

# Your Life is Your Message: The Promise of Humane Education

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# Objectives

- 1) **Introduce and define** Humane Education
- 2) Provide examples of Humane Education **activities and resources**
- 3) Present **ideas and examples** of Humane Education in practice
- 4) **Connect** Humane Education to IB philosophy and initiatives

## MY STORY

Personal:   Becoming a father  
              Global Poverty  
              HIV/AIDS Orphans  
              Child Labour

Science:    Does Science Matter?  
              Really Teaching Science  
              Dr. John H. Gibbons

Education:  
              Passive assessments  
              Grade Inquiries  
              “Will I Get Hours for This?”  
              “Why do we need to know this?”



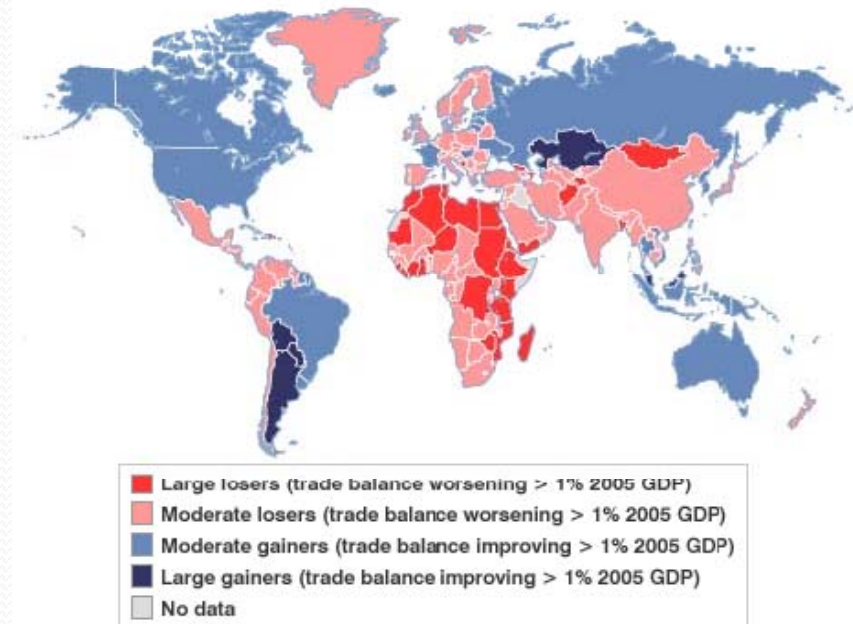
"Only when we understand can we care, only when we care shall we help; only if we help will all be saved."  
-Jane Goodall



“It is possible to mend wounds, to change minds, to minimize suffering. Our awareness makes it our responsibility to do so.”  
- Michael Tobias



2007 - 2008 IMPACT OF PROJECTED FOOD PRICE INCREASES ON TRADE BALANCES



SOURCE: USDA



# Humane Education is a Solution

- Comprehensive field of study that draws connections between all forms of social justice (human oppression, animal exploitation, ecological degradation)
- Explores how we might live with compassion and respect for ALL people, ALL animals, the Earth.
- Invites students to envision creative solutions and to take individual action so that together we can bring about a world where kindness, integrity and wisdom are the guiding principles in all our choices and relationships



# Four Foundational Elements of Humane Education

- Providing **accurate information** so students understand the consequences of their decisions as consumers and citizens.
- **Fostering the 3 C's: Curiosity, Creativity and Critical Thinking** so students can evaluate information and solve problems.
- **Instilling the 3 Rs: Reverence, Respect, and Responsibility** so students act with kindness and integrity.
- **Encourages informed, mindful and positive choices** so students feel empowered to help create a more humane world

# Take Home Point

If we provide a generation with humane education we will change the world and set the stage for the rapid unfolding of realistic, inspired, and far-reaching solutions to problems and a peaceful, humane world for all.

THE WORLD BECOMES WHAT YOU TEACH.



“Humane education offers real hope for the new century.” -David Selby

- Humane Education in the Elementary School
  - Important not to overwhelm young students
  - Awaken compassion, awareness of choices, and address the 3 R's in age appropriate ways
  - Teach about inter-connections and media literacy

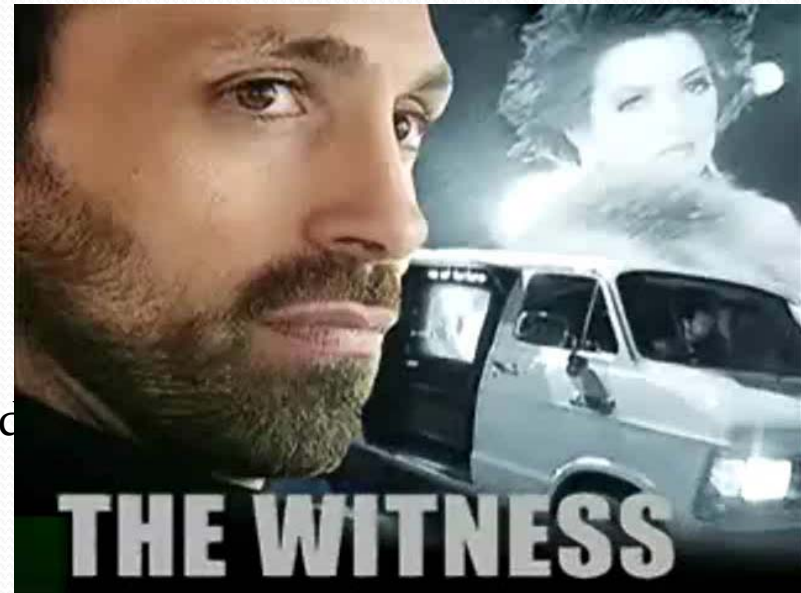


# Humane Education in the upper/secondary school

- Taught as own subject or incorporated into existing curricula
  - September – October Human Rights
  - November – December Cultural Issues
  - January – February Environmental Preservation
  - March – April Animal Protection
  - May – June Connections, Conflicts and Meaningful Solutions

# Incorporation into existing curricula

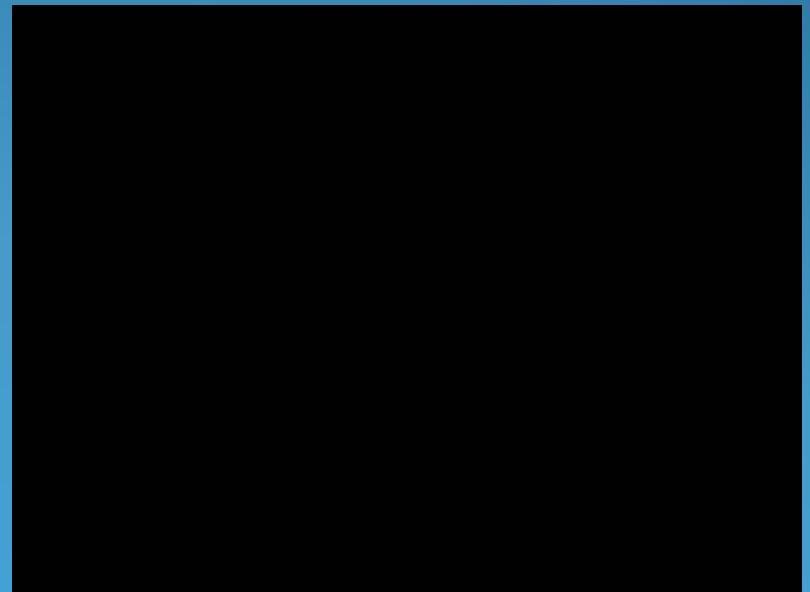
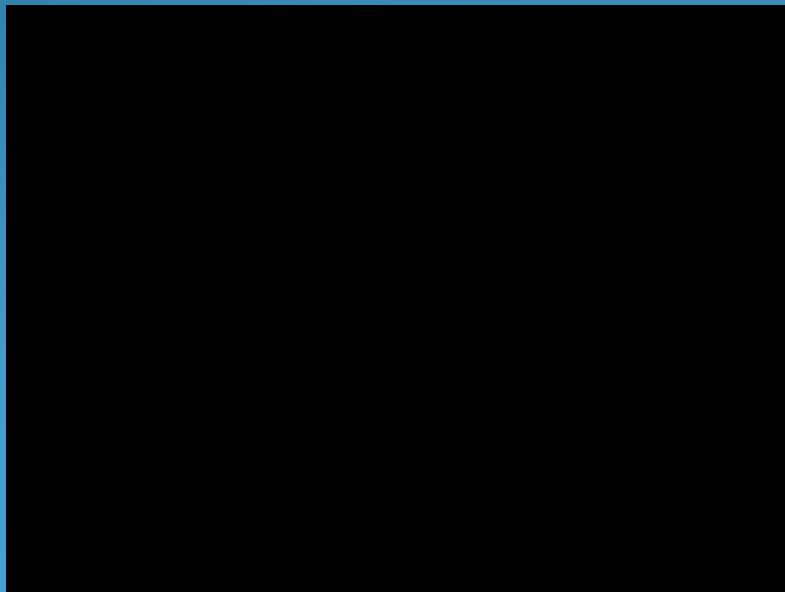
- Language Arts: Literature that explores humane themes; Analyze written material for bias, stereotypes, and assumptions
- Social Studies: Study movements for social change; Show social change videos and analyze their message and content
- Science: Study life through non-violent ethology; create an organic school garden and compost system
- Mathematics: Calculate energy and/or water use; Study issues of population



# After School Activities

Technology with a Cause (AIS-R)

Student run group which explored relevant local, regional and global issues to raise community awareness and act for change.



# How is Humane Education Different?

- Brings together all rights, values, social education program under one umbrella.
- Includes our relationships with individuals and promotes choices that diminish the suffering of individual people and animals too.
- Humane education can be incorporated into existing curricula.
- Creates awareness and empowers students to realize they can make a difference.



# Humane Education in IB Context

- Creates citizens prepared to participate in and contribute to alternative models of global governance
- Promotes collaboration and not competition
- Adjusts focus and slant of normal classroom, not by adding to it
- Feeds the IB learner profile at all divisions
- Raises global awareness and promotes global humanity

# Vision into Practice

Imagine the world you would most like to live in. What is this world like? How is it different from the world we live in today? How do people treat each other? The Earth? Animals? What are people's lives like? What is the natural world like? What are the lives of animals like? Imagine the best possible world you can?

How can this vision become real?

What are you committed to doing?

This is the promise of Humane Education