

Follow your (he)art!

Grazzanise, Caserta, Italy April 9th-19th, 2016

The main theme of the project is sexuality, often lived as a taboo, which reduces the concepts of love and sexual orientation to stereotyped and impassable cultural standards. The project will deal also with art, as a means to express sensations and opinions about discussed topics.

This project aims to:

- Focus in the theme of sexuality;
- Learn to know and respect the many ways of expressing own sexuality;
- Provide artistic tools to communicate own sensations and opinions about the discussed topics;
- Compare the way in which, in different countries, politics, society and religion interfere with sexuality and sexual freedom;
- Discuss the level of homophobia in the various countries involved, searching for the causes;
- Compare the laws about civil rights and equal opportunities in the different countries involved;
- Break down the barriers that could potentially hinder cooperation among different sexual orientations;
- Make participants live an experience of participation inside a group that will be set up during the exchange;
- Promote Erasmus plus programme;
- Create new partnership;

How we will reach our objectives:

- 1) There will be workshops on:
 - Sexuality
 - Concept of love
 - Religion
 - Politics
 - Society
 - Family

- Homophobia
- Civil rights and equal opportunities
- Cooperation among diversities
- 2) Artistic tools will be provided by experts in:
- Music
- Theatre
- Painting
- Creative writing
- 3) There will be a flash mob in the city centre of Neaples

Participating countries:

- Italy
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Russia
- Spain
- Turkey

Dates of the exchange:

The check-in is planned on April 9th and the check out on April 19th 2016

Where to arrive.

You can fly to Naples or to Rome. In both cases members of our staff will reach you and you will move together to Alvignano, where there is our accommodation.

Travel grant per participant:

Lithuania: 170 €Netherlands: 170 €

- Russia: 270 € + visa costs

- Spain: 170 €

- Turkey: 270 € + visa costs

Participant's profile:

- 5 participants (18-30 years old) + 1 leader (+18)
- All partners will respect gender balance: 3 boys and 2 girls or 3 girls and 2 boys + 1 leader
- Participants have to be ready to confront, in a serious and serene way, on issue of sexuality, gender equality and on ethical and religious issues, having an open mind in order to be willing to respect opinions different or opposite to their own, and have a knowledge, even minimal, of the manner in which the issues of the project are addressed in their own countries and also be informed about international developments of these issues.

Accomodation:

Participants will live in a countryhouse in Alvignano (Caserta), in a place surrounded by hills and nature. The structure has bedrooms, a big activity-room, a garden for outdoor activities, a swimming pool and a football field for free time and a restaurant (to whom we have to communicate potential special needs).

What-to-do list:

In order to reach the objectives of the project and to realize workshops in the best way (and we all love best ways :P), each national group has to:

- 1) Collect pictures about love and/or family made by children in own country and bring them at the exchange
- 2) Realize two short videos:
 - What family is?: interview civil and religious (of the main religion in your country) authorities of your country, but also common people, about the definition of family, if it exists, and a model of family.
 - Ask several people in your country (it's important the you choose people of different sex, age and cultural level) these 3 questions:
 - 1. What is the first thing you think to when I say "homosexual"?
 - 2. What do you think about homosexuality?
 - 3. What about Same-sex marriage?

Edit the videos and subtitle it in English, since we will show them at the beginning of two different workshops during the exchange.

- 3) Prepare a funny warm up that you will use in the morning in which your own country will lead the warm up
- 4) Be prepared, even minimally, about the situation of own country about these fields. Don't worry, it's not an exam, but we need people to be prepared because the theme is very weighty, so no superficial discussions are needed.
 - RELIGION, POLITICS, SOCIETY AND FAMILY: analyze how much in your country religion, politics, society and family interfere on sexual chooses and freedom;
 - GENDER EQUALITY: analyze the situation in your country, trying to understand if different genders and sexual orientations have the same opportunities in the society;
 - WHAT IS FAMILY?: try to understand if in your country there is a model of "family" and when it's possible to define "family" a group of people and if it depends on a specific cultural or religious background;
 - MEDIA: analyze, collecting proofs, how in your country the theme of sexuality and homosexuality is approached by media.

- OMOSEXUALITY IN SOCIETY: Analyze, collecting real facts and experiences, how in your country sexual orientation can influence the possibility to have a career in various sectors.
- 5) Prepare a presentation of your association: no boring presentations allowed! ;-)

Flash mob:

It will be a flash mob about the themes of the project, even if, actually, we haven't yet idea about how to realize it. We will discuss about it with all participants during the exchange, after artistic activities. We just decided to do it in Naples because it's a big city, so it can offer us a huge audience (let's hope so!), and it's not far from the accommodation (about 1hour by bus)

Intercultural evening:

In this evening you can show to other national groups traditions of your country (food and drinks, songs, dances and each other thing you consider traditional and you want to show/teach to other participants)

Relations among partner association:

We didn't scheduled an Apv, but we would plan Skype meetings to discuss with all partners about the project. In each case, if it will appear necessary, we will organize it.

What to bring with you and what to leave at home:

Bring with you:

- A smile
- The openness to confront with other cultures
- The desire to express yourself through art
- Several ideas
- Musical instruments

Leave at home:

- Prejudices
- Potential political issues among your country and other countries in the project « I do not look down on niggers, kikes, wops or greasers» [Sgt. Hartman, Full Metal Jacket]

Contacts:

Email: apsmoveit@gmail.com

Skype: apsmoveit

Phone: +393339958241 (Giuseppe)