

## Between Novelties and Tradition

### Summary

The activity is centered on the reflection on the role that religious traditions play in shaping the mentality and on the ability to judge, and therefore on the ability to direct individual and collective behaviors.

### Description of the activity

The school activity is centered on the understanding and analysis of a series of real cases concerning the relationship with the religious traditions and the ethical norms connected to the professed religion (or of family belonging), starting from the eating habits and the observance of specific norms (such as the choice of food, fasting, ...), clothing, rules about sexual relations and relationships between men and women, etc.: The choice of these cases is a significant and delicate part of the path, as it is a prelude to extra-scholastic research activity of students (family, religious community). From this, it develops then the reflection on moral criteria and the rules according to which students, their families and communities may reference reason and formulate judgments. We can thus identify the reasons for the different judgments expressed by people of different generations and / or different backgrounds and communities of reference, evaluating in conclusion the importance of traditions for the younger generations, in the context of strong socio-cultural change. The activity implies both an investigation at the family level and in relation to the religious community to which it belongs.

### Activity structure:

The activity develops:

- In the classroom, in the whole class (20-30 students), in the presentation phase by the teacher and in preparation (identifying the themes, methods and sources for acquiring the information, preparing questionnaires for the collection of opinions)
- At home, to be carried out individually, with interviews and data collection from family members
- In class, to thematic groups, for the elaboration of the collected information: synthesis to groups by themes; comparison use of information sheets / articles provided by teachers
- In the classroom, in the whole class, for the presentation of the synthesis of the groups and for the reflection guided by the teachers
- Possible expansion, through the production of texts and graphics to be published in the local press, on student magazines, on the school website, ...
- Concluding test, prepared by the teacher on the basis of the materials used and the conclusions drawn up
- Resources needed: materials selected by the teachers on the themes of the survey, in particular on the role of religious traditions in the ethical-social field, computer equipment and use of digital writing programs (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)
- Previous knowledge of participants necessary: basic knowledge of religious traditions, listening and dialogue skills, basic knowledge about the use of the questionnaire and analysis / data processing; ability to use digital writing programs (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)
- Activity duration: for work in the classroom 8-10 hours



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### Learning Objectives

- Development of knowledge in the local and general area, of family, social and religious traditions and norms
- Development of listening skills, comparison and critical analysis
- Development of skills in the field of relationships (group dialogue, dialogue with adults)
- Development of skills in the operational field (design and development of questionnaires, group work, use of IT tools)

### Expected Outcomes

Development of personal, family and social history. Understanding of the meaning (value and limits) of traditions and ethical norms. Improvement of relationships with different people and traditions, as a basis for triggering positive changes in cohabitation.

### Target group

This activity, given its complexity, can be developed with 16-18 year old students, who have already done (at least in part) their previous activities.

### Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

History, Law, Mathematics, Religion, Language1, Technical Ed. - this is an activity with a strong interdisciplinary value, and ,because of its complexity, it requires prior assessment and shared preparation by the teachers, as they are inevitably involved in the judgment on topics analyzed and on the results of the survey

### Learning objects to be used with this activity

- Articles;
- Case studies;
- Student assignments;
- Tests;



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