



## The Holy See

THE TALK GIVEN BY POPE FRANCIS AT THE WORLD CONGRESS ON EDUCATION, ORGANISED  
BY THE CONGREGATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Paul VI Hall

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(Multimedia)

[Brother Juan Antonio Ojeda, teacher at the university of Malaga (Question in Spanish)]

Holy Father, in your talk, you referred to the break in the links between the school, the family and other institutions in society. Nevertheless, Your Holiness often invites us to promote, and to personally live, a culture of encounter. What does this mean for all the people involved in education?

[Pope Francis]

It's true that not only are the educative links broken, but education itself has become too selective and elitist. It seems that we're orienting towards education, only those of a certain standard or who have certain capacities. For sure, all children, all young people don't have a right to education. This is a reality in our world and a shameful one. This is a reality which leads to selection between people, which instead of bringing people together, separates them. It separates the rich from the poor and distances one culture from another. This causes another type of division: the educative pact between family and school is broken. We must begin again. Even the educative pact between the family and the State is broken.

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Today also, « emergency education » is necessary. We need to target « informal education » because official education is impoverished owing to the heritage of positivism. It is only conceived as an intellectual exercise, the language of the head. This is why it has become impoverished. We need to break with this method.

...

This is how education becomes inclusive; because everybody has a place and therefore it also becomes humanly inclusive. The educative pact was broken by the phenomenon of exclusion. We look for the best, we select them – whether they be the most intelligent or whether they have more money to pay for the best school or university - and we leave the others aside. The world cannot progress through selective education because there is no longer a social pact which gathers everybody together.

