Fertile Question: How can we teach the world about justice?

Core Content Area 2: Local Action, global vision

TOPIC 2.2: Agents of change

Depthing Understanding: Justice and the arts

In this lesson students will explore how various artists have used their talents to raise awareness about issues of justice.

For students to explore how various artists have used their talents to raise awareness about issues of justice, select from the following activities:

1. Explore the works of various musicians who have used their talents and their fame to raise awareness about issues of justice.
   a. Collect and analyse songs and video clips about issues of justice. Find examples from the Sixties through to contemporary times.
      i. Locate a song and or video clip about an issue of justice and post the link to a class Stixy board.
      ii. Add a note to highlight the issue or theme of justice in the song with an example from the lyrics or the visuals.
      iii. Listen to the class collection of songs and for each song. Compare the lyrics with the Wordles (in Useful Resources) of the main themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Which CST most closely aligns with the theme of the song?
      iv. Reflect on the effectiveness of music as a vehicle for change.

2. Explore the effectiveness of cartooning as a vehicle for change
   a. View the cartoon about asylum seekers who are children.
      i. What is shown in the cartoon?
         What does it mean?
         How do you respond to the cartoon?
      ii. Use a SWOT analysis to assess the effectiveness of cartooning as a means of provoking social action/change.

Maureen Didde, July 17, 2011, via Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution.
Wordles of the major Social Justice Themes