

Slovakian Educational Leadership Conference

Raising standards of learning, one step at a time

The Eighth Annual School Leaders' and Educators' Conference

# The Power of 'Why?'

Instilling Justice in the Hearts and Minds of Students

Slovakian Educational Leadership Conference

Judy L Hutchinson

Hotel
Alexander
8—9<sup>th</sup>
November
2024
Bardejov



#### Slovakian Educational Leadership Conference

#### Senior Associate Director Notre Dame Global University of Notre Dame USA

# **Judy Hutchinson**

Education and social justice:



**2024** Bardejov Spa

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# The Question of 'WHY?'

- Why justice?
- Why dignity?
- "Why" loop in children—a quest for purpose



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# What is Integral Human Development (IHD)

- The development of the <u>whole person</u> and the development of <u>each person</u>
- Leave no one behind (common good)
- Make sure that each dimension of the person counts (full human flourishing)
- Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching: Populorum Progressio (Pope Paul VI)
- Louis Joseph Labret, OP







## **Dignity: Beyond Basic Needs**

- Food, shelter and basic needs are important but insufficient
- Emotional, social and spiritual well-being are equally essential
- Intellectual development is one aspect of the whole
- Respecting autonomy, creativity, relationships, fun
  - Allowing individuals to fully flourish involves developing the soul—the poor often do not have access to these necessary opportunities





# Sedmak's "Via Negativa" of IHD

Education and social justice: opportunities and challenges

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- Infantilization
- Instrumentalization
- Humiliation

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### Infantilization

- Treating people as incapable of managing their decisions
  - Over-controlling behaviors
  - Removing autonomy

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#### Instrumentalization

- Viewing people as tools to achieve external goals
- Students and staff are the means, not the ends
- Values outputs and product



## Humiliation

- Publicly embarrassing others
- Often well-intentioned (!!!!)
- Long lasting effects on self-esteem
- May affect future actions



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#### **How to Enact IHD in Education**

- Foster autonomy and trust
- Create inclusive environments
- Practice restorative and private discipline
- Emphasize programs of well-being
- Provide SPACE for inner growth (the soul)
- Broaden our definition of education
- Dignity is at the core of IHD
- Think in terms of "what we owe each other"
- Mission-centric thinking





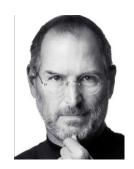




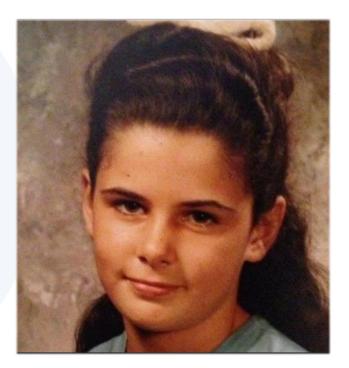
#### **Personal Stories**

- Shaping self-esteem
- Defining future actions

Steve Jobs about 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Imogene Hill, who used to bribe him by paying him \$5 to do his science projects: "She saw something in me nobody else saw."











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# Thank you! P'akujem! Pziekuje!

