Refugees Are People
Stop wasting the best natural resource of every nation: People

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The state of the planet and of human affairs shows that there are several barriers to the awareness of the real nature of the problems we need to face in order to be able to effectively manage the serious challenges facing humanity.
Some of the barriers to change are deeply imbedded in the ways people and institutions construe their experience of reality and are the product of some basic mechanisms that are at work in cultures, societies and families of origin:

How reality is socially construed and how individuals and organizations construe their experiences are relevant for the understanding of how to promote change effectively as well for the understanding of some defence mechanism like denial.
We need to ask ourselves some basic questions:

How our social and personal Selves are socially structured?

Is the present social construction of reality capable of promoting sustainable development of human potentialities of all the people & the living forms of our planet or not?
How we construe our experience?

What kind of narratives we create?

What kind of consequences we bring upon ourselves and the planet?

How we use our power?
High is the price we pay from being unaware of how we construe our experiences and the ways in which we distort or suppress our awareness.
How we construe our experiences, our narratives make a big difference

Differing values, concepts of reality, of human nature, generate different relationships, priorities, goals & actions based on strategies of:

Empowerment or Disempowerment
At present some of the unnecessary costs we pay are deriving from:

- Using mechanistic/reductionist perspectives
- Overspecialization and compartmentalization
- Education based on the acquisition of notions but not student-centred, fostering learning of how to learn and creativity.
- Stereotyped social construction of self-identities that does not allow people to recognize and fulfil their human needs: racism, sexism, gender discrimination, homophobia, ageism etc.
- Dysfunctional social organization: lack of clear rights, lack of equal opportunities, marginalization of some groups, corruption, stifling bureaucracy, discouraging resilience and entrepreneurship etc.
- Social construction of professional roles and coping styles, as well the social construction of the levels of social intelligence, equal rights and opportunities and sustainability or the lack of it.
- Wrong metrics: how presently we measure productivity & wealth actually hide real prosperity or real social progress.
Empowerment

1. Democratic relationships
2. Equal rights & opportunities
3. Promotes responsibility
4. Bio-Psycho-Social Paradigm
5. Health Promotion
6. Patient Centered Medicine
7. Biofeedback, neurofeedback
8. Transparency, shared knowledge
9. Person Centered & People Centered
10. Capacity for deep contact, empathy
11. Respect for all the life forms
12. Microcredit, sustainable entrepreneurship

Disempowerment

1. Authoritarian Relationships
2. Oppression & discrimination
3. Promotes passivity
4. Mechanistic-reductionist Paradigm
5. Reductionist Medicine
6. Disease Centered Medicine
7. Electroshock
8. Manipulation of information
9. Racism, sexism, ageism, bigotry etc.
10. Alienation from self, others, depletion of natural & human resources
11. Profit to all cost, monopolies, Subprime caper
“Within an international community based upon the rule of law and universal values of equality, human rights, and dignity, it is surely wrong for small, vulnerable communities to suffer because of the actions of other more powerful resource-rich countries, actions over which they have no control, and little or no protection.”

Mamoon Abdul Gayoom, Past-President Republic of the Maldives
We badly need a sort of **new compass** for navigating the rapid current of change. Everybody needs it: scientists, politicians, opinion makers, professionals and people from all the walk of life.

“...at the basis of anything that a scientist undertakes is, first of all, an ethical and moral value judgment that he makes.”

*Carl Rogers*
We need a new and effective ways of coping with our changed realities.

A way to become aware on how we construe our experiences of what we call reality: the relationship with ourselves, the others, the world.

We need to foster at every level of society awareness of the social construction of reality, of our powers and responsibilities for the present a future of humankind & the whole planet.
PROMOTING AWARENESS is MULTI LEVEL circular continuous action of psycho-socio-cultural change of:

the individual
the organization
the community
the society
the culture.......and vice versa.....
We need to foster the conditions that facilitate people and communities to become self-actualized and able to relate to themselves, others and to the planet with more

Respect
Empathy
Capacity for deep contact (Congruence)
we need to empower people and institutions since

empowerment generates responsibility
response-ability = the ability to respond more efficiently and effectively

facilitating change in all the stakeholders:

From being part of the problem
To become part of the solution
We manage non profit centers where we serve the needs of clients in the field of mental health (including psychiatric treatments, psychiatric Day Hospitals, drug rehab centers) health promotion, skills development, resilience, education, managing non profit or profit organizations.

We have developed CCT and PCA approaches for specific needs: victims of sectarian organizations, prison inmates, drug addicts, perpetrators of violence, work with small children, work with transgender clients, promoting resilience and sustainable entrepreneurship in immigrants and refugees.)
In the Mediterranean there is an humanitarian emergency with millions of people forced by wars and misery, to escape and try to find safe havens by take long & risky trips that take long periods of time even years during which migrants suffer abuse and violence of all kinds. Many die in their attempt to reach safety.
We work with migrants and refugees in Italy on this front the fluxes in Italy have been increasing over the years.

In 2016 migrants and refugees have been 181,436, + 18% than in 2015 (153,842).

Unaccompanied minors numbers have doubled in 2016 with 25,772 arrivals compared to 12,360 arrivals in 2015.

On the rise also the fears from percentages of the resident population and a growing populist propaganda from right wing parties exploiting the fears and exacerbating them.

IACP works with program to facilitate the increase empathy and respect for the persons that take refuge in Italy......
to facilitate the increase empathy and respect for the persons that take refuge in Italy is called *Aquiloni al Vento*

We convey a public free gathering where we show a movie *Orizzonti Mediterranei*, film directors Pina Mandolfo e Maria Grazia Lo Cicero with the collaboration and participation of our Staff member the psychiatrist Enza Malatino M.D. that works with refugees and migrants at the Local Health Agency in the island of Lapedusa.

Another way to raise awareness and promote respect and empathy for refugees and migrants we give participating kids a kite to fly (*Aquilone*).

*Each kite honors the memory of a kid that died trying to take refuge in Italy......*
AQUILONI NEL VENTO
2 luglio

con il patrocinio di:

comune di Lampedusa
città di Palermo
comune di S. Croce sull'Arno
città di Ventimiglia

Organizza: Istituto dell'Approccio Centrato sulla Persona - IACP (presidente Alberto Zucconi) con Enza Malatino, psichiatra al Poliambulatorio di Lampedusa.


per ribadire il diritto di ogni bambina e bambino nel mondo alla vita, al gioco, alla scuola, alla leggerezza

per ricordare ogni bambina e bambino morto nelle traversate e nelle guerre

per protestare contro lo sfruttamento dei minori di ogni forma e di ogni tipo

per non dimenticare che ogni bambina e bambino nel mondo rappresenta il futuro

iniziativa realizzata con la collaborazione di Elena Faini - esp. IACP di Milano, Adriana Palmeri coord. Palermo,
Nadia Ferraldeschi insegnante Ventimiglia. Annuziata Venturelli insegnante Ventimiglia, Elisabetta Cappello insegnante Lampedusa, Maria LEDUSSI coord. Lampedusa. Maria Angela Bucci coord. S. Croce sull'Arno

Lampedusa: spiaggia della Guitcia - dalle h. 11
Palermo: Foro Italico - dalle h. 17
S. Croce sull'Arno: Trieste della Libera
Many arrive in Lampedusa (Italy) where one of our institute trainers Enza Malatino M.D. works as a person centered psychiatrist. Many refugees are suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). They have difficulty in sleeping, irritability, poor concentration, hypervigilance, motor restlessness, severe startle responses in normal situations. It is standard procedure in the Italian Public Health Agencies in such cases to prescribe drug treatments.

Enza Maltino M.D. (IACP Palermo) for 16 years has been offering the migrants in Lampedusa another option: Person centered encounter groups.
Enza Maltino M.S.D. affirms that the person centered group experience with migrants has been a quite successful experience.

Enza’ clients participating voluntarily to the PCA encounter groups have been dealing effectively with their Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), smaller number of them have asked for drug treatments and very few have had psychotic episodes.
Enza says: “for me it has been a highly formative and touching experience that has confirmed how important is the value of empathic listening and being heard in a group. That promotes resilience.

Many migrants coming to my encounter groups had taken a trip together with other group participants, had risked death together without ever talking to each other……”

From this experience the decision to share these terrible stories to restore dignity and to give voice to whom is usually not heard. Our intent is not to collude with silence and indifference of this modern holocaust.

This is the reason of making the film Orizzonti Mediterranei
The aim of this film is promoting awareness on the plight of refugees and migrants, underlining their humanity. The film is part of an awareness raising public campaign focused on promoting respect, empathy for the people we call refugees or migrants.

This film has been shown in many Italian Cities, in the Psychology Department of the University of Wien, Austria, in New York City at the World person Centered Association International Conference.

Sincere thanks to all the people helping us to help the migrants to have a voice.

We would like to fly the kites also in your countries, honouring every person that has been forced to became a refugee or a migrant .....we are all people if we loose that connection we are crazy!!!
We would like to show the Orizzonti Mediterranei movie (dubbed in English) and fly the kites also in your country, honouring every person that has been forced to became a refugee or a migrant.

Each of us is a person, no matter where we live or from where we came from. If we loose that connection, we damage ourselves deeply and we become real crazy!

You can contact our non profit organization Person Centered Approach Institute (IACP)

segreteria.centrale@iacpedu.org

Thank you!!
Thank you!

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