

Introduzione

La classe IVXA, nella settimana tra l'8 e il 14 giugno 2015, ha partecipato a un campus internazionale che si è tenuto all'Europahaus di Aurich, centro congressi nel Nord della Germania, insieme ad altri gruppi di studenti di diversi Paesi: Germania, Spagna e Olanda. Durante l'incontro, che aveva come tema il lavoro minorile, abbiamo approfondito la tematica principale nei suoi aspetti, declinandola in diverse attività. A inizio mattinata ci raccoglievamo nell'aula magna per un briefing sul tema, dopodiché prendevamo parte ai nostri laboratori. Ognuno di noi ha scelto a quale degli otto laboratori partecipare: Musica, Arte, Teatro, Giornalismo, Cucina, Scrittura Creativa, Video e Radio. Il nostro lavoro all'interno di questi laboratori aveva come obiettivo quello di analizzare il tema del lavoro minorile attraverso la forma espressiva dettata dalla forma del laboratorio. Infine, abbiamo esposto il prodotto di ogni *workshop* a tutti i partecipanti dell'incontro, nell'ultima sera di permanenza al campus. Il laboratorio di Giornalismo ha scritto un giornalino in inglese che è riportato di seguito, insieme ad alcune foto scattate in vari momenti della gita. Nei laboratori abbiamo potuto esprimerci liberamente: gli insegnanti che ci guidavano non sono stati invasivi, al contrario ci hanno spronato a organizzarci e a cooperare per raggiungere il miglior risultato possibile. L'incontro all'Europahaus non si è esaurito nel creare soltanto una presentazione: anzi, la parte che più ci ha coinvolti ed entusiasmata è stata poter comunicare, scambiare opinioni, confrontare culture e mondi diversi con ragazzi e ragazze di altre nazionalità... Sfatate o confermare luoghi comuni, insegnare la propria lingua agli altri (l'italiano era richiestissimo), sfidare gli altri ragazzi a giochi come il ping-pong e il calcetto. Nonostante alcuni minimi adattamenti ai modi di vivere tedeschi, l'esperienza all'Europahaus è stata divertente, ma al tempo stesso una prova impegnativa che richiedeva capacità di comunicazione e di collaborazione fondamentali. Consigliremmo quest'esperienza ad altri studenti? Sì, non tanto per ciò che si fa, ma per come la si vive.

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GIRL POWER!

by Sjahiena Rahmoe

"I used to earn \$1 a day as a laborer, working in the fields. Some days, if I fed the children in the morning, I couldn't feed them in the evening. We used to live in a small, thatched hut. It leaked when it rained and had no windows. We had to choose between rent and food. Life was extremely difficult for us. Though I wanted a better life for my family, I didn't have the means to achieve it. Before the loan, I was not independent. But now? I am a businesswoman and the future seems brighter. We were miserable before, and we're happy now. Grameen Koota is doing good work by supporting and encouraging rural women to achieve financial independence. The men in our village protested against Grameen Koota. But we women joined forces and told them Grameen Koota was for us only. I feel we should stand up to the men and lead them, instead of them

next loan. I'll have to wait and see."

This is the story of Lucy, she owns a small variety shop. A microfinance fund called Grameen Koota gave her a loan of \$140. She invested this money in her shop and makes enough money to feed her children now.



leading us. We women have to be bold and courageous to achieve something in life. We need to use our strength and intellect to succeed. I have granddaughters, I want to teach them to be independent like me, I don't know their future. In my shop, now I sell only small items. But I'm planning to add new items, like slippers, undergarments and light bulbs. I wish to grow my business, but I don't know yet the size of my

Microfinances are basically loans with a small amount. People can use this money to invest in equipment or machines to make products. These products are being sold and the profits are used to pay the loan, rent and food.

Sabeeha lives in India with her husband and son. Before she was a member of Grameen Koota, it was a very tough life. It was very hard to provide one meal a day, their life was full of struggles. She used her first loan, \$200, to set up her shop. She sells bangles, lining material, fabrics and some embroidery. After this loan she got a supplementary loan of \$80. This money was used to purchase bangles and other fancy items which were required in her store. She also

received a health insurance. These timely loans have changed her life, she hopes she will be able to send her only child to college. She wants her son to study engineering, she wishes that he has a secured future.

Why women are more independent with these loans?

- Women can earn money with their own business. This way they don't have to accept jobs with bad (health) conditions. They aren't depending on beggarly jobs.
- The women can also feed their children. Child labor isn't necessary anymore, the children can go to school.
- If young girls have these loans, they don't need to work a lot of hours in bad conditions to get food. This way there might be time to go back to school.
- Forced or arranged marriages aren't needful anymore. If a girl gets married she quits school because she has to take care of her husband, her parents-in-law and the households. As soon as the girl gets pregnant, she is forced to stop with school. A lot of parents arrange a marriage for their daughters because the parents haven't got enough money to feed all the kids. A young girl also brings a dowry in the family economy, this way arranging a marriage of a daughter is more lucrative than letting her work or go to school. If parents make money via micro finances, they can feed all the children so child marriage isn't necessary then.
- Also, if a younger girl is making money with her own company, her parents will see she can take care of herself and doesn't need a husband. Their parents don't have to feed all the children by themselves if some

children are making their own money. They are helping the family economy without working in bad conditions.

- These "powerwomen" are an inspiration for other girls. They see girls can take care of their self, can make money with their own company and don't need a husband. The traditional way of thinking is changing and



Our life was full of struggle.

the chances for younger girls are growing.

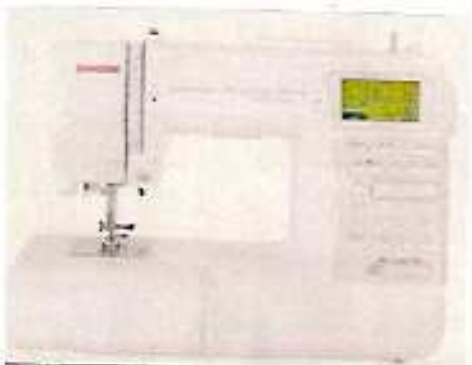
What do our girls think about this?

The contrast between girls in developing countries and industrialized countries are very big. Being married at the age of 12 is unimaginable for a lot of girls in Europe. In Europe, marriage means a lot of times being in love, romance, happiness, starting your new chapter. Child marriage in developing countries means being forced, violence, sadness and the end of a girl's childhood and her chances to become something in life. These girls don't have the opportunity to choose a partner, follow education and find a job, their life is being chosen for them. European girls think this is sad and wrong, these girls don't deserve this. But we feel powerless, there isn't much we can do about it.

A lot of European couples share the

households and provide for the children together, in developing countries a lot of women are single moms, or their husband do not help in the households. We think this is really unfair, but we believe it will change in the years. Slowly women in developing countries are making progress, microfinance has a influence on this. We think Western women could be an example for women in developing countries, it's their goal to accomplish what women in the West have accomplished. We hope we can help and

inspire them to reach this goal. A lot of women are trying to change the thought about traditional roles for men and women, it's only a matter of time before women in developing countries have the same chances as men. Unfortunately, this will take a long time, but at least we're on our way.



HOW DOES MICRO FINANCE WORK?

1. People get less than a 100€ loan from banks or micro finance funds. This money is meant to invest in local companies.
2. People invest this money in equipment or machines. These tools are used to make products. A lot of women buy fabrics and a sewing machine.
3. With the materials, people make products at their own place. They don't need to work in a factory anymore. A lot of women decide to sew clothing.
4. The products are sold locally. The profits are used to pay rent, food and repay the loans.
5. Local people use the products, for example, a saree.



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Education & Happiness: Two Different Values?

By Alessandro Coppola

Despite the fact that at Europahaus we are discussing a lot about child labor and the different points of view, there may be some questions that we prefer to ignore sometimes because of their staleness.



[CHERISE on "What does dignity mean?": - Having dignity means to stand and speak for your own rights -. On the left Giorgio, and on the right Neil]

One of the main questions that is often asked to introduce the theme of child labor is: what rights can be attributed to a child and what can we do to preserve them? "The first thing that comes to my mind when I speak about children is 'Protection' and the ability to create our own future," says Neil from drama workshop.

Although we recognize the rights to live prosperity and freedom, there is one issue that is usually ignored: happiness. It is not stressed as it should be in mentioning human and children's rights, although in the American constitution, is underlined way too much - believe me, I've studied that thing. Jefferson's Common Sense distinguishes USA's constitution strongly from ours. Sadly, even the American folk seem to have forgotten about their own promises so badly, that they didn't ratify the UN's convention about children's rights.



[BIANCA and ALICE on "Is school what exploited children really need?": - It's obvious that poor countries need to provide a good education for kids so that they can change the condition they are living in, but if they have no food and water it could be difficult for them to start learning. We both believe that instruction should be accompanied by other goods.]

So what about happiness? It is known that in many 'developing' countries kids are ripped from their childhood because they are forced to work, and obliged to grow up quickly. The solution that came up from many different countries in these years is to implement and assure a proper education so they can form their own ideas, have fun and have a guaranteed meal.

Then I asked myself: "could school be compared and considered as something fun?" I asked the opinion of my Europahaus mates and one in particular, Toby, gave me the answer. He said: "When teachers start learning from students it is fun and educational". Even if it is a rational answer I don't know why many still don't have a general



education and why poor children that don't have a possibility to study are so willing to

start. The reason, says Giorgio from drama workshop, is because we can, since we belong to the rich part of the world. We get bored from school because we have the possibility to achieve something that we desire more and it's more fun than a forced education. In the developing countries, people see school as a really big deal, a great alternative to the horrible reality that surrounds them.



-The strange guy behind this text

THE HANDS OF GRANDFATHERS

by Pablo Raddatz

Isn't it magic that you can move your fingers just by thinking of the movement? And isn't it amazing what you can do with them? Could you live without these things? Do you think of them while your looking at your hands? Do you even look at your hands and be thankful for the soft feel they give you?

There are so many children out there who have to work hard every day, their hands are rough and dry and stiff. Their hands look old and exhausted. Hands that originally should be playing, drawing, pointing at stuff that is knew and be shaking of laughter while they are with friends. But instead they are sitting behind sewing machines or are crawling through narrow mine shafts, draining their energy in hard work, work which leaves no time for dreams and creativity and what is

a life without dreams and creativity or even free time? No life. This does not only effect children, there are also grownups suffering from it but especially the younger generation is loosing its childhood. CHILDHOOD. The

strange thing we love or hate to look back at. The thing filled with memories. The thing which formed our character and is responsible for what we became.

And now imagine work and suffer forms your personality. I bet you could not because you would not have the creativity to imagine at all. So I just want to remind you of being aware of what you are doing with your hands be-

cause in other place of the world small old looking hands are shooting and in the same place small innocent hearts are being shoot.

Stop child labour!

grab scratch throw **pick** wipe turn
threaten bag glue defend **stroke**
sign ride **punch** dig pitch sort **touch**
shoot paint **play** rub **eat** join pull
cling take **gesture** crawl **tickle** shake
feel drive smoke **open** **secure**
give pinch squeeze complete **type**
destroy support connect **build** catch
release **close** cover stretch **break**
present hit **push** **cook** pose scrawl
express reach reload twist swim
chuck **protect** count **point** **beg**
show get **move** balance slap wave



LOST CHILDHOOD

by Pablo Reddetz





Q&A with the *Cooking Workshop*

By Violeta Ramiro González

1-What are your goals for this workshop? What is the message you want to leave to others?

The first thing they did on Monday was to brainstorm, I suppose as all of the workshops. What they managed to pull in conclusion was to think about important things such as what's good about fair-trades and make the most on a tight budget which I personally think they are really interesting topics.

2-What type of food are you using? Is it all about elementary food? (Why?)

On Monday the cooks went to the supermarket especially to make an enforcement on how does the society here in the "rich countries" work, they say that nothing at all, any kind of food had any kind of information about the background and neither about how does this food travel until it arrives in the supermarket and how is it made...

Can't we are eating food made or recollected by kids and we are not allowed to know that? I was talking to the cooks and specially Laura agree with me that there had to be more information about that and also for the people who are into that kind of things because there are people that still care.

She also said to me they realized when you go to a supermarket to buy some food you must have some sort of knowledge before, because there is no information of what I was talking about before.

3- What do you think malnutrition is?

For Ana malnutrition is the lack of nutrients you need to reach a healthy life and also if they are children to have a great growth. It's also more important than hunger, in her opinion, because it'd caused health problems and also it can provoke the death of the children.

4-Where is the limit when it comes to hunger? When we change our perspective towards malnutrition?

For Matilde it's almost the same and we also agree with Andrea; but we talked also about the difference between malnutrition and hunger. And she tells me that for her it depends mainly on the time, hunger could be a word you would use if a person skips a meal a day but malnutrition could be defined as a large period of hunger.

5-Do you think we should contribute to helping needy children? Why?

In Ana's personal opinion we can't do literally anything by ourselves, this thing should belong to the global organizations and big companies, they are the ones who can do something powerful because individually we can try but we won't even

have any results.

Alessandra thinks we must show people how important this topic is, how important and meaningful is that we are always wasting and throwing away all stuff but some of this reuse food could save a children life.

7- What do you think of wasting food?

Ana and I talked for a while about the spoiled food, in the "rich countries" we throw away our food so easily and most of the times we're wasting it because it's fine. And we talk a bit about the importance of wasting food in this countries and the difference between our scale of values and theirs.

Emily gives a lot of importance to the wasting materials and she also agree with Ana in the fact of the spoiled food, in her own words: "When I had to left my home to come here to the Europahaus I didn't left anything on my fridge, I finished all the food that I'd got so it wouldn't be spoiled when I came back home and I would not have to throw it all away".

6-If I show you these pictures, what can you tell me? What comes to your mind?

I showed Emily, the teacher, some pictures of food or related to food, there were a hamburger, then a plate with healthy food such as fruit and vegetables and also a pair of controversial photos like an empty plate and another one which was a picture of poor children asking for a piece of food.

She answers a couple of questions but the most reliable thing I would say was the topic of health. For her the picture with hamburger and the fries was unhealthy but also the one with the poor children, there we have two different types of unhealthy.



She also told me about the film Super Size Me. It's a film or also an experiment in which a boy ate only McDonald's food for a month, all day for breakfast, for lunch and for dinner and he had the challenge to oversize all the meals. As a result he weight and there were not a big difference and not even in the cholesterol measurement. The thing was that he felt so bad and unhealthy and it was the main problem.

RECIPPE

Basic ingredients for the mass of the cake

- 300gr white sugar
- 155gr butter
- 3eggs
- 2+5/8 teaspoon baking powder
- 155ml milk

To end they had to put it in the oven for half an hour at 175° so it can taste as good as it looks in the picture!



Activity

In this time the cooks worked in pairs to make a cake made with three different ingredients and
One third of the cake was made by Laura and Sara and it had milk chocolate and one lemon apart from the base of the cake, the second third was made by Arielle and Alessandra, it had white chocolate and an apple and a half and the last third was made by Andrea and Matilde and it had black chocolate and one pear.



Exceptional ingredients:

- 3 different types of chocolate: white, black and the one with milk.
- 3 different fruits: apple, pears, and lemon.

EUROPAHAUS: AN INTERESTING OPPORTUNITY

by Gabriele Ardizzone

The story of the Europahaus is long and full of meetings and experiences, with adults and guys. Sometimes there are international seminars with a large number of guys and teachers of different countries. During the week of the coexistence the target of the seminars are related to the personal, social and professional areas. They deal with topics of daily life. Europahaus has been working to realize this dream for the last 60 years.

Europahaus was founded by Johannes Dickloff from Aurich and Pastor Gaikema from Groningen, its goal was the reconciliation of Dutch and Germany. This project started in 1956. Since 1970, they have been carrying the name of "Europahaus" which is known by all citizens. We interviewed some local citizens to know their opinion about Europahaus.

There weren't any negative opinions and they also stressed a lot that the Europahaus sometimes appears in the local newspaper and that it could fulfill a bigger potential. If you don't know how it all works, you could think that it's a normal school, but just a day in the school and you change your mind (fortunately).

The theme of the meeting is "save the children".

Through many debates, the staff help us to express our

own opinions to build a really democratic society. Infact democracy is one of the pillars of our social life. Since 2012 the Europahaus is officially appointed by the state "Center of democracy in Lower Saxony Adult Education", with the recognition of one of the most important communities of Europe. Now we can think about some workshops, this year about child labor and the childhood. There are 8 workshops. Each one has a different task which, in my honest opinion, is what makes all of them very interesting. Can you draw? There is an art workshop. Can you play an instrument? No problem, there is a music workshop. Each student can choose a workshop.

(The drama workshop is working)

The purpose of these workshops are also to socialize with students from different



nationalities to work in harmony to be happy, to create opinions and ideas.

These workshops run throughout the day

with coffebreaks, where you can relax and discuss the daily program. The volunteers that work here found a lot of ways for us to socialize. An example: each student every day has to write a letter to a "secret" friend.

Every evening, after dinner, the letter goes to its correspondent. This creates a nice atmosphere and it is seen as a way to keep in touch with the person and part of life.

There have been other experiments focused on the main theme of the meeting.

An example is the social experiment of

Tuesday's dinner. Every student and teacher took a place either at the

"Industrialized Country" tables or at the "Developing Country" ones.

For the lucky students who picked the "Industry country" note there wasn't limitation for the buffet and the quantity of the dinner. On the contrary the unlucky ones had to eat a small portion of white rice, water ... stop.

However, the waiters were good enough to serve us all with a decent portion of food. I can give a positive feedback for this experiment: students and teachers could experience the role of the children and the poor families in marginalized and exploited countries. Instead,

I didn't like the organization of the

experiment. Infact the dinner ended with plenty of food left over and wasted (this wasn't a good example of consistency). The other negative aspect is that I was still very hungry... After dinner we all went to play bowling. It was a good idea to make everyone happy and... forget the poor dinner... It may have been for the poor dinner



that I played so bad...

(A moment of a bowling'smatch)

There will be a presentation of every workshops at the end of the meeting, on

Thursday evening. I hope to see a lot of good works!! Art, Creative writing, Cooking and every workshop in Europahaus gives a smile to those are plagued by problems, and with a smile you can give hope and confidence for a better world. I hope that this experience can help every-body.



(A blackbird in the Europahaus garden)



(so here I am)

-Gabriele Ardizzone



LOST CHILDHOOD



Laboratorio di Teatro - *Drama Workshop*



Laboratorio di Giornalismo - *Magazine Workshop*



Laboratorio Artistico - *Art Workshop*



Laboratorio di Cucina - *Cooking Workshop*



Alcuni alunni della classe IVXA - serata alla pista da bowling di Aurich

Some students of the IVXA class – evening at the bowling alley in Aurich



Laboratorio di Scrittura Creativa - *Creative Writing Workshop*

