

QUATTRO ANNI DI PEDAGOGIA DEI GENITORI
Esperimento pilota della Classe V B - Scuola G. Matteotti –
I.C. Borgata Paradiso di Collegno
Anno scolastico 2007/2008

Concluding thoughts on the activity
“PEDAGOGY OF PARENTS”

1.

When Massimo wanted me to tell him more about the meetings at school about the pedagogy of parents I answered that there we had tried to find out strategies to become better fathers and mothers which did not mean that in the end I would have bought him a larger number of picture cards (he loves) or put off some of his pranks. On the whole I did not want he could think a "better mother) meant I would have always been smiling and never frowning at him. Nevertheless it is always easier to say Yes than No. I have started to understand the meaning of our meetings about "pedagogy of parents" when I have been asked to write some lines about my son. I sat in front of my PC, the buttons seemed to move by themselves translating my feelings into words. For the first time I was describing what every mother feels for her own children. But, first of all, I was writing about My son without pointing out either his qualities or his deficiencies. Thus I realized that much of myself is present in him, in his behaviours and fears in the depth of his eyes. I have looked for steadiness in his simplicity and have understood the studying of teaching problems must be carried out together with all those who are involved, as it is of great help to find out we are not alone. I got by my parents few rules and moral principles which have become for me as dogmas that cannot be omitted and which, I hope, will be handed down to my children. In my opinion, moral integrity, respect for other people, loyalty are values which are not apart from progress. Sharing these values should be the task not only of parents but also of those who think that even in a society as barren as ours there is the possibility to grow up in a right way. Nowadays it is much more difficult as there are few examples to be followed and numerous mistakes may be made as the temptation of an easy life is often very strong. Only when grown-ups, parents and teachers come together to face unconcern and build up barriers to leave out the famous words "everybody behaves like this" and they are in the position to oppose confidence to our children's weakness we could be sure of helping their inner growing up, Later we should leave them free to make the mistakes all of us have already made which have made us stronger. During the pedagogical meetings with the other parents I had to think over my teaching methods and I have tried to understand the better way to face problems turned out to be shared by most of us. I have had to minimize some of my worries when I heard of much more serious problems than mine, which made my realize that man is never happy enough with what he owns. The job of being a parent is certainly the most difficult one but you never want

to give up to go on holiday!

I would heartily thank Maura and Tiziana, My son's teachers, who are fantastic in approaching children and pay a particular attention to their pupils' serenity revealing their deep knowledge and love. Since our first meeting I have realized they were talking about Massimo himself and not of his school learning; they have been able to read in his as well in my eyes a lot of things we did not need to tell. These hare real elective affinities!

I want also to thank the other children's parents who have got down at it being aware they had much to learn; through their experiences, doubts and supports I have felt to be a mother sometimes worried, but surely happy.

Paola, Massimo's mum

2.

I have been attending the meetings on Parents' Pedagogy four years.

When I started I was somewhat doubtful and I did not understand in which way meeting other mothers I could be helped in solving problems about my son's education. But very soon my doubts vanished, as talking of our children we succeeded in realizing the problems we, at first, thought were enormous were common to all parents. This experience has been very useful, we made up a close group that has given our children serenity.

Rosy, Gianluca'mum

3.

I started attending the meetings of the pedagogy of parents when Caterina attended the second year of primary school. At present I am still attending the meetings with the other parents, the teachers and prof, Zucchi. I have found out that the sense of uncertainty we often feel in teaching our children is shared with many other parents, At first I thought it would have been difficult explaining my daughter's behaviours as well as mine, on the contrary I have been enough easy, owing to the serene atmosphere the teachers have been able to create.

The meetings have made me rich inside and provided me with new ideas about teaching, pointing out its value. I think Primary School gave Caterina beside and excellent teaching preparation a good forming which has positively helped her to grow up. I hope to carry on this course in Scuola Media where everything will be different. A period of time well elapse before getting used to the new school but our children are growing up.

Domenica, Caterina's mum

4.

In the meetings of pedagogy of parents I have faced some problems I thought were only

mine, but soon I realized they were shared with many other parents. For instance, having to wait "two minutes" before my daughter uttered her answers, on my request, I was doubtful about the rightness of my teaching. Thanks to the meetings, I have realized I was not making any mistakes, but my daughter's behaviour was caused by her growing up. Often the difficulties we meet with our children seem insuperable, but, it is often enough to talk with another parent so that our problem is minimized or even solved for having been put in common.

Monica, Claudia's mum

5.

Here I am to write a passage on the pedagogy of parents. Previously I told of my daughter Floriana, now I have to bear witness to the experience done in the meetings with parents, teachers and prof Zucchi who, in my opinion, is a special person. I support the utility of this experience in changing the behaviour we think right for our children and ourselves, but which sometimes are not, I would like to point out that in our classroom as well in all the others, there came out difficult situations and misunderstanding between parents. I learnt that talking and comparing people's ideas is the only solution: in fact, sometimes acknowledging our limits and trying to modify some opinions, we could find out a point of common accord. What has been done in these years is surely very important. All of us often think we are well grown up, but it is not always true. We realized everybody may make mistakes but there is always the opportunity to learn by other people, even by our children. I can only add my heartfelt thanks.

Thank to all of us who have participated and also to prof. Nicoletta Viglione the leader of the school who gave us the opportunity to carry out this project.

Giuseppina, Floriana's mum

6.

One of my aims, if not the most important, has always been to favour and consolidate, in the group of pupils in my classroom, a relaxed atmosphere where everybody knows how to listen and where mutual knowledge and respect bring the pupils to understand each other.

To get to this it is important to reach coherence, confidence, regard and collaboration. The meetings, owing to the grown-ups' readiness to get down to work has allowed to reach a situation of well-being among the pupils who now have grown up and whose knowledge has got complete with the help of their parents' contributions.

I think the pupils of the fifth class B are remarkable from a human point of view and I would like they will be the same in the future. Growing up with their help has been very rewarding for me.

La maestra Maura