ACHIEVING WORLD PEACE THROUGH EDUCATION

by:

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Who doesn’t want to change the world? Who doesn’t want to make things better? Who wouldn’t dream of a world without war or without a corrupt government? Who wouldn’t pray for a society where justice prevails and with peace and order?

All of us may have the same dream of changing the world but we have our own definition of ‘changed world’ and reasons why we want to. For most of us, a changed world means a world without chaos or a world with peace. But whatever our reasons are, may it be for the betterment of oneself, of majority, or of everyone, we only have one way to change the world. That is through education.

It is true what Confucius once said “Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope always breeds peace.” This quotation tells us that achieving peace is a long process. The first step only means that an individual needs years of studying in elementary, secondary and tertiary levels to finally say that he is educated. But it doesn’t stop there because knowledge without practice is nothing. What one has learned must be applied in the real-life situations. We’ve been raised to be educated and to transform each one of us from a child to a man or a woman, yet most of us do not embody the main lesson of education – the humanity. It has been said that it is easy to be a human but very hard to be humane, in Filipino, “Madaling maging tao pero mahirap magpakatao.” If people are humane, then they will be honest and there will be no corrupt government; they will be god-fearing, and they will kill no one; they will be open-minded and understand the difference of people in character and faith, and there will be no war. If people are humane, then there will be a harmonious society.
Yes, education breeds confidence, but people should control the confidence he or she feels. Some, because of overconfidence, do unintentionally or intentionally unpleasant things to others. Humanity must be existing in between education and confidence, confidence, hope and peace for us to truly achieve world peace, change the world and improve our life because peace breeds prosperity.

Achieving world peace is not easy but it is possible. It may take years, decades and centuries to attain it, but for those who just only sit back and wait for things to happen, it won’t become a reality through educating the young who will be the next rulers of the world, with the lesson of humanity, we can make it happen. It may not happen in our time but our contributions as teachers and educators at present may be reaped in the future.

References:
http://www.minaret.org/Education.pdf