



Workshop on Ethics Education Salamanca, Spain 31 August – 2 September 2006

The workshop in Spain brought together adults and children from different parts of the country, representing Christianity, the Bahá'í Community and the Brahma Kumaris Organisation. This was the first time the resource pack was tested with participants of only one country.

Adults and young people were divided into two different groups. Both of them worked with the first module of the resource pack, *Understanding Self and Others*, and had the opportunity to discuss its content and provide input for its further development.

During the first day, the young people explored global diversity through the *Map drawing* activity, and discussed different religions and the regions where they are practised. They gained a new understanding of how religious diversity has shaped the world and of how countries that have traditionally practised only one religion are increasingly embracing many others.



Through a **game**, participants discussed human dignity and discovered the need for mutual respect and understanding.



In a moment of sharing, participants talked about **prejudices** towards other cultures and religions and about the need to get to know people who are different to themselves. They **analysed** the causes of social issues in Spain and how those affect their society as a whole. They discussed how they can be more open towards people who are excluded or denigrated.

In the evening, adults and children came together for an **interfaith café**, where they discussed the principles, behaviour and attitudes needed to live in harmony with people from different beliefs and cultures. This was followed by a **cultural evening** where children prepared activities, dances and typical stories from their regions.



During the last day, participants reflected on the need to find peace within and to put themselves in the shoes of others. Through a **walking meditation** activity, participants found connections with nature, with the other participants, and reflected on their feelings and responsibilities to help solve problems and to respond peacefully to the needs of others.

Learning and impact

Catholic children expressed how important it was for them to have the opportunity to get to know children from the Bahá'í faith and they were enthusiastic to cooperate and prepare activities together to promote mutual understanding. The participants from the Bahá'í Faith committed themselves to share the learning of the workshop with other members of their faith back home, and also affirmed their willingness to develop youth interfaith activities to help promote peace and unity in Spain.

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How did this workshop contribute to the development of the resource pack?

The workshop allowed the testing of new activities and methodologies that have now been included in the resource pack. It was also a good opportunity to revise the content and incorporate new ideas. Here are some of the main inputs gathered:

- > *Learning to Live Together* can also be used with adults. Activities can be adapted to different ages.
- > Discussions about current issues and the social reality of young people need to be addressed in the resource pack.
- > Use experience-based activities when discussing social realities so as to make the learning more relevant.
- > Ideas to use the resource pack in a religiously homogeneous group.
- > Introspective activities help participants internalise the learning and reflect on their own experiences.

Description of the Workshop	
Venue	Tilanococo Residence, Salamanca
Number of participants/facilitators	20/3
Number of adults	12
Number of young people (14 – 18 years)	8
Working time	3 days
Language used	Spanish
Participants' countries of origin	Spain
Participants' beliefs	Bahá'í faith, Christianity (Catholics, Anglicans), members of the Brahma Kumaris Organization
Pedagogical techniques	Games Focus groups Experience sharing Meditation Round tables

