Fertile Question: What does it mean to be a religious citizen in a multi-faith world?

Core Content Area 3: Religious citizenship and human rights

TOPIC 3.1: Dangerous religious ideas

Extending Knowledge: Religious reformers

In this lesson students will investigate a variety of people who fought for change within and beyond their faith traditions.

For students to investigate religious reformers select from the following activities:

1. Investigate the life and work of one of the following people who are named as religious reformers:
   - Martin Luther, John Calvin, Pope John XXXIII, Liao Yiwu, Rutilio Grande, Mary Daly, Asra Nomani.
   - Choose one person to investigate and create a Fakebook page or biographical fact sheet that illustrates what they were trying to achieve, who they worked with, the short term and long term results of their work and any other interesting facts. Include also how they were active religious citizens according to Charles A. Gallagher. See below:

   Religious citizens accept the moral imperative to contribute to the betterment of the community through acting locally but thinking globally.
   Religious citizens are honest and trustworthy in their dealing with others. They see the human being before the cultural difference and actively acknowledge that diversity contributes to the rich tapestry that is human existence.
   Religious citizens are fully aware of what their religious tradition asks of them. In the context of Catholic Christianity, religious citizens know what they subscribe to as a Catholic religious citizen. In short, they walk their talk, leading by example.
   Religious citizens unequivocally respect the rights of others to practice their religion with integrity and authenticity and actively support that right through word and action.
   Religious citizens are able to give a religious voice to everyday events. They do not blindly accept the hegemonic cultural mores of the day but become informed about the world in which they live. In short, religious citizens recognise that they are a citizen of the world.
   Religious citizens respect the rights of others but hold others to account for their actions. Words matter. Actions matter.
   Religious citizens take seriously their responsibility for the challenges facing the world. Gallagher writes at a practical level, “Hate violence, act thoughtfully, hate injustice, write to your local member.”
   Religious citizens bring about their own ecological conversion and help others to do the same.