

**4 AREAS WHERE HUMAN BEINGS DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS**

1. With oneself
2. With others
3. With our common home
4. With the transcendent

**PACT BROKEN: AT ALL LEVELS OF RELATIONSHIPS**

"Today what I have called the 'educational compact' between families, schools, nations and the world, culture and cultures, is in crisis, and indeed in a state of breakdown. That breakdown is serious, and it can only be fixed through a renewed universal effort of generosity and cooperation. This breakdown in the educational compact means that society, the family and the different institutions called to educate, have all delegated the decisive task of education to others. In this way, the various basic institutions and the state themselves have evaded their responsibilities and faltered in this educational compact."


(Francis, 7 February 2020)



**Magnified by the pandemic**

"Recent statistics from international agencies have led some to speak, perhaps somewhat hastily, of an **"educational catastrophe"**, inasmuch as some ten million children were forced to leave school as a result of the economic crisis caused by the coronavirus. This has only increased an already alarming gap (with over 250 million school age children excluded from all educational activities).

(Francis, 15 October 2020)

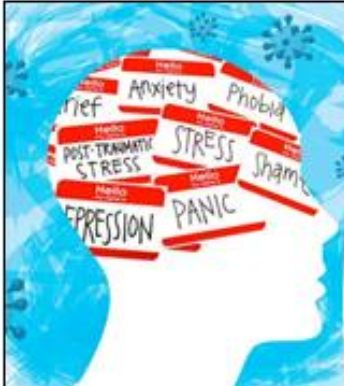



**A. Lack of integration and self-care**




- ✓ Cult/doloury of the self, individualism, indifference. Disconnection from the other.
- ✓ Inadequate physical care: "self-discarding" provoked by benchmarks for beauty, slavery to image, lack of rest, nutritional problems, self-exploitation.
- ✓ Virtual world V real world. "Digital filters".
- ✓ Not being able to ask for and receive help / constantly demanding to be looked after.
- ✓ Unable to protect oneself from others (damaging, invading relationships, lack of boundaries) or from one's own destructive behaviour.

**B. Mental Health**



Remember that it depends on:

- ✓ Multiple social, psychological and biological factors.
- ✓ Socio-economic pressures, violence, poverty and stressful living conditions constitute a risk to the mental health of individuals and communities.
- ✓ It is associated with rapid social change, stressful working conditions, discrimination, gender mandates, social exclusion, unhealthy lifestyles, risk of violence, poor physical health and violations of human rights.
- ✓ There are specific personality and psychological factors that make a person more vulnerable to mental health issues.
- ✓ There are also biological causes (genetic factors, biochemical imbalances in the brain).
- ✓ They increase the risk of other illnesses and contribute to unintentional and intentional injuries.




- Psychological disintegration. Unaddressed at individual, group and state level.
- 1 billion people suffered from mental disorders before the pandemic.
- 1 in 5 children and adolescents is diagnosed with a mental disorder.
- 1 in 8 people suffer from a mental disorder.
- Anxiety disorders and depressive disorders are the most common. They increased by 25% in pandemic, also among health workers.
- Multiple and serious psychological problems represented by suicide rates. According to the WHO there is a suicide every 40 seconds. Most prevalent among 15-29 year olds. It represents one of the main causes of death among young people.





**Machismo, reflected in:**

- Rural areas, where girls fail to complete basic education.
- If there is not enough money for the education of all, boys will be given priority.
- Differentiated roles in the family which favour boys.
- Parents' associations tend to be mothers' associations.
- Schools do not cater for the specific needs of female students regarding sports, art, etc.
- High rates of feminicidio, caused by partners.
- Male abuse of women prevails unpunished and invisible.



**Racism, reflected in:**

- Low quality of education in rural or peri-urban areas.
- Preferential attention given to the upper classes (= white or mixed race).
- Increasing educational segregation, to the detriment of the poor, widening social gaps.
- Little emphasis on bilingual and intercultural education.
- Minimal production of school textbooks in indigenous languages.



**CORRUPTION, reflected in:**

- Tax exemptions for the rich.
- Drafting of laws and norms to benefit interest groups and the powers that be.
- Construction of buildings (e.g. schools) that do not meet technical requirements and put people at risk.
- Demanding regulatory requirements for personal gain.
- Governments using the state as a source of illicit personal gain.



3. Pact broken with our "common home"



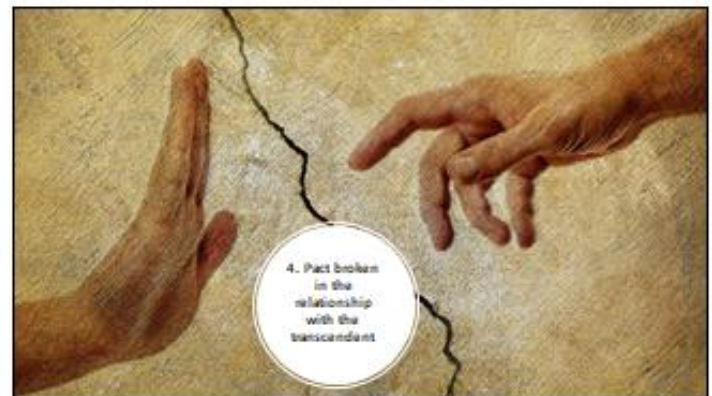
- ✓ The "suffering" of our planet, caused by heedless and unintelligent exploitation, which has generated a serious environmental and climate crisis.
- ✓ Irrational consumerism. Unhealthy, unsustainable lifestyles.
- ✓ Waste of resources and food.
- ✓ Global warming.
- ✓ Ozone layer depletion.
- ✓ Deforestation.
- ✓ Cities destroying nature.
- ✓ What are we leaving for those to come? Lack of awareness and intergenerational solidarity.



**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**

- Warning: "widespread" and irreversible impact and damage.
- It is "a threat to human well-being and the health of the planet".
- The "window of opportunity" humanity has to secure "a livable and sustainable future for all" is "rapidly closing".
- Warming is accelerating.
- "Do you want to discover the only species on planet Earth that can currently be considered a super-predator? Simply look in the mirror" (Chris DeWorm, U. Victoria, Canada; Science (2015)).





**Irrelevance of transcendent value**  
(see Declaration on Human Fraternity)

- **Transcendent value:** "faith leads a believer to see in the other a brother or sister to be supported and loved. Through faith in God, who has created the universe, creatures and all human beings (equal on account of his mercy), believers are called to express this **human fraternity** by safeguarding creation and the entire universe and supporting all persons, especially the poorest and those most in need..."
- **Causes of the crisis:** "among the most important causes of the crises of the modern world are a desensitized human conscience, a distancing from religious values and a prevailing individualism accompanied by materialistic philosophies that deny the human person and introduce worldly and material values in place of supreme and transcendental principles."

**Violent fundamentalism**

"History shows that **religious extremism, national extremism and also intolerance** have produced in the world, be it in the East or West, what might be referred to as signs of a "third world war being fought piecemeal". In several parts of the world and in many tragic circumstances these signs have begun to be painfully apparent."

"We resolutely declare that **religions must never incite war, hateful attitudes, hostility and extremism, nor must they incite violence or the shedding of blood**. These tragic realities are the consequence of a deviation from religious teachings. They result from a political manipulation of religions and from interpretations made by religious groups who, in the course of history, have taken advantage of the power of religious sentiment in the hearts of men and women in order to make them act in a way that has nothing to do with the truth of religion. This is done for the purpose of achieving objectives that are political, economic, worldly and short-sighted."

**Abuse of authority, abuse of conscience, sexual abuse in the Catholic Church**

- From "internal forum" to a public health problem (Australian study).
- From sin to crime, with increasingly severe penalties.
- Evil present in many countries and cultures; in religious institutions or lay movements.
- Collateral crime: cover up of the abuser.
- Causes: (1) clericalism; (2) authoritarian leader and misconception of obedience; (3) inadequate formation in affectivity and sexuality.

