From Love to Hatred

Example of use

Description of the Tool

Working with a short poem describing how hatred comes into existence and working out its meaning, specifically in terms of terrorism

Proposal for use: Vocational education at secondary level.

Target group: Class of 6 students aged 16-24, welcoming immigrants, around 80% of them were not born in Austria; 2 female, 4 male

Pedagogical method: case study

Objective: Concrete objective: understanding the power of emotions and their possible influence on the behavior of human beings; understanding how and why certain persons gradually arrive to life situations in which they act extremely violently and destructively, like in terrorism.

Description: students receive a hand-out and are asked to try and complete the poem. Afterwards their "results" and the meaning of the poem are discussed.

Complete the Poem

During an English lesson the tool From love to hatred was exercised with the students. The teacher explained the different words and made sure that everybody understands it right in their meaning. Therefore the teacher prepared all word on small cards so it will be much easier to put them in an order. Then students were asked to try to insert the following words into the proper gaps: hatred, feared, feared, respected, respected, recognized, recognized, accepted, accepted, noticed, noticed.

Presentation of results and discussion

• What do you think personally of this poem? Do you like or dislike it? Why?
  Afterwards the outcome was presented by the students and the meaning for them discussed. All tried to accept the order which the other person had chosen. Hate was stated from all of them as the most powerful and negative feeling noticed and recognized were not always been ranked in the same way. The students were not clear about which feeling is stronger.

• Which general groups or specific persons you know are at risk of hatred because they don't receive enough love, understanding, integration into society?

Die Kärntner Volkshochschulen (Austria)
They stated that mainly it is because of the missing support of the society, when people are becoming alone these feelings could get stronger and other people can also strengthen the feeling but also others could lower them.

- **Do you know any movies with a similar development of emotions?**
  How can the described steps in the poem be related to people eventually destroying themselves and the life of others in outbursts of violence or acts of terrorism?
  One student explained the movie: Monsieur and his daughters.
  „Claude and Marie Verneuil are a wealthy, conservative, Catholic couple in the French provinces. They have four daughters – Ségolène marries the Chinese Chao, Isabelle the Muslim Rachid, and Odile the Jew David. At least their youngest daughter, Laure, has chosen a French Catholic. When he comes for dinner for the first time, the parents are at the end of their tether – Charles is black. “In this movie different sorts of intolerance had been presented. Also prejudices regarding different religions and colors are described and it shows very powerful the way how persons with different background can come together with the power of love.