

Regional Ministry for Equality, Health and Social Policies in Andalucía
General Director D. Angel Acuña
22nd December 2014

Dear sir,

We are two students at Vistazul high school in Dos Hermanas, Sevilla. We are taking part in a Comenius project, together with other students and teachers from different European countries.

The issues to be dealt with in this particular project have to do with deepening in the direction of improving our democracy in Europe. One aspect of this work is connected with the protection of Human Rights.

We have decided to work on the protection of children's right to live and grow in a family responsible for their physical and emotional development. In this context, and having among our fellow students some who live in a "shelter home" for under 18, we have chosen to work on the role of "shelter homes" as a means for the protection of these children whose right to live in a "normalized" family has been violated. The product of our work will be shared with rest of the participants in the next meeting, which will take place in Bratislava next January.

After working on this matter, we have become really concerned about the toughness of these children's lives. This is why we have decided to write this letter focusing on these two aspects of the situation:

1.- It is urgent to get families involved in sheltering these children. To achieve this, it is necessary to work toward raising awareness of the problem among the population. These children need real families in their lives. Families ready to welcome them at weekends or during holiday periods, families to give them protections and care in emergency situations, and of course, families that could offer them a stable, permanent home. The degree of commitment would depend on the possibilities of each family, and in this respect, we understand they should get some money help from the government.

2.- Professional teams specialized in preparing these children and their biological families to reunite and start a new normalized life. This would definitely be the most desirable end result.

Thank you very much for your attention to our claim.

Yours sincerely.

Isabel Delgado
Bárbara Arrante