

My message to the world: 'Simplicity'

I walked through a forest,
Enjoying the beautiful environment,
The sound of peace in the wind, the smell of love in the sunflowers and the sense of
freedom in the voice of the birds.

In the distance,
there was a little boy sitting on a rock,
looking sad, lost and forgotten..
What could I give this boy to make him smile again?

If I was a Native American,
and gave you my *trust*.
Would you see my colors and give me a box of *peace*?

If I was a Syrian,
and gave you my *tears*.
Would you give me your *hope*?

If I was a Roma,
and gave you my *weakness*.
Would you give me *your hand* to build a better world?

If I was a Jew,
and gave you my *prayers*.
Would you *shalom* me back?

If I was a Kurd,
and gave you my *fear*.
Would you give me your *strength*?

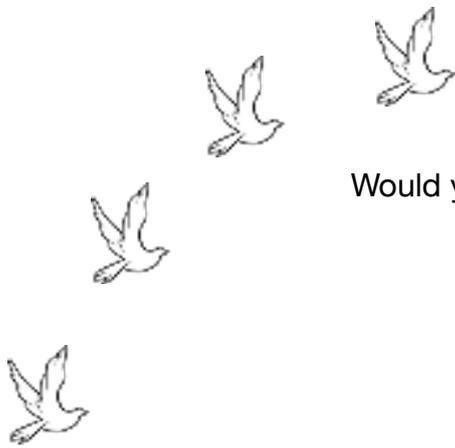
If I was a African-American,
and gave you my *history*.
Would you be ashamed and give me the key to *equality*?

If I was a German,
and gave you a *sunflower*.
Would you give me your *forgiveness*?

If I was a Palestinian,
and gave you my *courage*.
Would you give me your *walls*?

If I was Tibetan,
and gave you my *philosophy* and *inner peace*.
Would you see my *fire of passion* from the Himalaya till the desserts of Mongolia?

I walked to the little boy and gave him *my smile* and he gave his in return...



* I wrote this poem to make it clear that we can get to a better place by doing small things for each other. Nowadays people have big expectations when we talk about helping someone else out, but the key to peace is really simple. It's all about respecting, accepting and loving each other. Sometimes a small exchange of smiles can make someones day, but also asking someone about their opinion can change a lot. Including people instead of determining their fate without asking is a huge mistake that we see more often in the 21st century. Youth participation is therefore important. Let the youth determine what they want to see changing in their own life. As a formal ambassador of participation and formal vice-chairman of Students4students I truly believe we can change the world by not including people, but also by bringing people together to share their knowledge and experiences. A dark shadow for the one may be the enlightenment for the other.