

Gallery walks_3

Discussions around images and quotes about peace, human rights and citizenship

Public	: students of all ages.
Disciplines	: Law, Citizenship, Human sciences, English.
Implementation conditions	: before or after the visit of the exhibition Humanitarian Adventure - Defending human dignity.
Implementation duration	: 45 minutes.
Skills	: Drawing, writing, reading, understanding, reflection.
Materials	: images (to hang on wall), marker/pen/pencil (one par students), post-it notes.

Principle of activity :

Place pictures around room.

Give each student a writing utensil and several post-it notes (at least one par image)

Tell students that, oftentimes, all we know of the world - its peace and war - are images we see online and on TV, on Facebook and Twitter.

Ask students to walk around the room and, using the post-it notes, write a word or a phrase describing what is happening in the image, what the person or people are feeling, or even how the image makes them feel. Reassure students that there is no wrong response. If working with a really young group of students, be sure to choose milder images, then have students walk around and discuss in groups their reactions instead of writing them.

Example images



Quotes for discussion :

« It is a cruel, ironical art, photography. The dragging of captured moments into the future; moments that should have been allowed to evaporate into the past; should exist only in memories, glimpsed through the fog of events that came after. Photographs force us to see people before their future weighed them down....»

Kate Morton, *The House at Riverton*

« A portrait is not a likeness. The moment an emotion or fact is transformed into a photograph it is no longer a fact but an opinion. There is no such thing as inaccuracy in a photograph. All photographs are accurate. None of them is the truth. »

Richard Avedon

« To take a photograph is to participate in another person's mortality, vulnerability, mutability. Precisely by slicing out this moment and freezing it, all photographs testify to time's relentless melt. »

Susan Sontag

« To photograph is to confer importance. »

Susan Sontag