should not be tolerated anywhere on this planet!
- 26. Also we can influence working conditions in developing countries by our consumer behaviour. We should, for example, buy fair trade clothes and food. Also the churches should support and promote the fair trade as it translates the idea of the "option for the poor" into action. In the cafeteria of our school fair and ecobiological products should be offered.

## Theses about Ecumenism and the cooperation of churches

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. (1 Peter 3, 8-9)

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. (St. Luke 6,36)

27. The churches should strengthen the community spirit of all men and set a sign for unity and peace. They should strengthen their cooperation for peace in the world

- and criticize even more clearly selfish and exclusionary behaviour and lack of solidarity.
- 28. The Holy Year of Mercy, which was proclaimed by Pope Francis and started on 8 December, and the Year of the Reformation should be taken by both churches as an opportunity to cooperate still more intensively and to work for the elimination of many grievances in the world.

# Students from the schools of the "Rede Sinodal", Brazil (secondary classes)

- 1. A better world would be a place where education has the power to put an end to all kinds of ignorance.
- 2. Nowadays the disregard of the differences of opinion are a big problem in our society, because there is a certain scale, in which one is reflected, and the people who think differently or believe differently are rejected. To change that, all should learn this respect already at home. So all could live peacefully together respecting the opinions and the rights of all. But unfortunately that does not happen. Those who disagree are insulted and bullied, instead that their opinions are considered positive and that people come to other ways of thinking so that a new, more sophisticated and less boring culture emerges.
- 3. The world would be so much better if there was equality of races, ethnicities, religion and sexuality, because in that way there wouldn't exist prejudice against others and, consequently, there wouldn't be violence
- 4. With a better education, children will grow up being aware of what they are supposed to do to change the world.
- 5. Egoism is the source of all kinds of bad things, because it is from the moment when a human being allows his individuality to dominate someone else's that fights and discussions happen. For a better future it is therefore necessary to let selfish thoughts go and to start thinking about others, following the golden rule. If we care for one another, we will ignore all differences and racism, and we will become able to make the world a better place to live.
- 6. A better world is built by people with the ability to put themselves in other people's shoes.
- 7. Five hundred years ago, Luther revolutionized the world with his ninety-five theses. Today, the revolutionaries are us. Our generation needs to make an effort to become good professionals, and therefore bring to an end dishonest political

- culture and corruption. Then we can make a difference in the future regarding economic and social crises. We have to fight for our rights without disregarding the rights of the others.
- 8. True happiness is expressed in a simple way: A smile, a hug, reflect our delight, our tranquility, our essence. What matters is not having money but living with friends or family, with inner peace. That's what true happiness is.
- 9. A good school is a school in which students perceive and applaud workers, treating them with the same respect with which they treat their principal. Thereby, we will be adding humility to humankind and we will be striving for a better world.
- 10. A good school should fight against bullying, as children's well-being is as important as their education.

Marina de Oliveira (Colégio Bom Jesus/IELUSC), Nikolas Greiner (Centro de Ensino Médio Pastor Dohms), Guilherme Kehl and Mirela Hunsche (Centro Sinodal de Ensino Médio Dorothea Schäfke), Lauriane Chloé, Anna Luíza Elias, André Yuji Aiyabe Kaetsu e Wen-Kai Yeh, João Felipe Chicarelli Lell, João Paulo Ferreira Fonseca, Antônio Germinari Kahtalian, Pietro Munari e Gabriel Marcatto (Colégio Martinus), Débora Binttencourt Netto (Colégio Barão do Rio Branco), Hellen Kaiane George (Colégio Sinodal Progresso), Deise Worst e Samanta Carolina Goltz (Instituto de Educação Ivoti), Colégio Sinodal Tiradentes, Colégio Sinodal

## Students from the Philippines (Grade 9-12)

#### 7 boys, 11 girls

1. One good example of a problem today is the convergence of technology. Because with the rise of technology today most of us are more focused on using our gadgets. As a result, we forget our commitment to God. One more problem is our commitment. Other religions began to worship other deities or false gods. Due to this difference we are not able to become one or united due to different opinions in life. The Bible helps us come back to our God. Without it we won't be able to make the rules that would make our life more peaceful and orderly. With the Bible that supports us and technology that is evolving or being used to better our world, for me the future would be better to live in from now. If we would continue to do bad things we would be near to our destruction and we would be far from our salvation from our God

- Daily, each among us lives differently. Daily, there are people discriminated against 2. because of unjust traditions. For example, we, the people, tend to judge based on outer appearance. We also tend to respect only high officials or men in power, but not those who have blue-collar jobs. We treat blue-collar workers very differently from how we treat rich people. Because of their way of living, we mock their skills, talents and their own individuality. We judge them not based on their personalities, but on how much they earn. That being said is very wrong. It is not right to discriminate against others just because they are not on the same level in you. Each and every one of God's creations is unique. All have their own skills and talents that make them different from others. Each has been given a purpose in life. And no matter how different we may look, we are all made by one God. According to Galatians 3:28, no matter how rich or poor we are, how beautiful we are, we are all the same in the eyes of the Lord and we must love and respect one another equally. We are not to judge based on the cover. Only the Lord has the power to judge us. If we love others like how God loved us, we will be able to achieve a better tomorrow and a peaceful coexistence with others. If we continue to reach out and help each other our lives will improve for the better. The most necessary things for a better tomorrow are Love, Respect and, of course, God's guidance and blessings.
- 3. Nowadays, most of our "kababayans" or Filipinos are being treated like servants in other countries. For example, the OFW's (overseas foreign workers), people think that Filipinos are only good for jobs that make our race looks like we are easy to manipulate. We are treated as if we are their servants that whatever they do, they could do everything that they didn't mind of the consequence of it. It makes us look like slaves. The verses of the Bible tell us that there is a reason for everything. We only need to trust God and His judgment. God has a plan for us. If there are no hardships and sufferings, we will not come to the Lord. That is why He is constantly testing our faith to Him. So we need only to believe in Him and everything will be alright. We should change the way we live and how we treat others and our world so that we can make a better future. Because we treat our world today like a trash we didn't give importance to nature. So we must protect and respect our surroundings.

- 4. Today, in our society we are experiencing inequality especially in our government. Most government officials try to use their positions to cheat. For example, they try to use government money or public money to benefit themselves. The Bible states that if you trust and obey God you will understand that everything has a purpose. Believe in His plans and everything will work out for the better. We must learn how to appreciate and conserve our natural resources so that future generations can still use them. We must not abuse them but must manage them thriftily.
- 5. Many of us are addicted to social media sites. But some of them use it too much that they can't sleep early and even skip eating at the right time. For example, the cell phone people say that they can't live without a cell phone, without social media. The Bible tells us that we should be more focused not only for ourselves but to others too, that we should respect and take care of ourselves. We can change our tomorrow if we make better moves to improve our state of living and think about the consequences of what we do for others and our world.
- 6. Excessive partying. Now there's nothing wrong with enjoying a fiesta and party every now and then, it's just that we Filipinos tend to overdo it. Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and even sombre funerals are celebrated by Filipinos like there is no tomorrow. Sometimes we even make up the slightest of reasons just so we could have an excuse to party. What's more, a host would sometimes even strain his own finances just to impress his guests. Padrino System or Palakasan. For example, government offices those with connections have easy access on different transactions. It's true that the Bible provides understanding for us to advocate for justice but people nowadays disregard spiritual truth because they are focused on human standards instead of God's standard that is why injustice exists. If we surrender everything to God, what we are doing today will reflect our future. The Bible says, "Do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about itself."
- 7. People nowadays are so busy that their lives are focused only on different things that make them happy. Some of these are vices, leisure times, love of material things, spending money on things that are not even important to their lives. The words of God in the Bible that can really help and guide us in every problem that we may encounter in this difficult world we live in. Our future will be a better

place to live in if we start teaching and guiding our today's youth because they are the ones who can make a better future in this world.

- 8. It can be different and be better if all people would follow the law that is written and would obey it. I know that is hard to follow the law but in order to be better than today we need to try to follow what is written. And each individual needs to have an integrity.
- 9. As a follower of Christ, the text written on the Bible will help each and every one of us on how tomorrow will be better than today. I know that some of us don't believe in what the Bible says but as soon as we do, it is a stepping stone to a better tomorrow, helping us to know when to do things in the right way or not in the eyes of the Lord.
- 10. My own ideas for how tomorrow can be different is by communicating any injustice in society to others and by having a new thing to come in sharing your own ideas and for your family.
- 11. Tomorrow can be better than today if the people in our society can have discipline and if people would stop criticizing others because if it's possible, our country could have justice and peace.
- 12. If you obey all laws and try to correct things that are crazy. If ever there were discipline people would become more beautiful.
- 13. Our society can be better than today if we humans are going to have a unity.

  Respecting the others beliefs and opinions can also help us to have a better tomorrow
- 14. Nowadays, our generation is inclined towards modern technologies. Most of the people in this world are updated with technologies. I think the people in this world will be more smart when it comes to technologies.
- 15. God's word can either help us or guide us to understand the injustices that exist in this world or it can be a distraction for other people who don't believe in spiritual

texts. But according to our law, or according to every country's laws, God's word is a good thing. I mean it's a helpful factor for those countries that do good deeds. The insights of this or how we respond as advocates for justice is also a good thing for us because we can fully open up to fight for justice, fight for the truth and defend ourselves because we know ourselves as being in the truth side or the right side. That's all what I can say.

- 16. Tomorrow can be different by helping each other and being united. Based on how people control their time and don't spend their money on useless things. For sure tomorrow can be better than today.
- 17. Help homeless children go to public schools and provide their school with supplies, food, and shelter. We as educated people can guide them on how to deal with things at school. And for sure my idea for homeless children can make tomorrow better than today because I believe that there is hope for every one of us, these children can do greater things than how we do things today.

# Students from Hong Kong (Grades 9-12)

#### 43 boys, 27 girls

- 1. I believe money is everything.
- 2. We should not be selfish.
- 3. To behave nicely to everyone perpetuates injustice in society.
- 4. I will not discriminate against people who are different from me. Everyone has his own religion. Be nice to everyone and help each other is the best way for humanity!
- 5. For a better tomorrow, be yourself.
- 6. We need to address the contrast between the rich and the poor. I'm not sure that if we act now in fighting injustice, we can have a better future.
- 7. Justice can be defined as lack of fairness. People living in modern society have ubiquitous proclivity to bequeath their entire estate to their children. This makes the salient gap between rich and poor, which is injustice. Spiritual texts teach people the right actions to take as human being to share what we've got to people who need help. There are a prodigious number of campaigns held to aid the helpless people in the world. Increasing number of people joining these

- campaigns and being more alerted to these problems in the world will definitely help the world to become a better place to live than how it is now.
- 8. If people aren't too selfish, it will be better.
- 9. What you do today will affect what happens tomorrow and what you think today but if you have a different feeling on that day that might change your ideas. Everyone is equal. No matter what culture or who they are, we should be helping them because each person is equal. It's not good just by looking at someone and we think who they are. We need to know truly what attitude they have.
- 10. Discrimination is something that happens each day. It is disgusting and immoral. I believe that the world can be different and better, if people have empathy.
- 11. Giving girls the choice to either wear skirts or pants. Forcing girls to wear skirts is sexist, first of all, and secondly it's not practical, especially in the winter time when it is cold and our legs freeze.
- 12. The laws. We should follow the laws. We can provide more ideas and scientific truth.
- 13. There are rich and poor people in society and it is not fair, but I think that is a normal thing to happen, because if there were no poor people who would clean the street? If everyone were rich no one would do anything like cleaning the street outside. So I think the thing we could change is to be more respectful to everyone around you no matter whether they are higher class or lower class, rich or poor.
- 14. Poor people become more poor. Government should give them better welfare.
- 15. I think our pride as citizens of the country is the traditions we live out each day in our contexts. When I try to give up, I take a look around. If I look around, I can find the way to solve my problem. That means I can change tomorrow better than to day.
- 16. We have a tradition of democracy here. Tomorrow we can set the rules to judge which is justice and which is injustice.
- 17. Some holidays have history that is very meaningful to society.
- 18. There is a tradition in HK students which they think is "democracy". That is, they are against the things with which the government agrees. The young students believe that being against the government is the best way to show they are ascending and smart. It's dangerous for students to be involved in politics. They

- are too blundering. My idea is that education should guide them to pay more attention in checking themselves.
- 19. These days, no one follows tradition. In my opinion, up to 50% believe tradition and 50% don't. Traditional is something like the information passing from generation to generation. It is something like customs, beliefs, historical and cultural stuff. We shouldn't trust all spiritual texts. Only follow the one who leads you from the beginning and you know by heart as a follower. Tomorrow's world will be different by moving together and walking hand in hand. There is of course a better place to live in. Just heal the world together. There is a place to be together and together will be a better world. Firstly, try to be good and believe everything, everyone. Then we can change the world. If we are right there will be no one stuck in a corner and slowly all laws will be changed to good ones.
- 20. In my opinion, people become selfish and greedy. For example, ten years ago, people had Alumni Associations, they were being respectful and truthful of each other, but now, people are all comparing their clothes and bags. However, we should have more activities or advertising about how did human nature change in these several years. Secondly, we just focus on our cell phone, human cannot live without a cell phone, Why? Ten years ago, people only had those phone which only can texting and calling. I wish we could go back to that time. People face to face, on the other hand, human nature changes a lot. We need to put down our cell phone and talk with those people who are around you.
- 21. The world has no absolute fairness, this world does not treat everyone very well, but it is hard to see how to solve this problem. In our world, many are poor because they don't work hard. Some people do work hard but don't have a good life. It is not possible to have a world where all the people are rich.
- 22. We live in a world with A LOT of injustice, it comes in many forms such as corruption; (drugs (illegal), politicians, Law Society/enforcement, hackers and the rich). This affects many and lowers the overall standard of society. But still it doesn't affect people who are rich most of the time. This will only affect those who are poor. Many spiritual texts guide us to help the poor/ follow the Lord (Jesus) because his task on coming to earth was "to help the poor". The Bible even said that everywhere we go there will be corruption but the way is to believe in God. But when all sin is gone, that day will be judgement day. For I believe in God (Christian) as well, I would say, "Try and believe in God and God

- will give you peace and save you from your sins." But as a normal person, I would just tell you to live decently, don't take anything for granted. Try to act good and be to other people the best person you can be.
- 23. Sometimes people are biased towards people of different orientations, judging by their race, their family, their wealth or sexual orientations. Although they do not admit it, discriminations exist all over the world. This is very unfair as most of the discriminants cannot be changed by the person himself, like race or sexuality. Therefore, it introduces injustice in society. Spiritual texts can reinforce this thinking. The Bible said that Israelites (Jewish) people are chosen by God, hence this makes them different. Other depictions of Egyptians make them look really bad and awful, hence this is also unfair. I feel that this is going to continue until someone can make everyone accept that there some people are simply different from us.
- 24. Some people are kind toward my religion while some discriminate. They should try and not discriminate against me or make me feel sad. I will definitely stick to my religion and complain about them if they keep on not respecting my religion.
- 25. SOME people think just because of our religion we are heartless and don't have feeling. Talk with them and understand them. Try not to discriminate against anyone with religious belief. They should respect my religion because I will stick to it, no matter what.
- 26. Bullying someone should not exist in the world, we can tell everyone in the world.
- 27. I think the level of their family class is unfair.
- 28. I think everybody should respect people with disabilities and people with congenital disease. The world should have equality. We have to take care of those people and respect them. We can make a team and teach people in the city to let more people realize about it.
- 29. The gap between rich and poor is not good.
- 30. I don't think there is any injustice existing in our society since injustice is likely to be punished or changed in the world.
- 31. We usually consider homosexual people as abnormal. Maybe yes, I'm not sure. It is quite hard to remove such unfair prejudices from everybody, but we could think about what it is like if we were the same as them, what it would feel like.
- 32. Some of the traditions that I think perpetuate injustice in society include the fact that there are many people in need of help whether they are in need of money or

- in need of help. I tend to ignore them because they have no benefits for me if I help them. I think that tomorrow would be better if more people did not ignore the people who are in need of help. This can be a very hard accomplishment to achieve, but I hope someday we reach this stage.
- 33. If you make a mistake or do something bad today, you cannot go back and change it, but you can reflect and make sure you do not make the same mistake tomorrow.
- 34. The greatest injustice, one that prevents us from a better tomorrow, is religion. The world would be a much better and more peaceful place without religious groups trying to press their beliefs upon others. Specifically, righteous Christians believing they need to bring their religion into every possible circumstance, and Christians that attempt to spread the word of God, which in itself, is incredibly irritating. Many injustices exist in this world because of religion and it's best not to preach about religion to the public. Therefore, without religion, or perhaps with silent Christians, tomorrow would be a much better day than today.
- 35. Racism, gender inequality, war, abuse, and poverty are some of the things that are injustices in society. Tomorrow can be different by stopping war, and people being abused. By helping people in poverty a lot more than we do would be different.
- 36. The quality of life of the rich and the poor in society is one thing that concerns me the most. However, we just don't really care about it. People just go on living their lives and only see the benefits of their own. In fact, poor people do the same; they pray to have a better life and hope to get assistance from the government or the people empowered so that they can have a better future for themselves but not others.
- 37. I believe traditions are that which is left to us, and we think it's correct till now. But there is no theory to prove whether it is correct or not, so the tradition of wrong might seem to become wrong now, therefore injustice in society might happen frequently to some people with traditional minds. As we all advocate justice, I think we should not only use spiritual text but instead scientific evidence to allocate the true meaning of justice and injustice.
- 38. My tradition of living is that I do not develop sexual interest or develop any relationship with the opposite gender until I have completely finished college or university. Because we now encourage extroverts and communication between individuals has become a lot easier than in the past, people have developed

relationships between both male and female at a younger age, but the development of this relationship to eventually become husband and wife has decreased. I strongly wish for the tradition in which I practise to be fully aware. I am an unfaithful Christian but I still follow the Bible because showing compassion helps isolated people make connections and because society appears to be getting callous. Such actions can hopefully provide hope and the strength for heart-broken people to move on and continue their lives. My idea to make tomorrow a better place is to encourage people into performing basic acts of kindness and to eradicate hurtful comments. Also, I believe our society should be more open and less private, like using the principles of a Hivemind so that our leaders can benefit people more efficiently and we can reach technological advancement quicker.

- 39. Many times students are forced to join clubs or undertake tests that we do not need.
- 40. Visiting the church helps us to produce no stress in our daily lives and focus on our beliefs of what we want to accomplish for the coming week. This depends on which belief you believe in. Everybody has different beliefs and their beliefs can come true. The negative effects from yesterday can affect today when a person remembered the same process that happened and create the same effect for the future. Whenever a job comes up, get the job done and submit it earlier or on time throughout the same routine. Focus on one task that is happening right now and then focus on the other task later on. Visiting churches can be a good effect to society so that the world can be peaceful.
- 41. The word 'injustice' is such a broad term which can reflect on almost every part of our society. I think humanity's universal nature is hypocrisy; it does not matter whether you are ignorant or not, empathetic or not, or anything. We lie to ourselves in order to lie to others. And I think it is this disease that turns people into mere bromides, and there is no cure for it unless we truly understand each other.
- 42. Religion creates a lot of war and stereotypes such as the Paris terrorist attack from ISIS. Religion has created a world in which there is more tension. To make tomorrow different from today, we can start by convincing representatives from each individual country to start taking action and seek a conclusion on how to maintain religious freedom in the world right now.

- 43. We pray to God to wish for good life and good health. We should stand out and fight for justice instead of waiting for people to give us justice. Every day live happily. Wealth is not important.
- 44. Tomorrow can be better if we all be just, be honest to each other and be equal.
- 45. Different religion and culture among different ethnic groups provide traditions that we all live out each day in our own context, but they perpetuate injustice in society. Dissimilarity between religions could cause a conflict, or more serious happening, like a war. I think tomorrow can be different better than today by refreshing our brains and having fewer worries than today
- 46. Nowadays people are just following in the footsteps of the development of society. As society becomes more and more advanced, all human beings rely on the inventions of technology. We almost forget what we are as our minds became increasingly sophisticated and we lose sight of our unjust world. Human beings almost forget the spiritual world and compassion. What we need to do is consider how to contribute to society to make life wonderful. We should always reflect on what we do. We can always live our life brilliant and be a wise person.
- 47. All groups of people have their own beliefs which provide the way that people think about the world. However different religions cause issues like war and massive attacks and also tensions over a religion's home land. One of the biggest problems is the spiritual text that "believers" might not even understand what is in their Muslim text, for example. They may not understand and they would just listen to whatever the headmaster said. Another example is the Bible, we don't know if there are changes when they translate text did the translator eliminate any points that the church doesn't want. So I would say it is cannot be trusted 100%. The world wouldn't just turn into exactly what you wanted it to be, life is still hard.
- 48. People are just concerned about technology for more and more inventions, so they completely ignore our spiritual world.
- 49. Wealth inequality and the Social class injustice.
- 50. Women and Men work in the same jobs but Women get less money and Men get more. Give the poor people money so they can eat and have a good health and life.
- 51. Some people have money and riches but some people are homeless. I think rich people should donate a bit of their money and give it to homeless people.

- 52. I think having strong people and weak people is unfair. The Bodsham lets me know why we need to work hard. I should work hard then tomorrow will be better
- 53. Women can't do some jobs but men can do any jobs they want so this is unfair.

  We should accept all people as equals and make the world free.

# Theses from tertiary institutions and teachers

# Pedagogic In Service Training Institute, Bamenda, Cameroon

- 1. I protest against the new form of Christianity which is focused on the sale of anointed items like water, badges, pens, sprays, oils, and the portraits of "men of God". This practice is derailing many from focusing on the word for salvation and impoverishing families the world over especially in Africa. There is a gradual return to the pre-reformation era.
- 2. A good church should preach and live the word and avoid any form of exploiting and impoverishing the worshippers
- A good school should adopt a redemptive discipline approach and NOT the punitive type
- 4. A good school should have a staff administrative and teaching that leads by example.
- 5. A good school and the community and at large should live tolerance, proper communication, shun hypocrisy and all other ills. Positive values of truth, fairness, honesty, etc. should be lived.

Submitted by Emmanuel M. Wepngong

#### Teacher Training College Rubengera, Rwanda

- 1. I protest against illiteracy as the Bible is the light in the path (Ps 119:105).
- 2. I protest against slavery. We need to disseminate the message of love, peace and freedom.
- 3. For a better future, we need more peace initiatives.

# <u>Université Evangélique du Cameroun, Mbou, Cameroon</u>

IUEC's students protest for the future through the choir of the Evangelical University Institute of Cameroon "Voice of Hope Chorus":

The Protestant ideology: stands to reason of more common sense than of free will, which calls for ethics and fairness, for the consolidation of a better world

Step 2015 of the long march that began in the previous year invites us to love each other to pace without much ambition, the winding paths of this globalizing world. To

this end the theme of 2015 proves to be the real trial run to gauge responsibility, students' humanism for the future. It turns out that we face many challenges; environmental problems are grafted advantage nutrition problems, equitable distribution of wealth, education etc. But the most current major problems seem to be humanitarian emergencies linked to migratory policies, that of war refugees and of course terrorism.

By nailing his 95 theses, the Augustinian monk named Martin Luther, in the strength and depth of his mind, invites human being to see others like himself.

- Christians should be taught that one who gives to the poor or lends to the needy does better than if he bought indulgences;
- Christians should be taught that one who sees his neighbor in poverty, abandons him to buy indulgences, does not buy the indulgence of the pope, but the indignation of God.

Based on this background and through the choir of the University (*voice of hope chorus*), students of the IUEC reconnect themselves to the sources of Protestantism, by leading fun activities to cultural and evangelical character to protest against:

- The policy of "two weights two measures" in dealing with crises of migrants and refugees in the world;
- The terrorism that uses the naivety of children (human bombs) to destabilize the world.

# No racial discrimination in the treatment of migrants' crisis and refugees in the world

The Humanitarian and the crisis of management of migrants through global policies now leave people indifferent! It is as if contemporary thought is to continue to instill in people's minds, that capitalism has always needed racial subsidies. Talking about that fact, Achilles Mbembe (in critique de la raison nègre) states that capitalist western thought has always had the function of producing goods, but also breeds and species.

• How to understand that for decades, thousands of Africans trying to escape the doldrums of life in their African countries are dead, drowned, starved, kidnapped, treated like cattle without anyone being touched; and that today a sudden idealism pervades the international community to the crisis of Syrian migrants. STOP!  No racial discrimination in the treatment of seizures of migrants and refugees in the World

It is for this purpose that students of the choir of the Evangelical University Institute have produced texts of Evangelical interpellation, one of which has been retained and sung. It is the poetic text titled "Let's change the World".

#### LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD

Pitiful, I mean pathetic That is the nature of our relationship at the heart of this world Indestructible, I mean insatiable Are our selfishness, our decisions at the heart of this world Is it worth to profane humanity To veil the truth with contempt Creature, it is our duty to change the world To break the chains of the dark night It is our duty to grow the True Love And the heaven will be given back Bellicose, I mean venomous Are all our minds we like the war in the heart of this world Is it worth to profane humanity To veil the truth with contempt Creature, it is our duty to change the world To break the chains of the dark night It is our duty to grow the True Love And the heaven will be given back

# 2. Let's fight against terrorism by disseminating culture of symbols of peace to children, guaranteeing a better world.

We cannot continue to accept without fighting, horrors of terrorism in our states. The phenomenon is growing and it's mostly children who suffer!

Their conscience is manipulated and they are used as suicide bombers by the terrorists. The cult of violence and terrorism trauma gradually become the vise in which our society will sink. Without distinction of religion, we have a duty to educate our children and provide them love and peace through the culture in which they are immersed. Also we offer to share with children worldwide the image of a tree which is a symbol of peace in Cameroon and most widespread in the western region. The objective is that other children of the world speak of a symbol of peace and love to their own cultures. At the end, we made the bet to inculcate the values of peace to the world's children. One of the symbols of the *Bamileke* culture (in western region of Cameroon) is the tree of peace, also called *Phue Kang* in *Bamileke* language. The scientific name is dracaena. That tree is the one of women who gave birth to twins, so called Magnis. It is used to symbolize the unity, understanding and is often associated with jujube (dried fruit

picked in the fields) and water during rituals ceremonies, prayers, and healings. During weddings, a branch of that tree is offered to the young couple to wish them peace, harmony and love in their home. Legend says that she does not grow at all everywhere. People also say that this plant dies when people are not in peace around. The *Pfue-Kang* could be decrypted as follows: "Destroy this sliding door leaf which cuts us from each other"!; "Remove that barrier that separates between them and above all people!". That's all the authentic and deep sense of this plant which is a symbol that mandatory interpellation to make peace and help meeting and agreement. That is the equivalent of the white flag of other civilizations.

Legend says that Magni always armed herself when moving, to express ostentatiously express to everybody that she was against war and division. Moreover, to engage in war, men had to hide from *Magnis* places of fight and especially, keep them away systematically. Otherwise, as soon as they appeared on a battlefield with their own branches of *Pfue-Kang* and they systematically interposed between armies or warring camps, fighters should not only stop the fight but above all, do leave after duly negotiated and sincerely accepted peace!

submitted by Hermann Guifo Foadubu general executive students' delegate

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#### Main areas of problems to be solved

In the context of crisis marked by intense conflicts experienced in the Eastern DRC, EFA is confronted with multiple problems, despite the commendable efforts undertaken by the State and its partners. Obviously, these problems are numerous. However, based on experiences from Northern Kivu where several national and international actors operate, we have identified four main areas of problems to be solved:

- Lack of a comprehensive program of Education for All which takes into account basic educational needs for children, school youth and school dropouts or uneducated adults, including women. We must understand the meaning of the overall program at different levels of the social system (micro, meso and macro system)
- 2. Multiple stakeholders in this educational sector, national and international, often acting without any coordination and synergy between them; this is clearly seen in the crisis areas especially in Eastern DRC;

- 3. Multiple stakeholders in the sector, often operating on the basis of insufficient data because of the lack of a rigorous and realistic participatory planning that actually take into account educational needs and realities of the population at all stages;
- 4. Actions which are often articulated or assessed following the visions and options (including somewhat excessive and even catastrophic visibility symbol) used by donors to the detriment of those supported by the people called "beneficiaries".

# Conclusion: Proposal of ways out

Which solutions could be proposed to these problems that hinder the educational interventions for all? Here, we underline the key principles that should be favored in searching solution:

- 5. Asserting everywhere that education is the basis or foundation of possible progress for the stability, peace and development in the country and that leaders should devote their best efforts through programs of global action at all levels of the social system;
- 6. Rationalizing interventions in projects of education for all by making systematic use of principles of good management of social projects (coordination and synergy of interventions, participatory planning and management, etc.)
- 7. Favoring views of the beneficiaries (people facing the need for access to educational opportunities or available in their environment);
- 8. Designing, implementing and evaluating educational equity for all (mainly the case of adults and with their participation)

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- 1. We protest against the fact that in today's world we are constantly experiencing the tragedies of the human cruelty (terrorism, ecological depredation, ferocious killing, revenge, etc.) and in the fear of nuclear disaster, underground atomic tests, chemical explosions, misleading prophecies, vandalism, unhappiness, hopelessness and death because of poverty.
- 2. At school, we criticize the fact of lack of available qualified teachers to supervising students, being the target of terrorism and becoming place of mintage of talents.
- 3. Church must renewed because of various crises that affect it, mainly missionary crises, priestly, pastoral and theological, social facts that give rise to quarrels,

- distortions of competition and competence in relation to the supreme order the Lord of the harvest, retrograde and occult practices that betray surely his image.
- 4. A good world is the one fighting for the unity of the human race, advocating peace and social justice, promoting respect for inherent human dignity and otherness and the spirit of Jesus, "give life and let be".
- 5. A good school is the one that embodies the best day of a particular nation and fights against the corruption of morals.
- 6. A good church is the one which bears witness to Christ crucified and dignifies Him in front of the people for the transformation of the life, the fight against simony, rightly dividing the word of truth, contributes to Christian requirements, positively impacts the world, criticizes social injustice and religious indifference