

## Moving people: Short play on people

### forced from their homes

***Moving people* is a short play, written by RISE Theatre, to explore the stories of four people forced from their homes. This sketch was first performed on March 11 on stage at Flame 2017.**



#### Resources

- Moving people film.
- *Moving people* script with props list.
- This resource.



#### ***Moving people* key info**

The play takes about three and a half minutes to perform.

The play is performed by two or four actors and one stage hand.

*Moving people* is a practical, inspiring and creative way for young people to reflect on some big faith and global justice issues.

In the play we meet four people in different situations and are asked to recognise in them their inherent value and worth, as made in God's image.

Watch the film or read *Moving people* before using, to check the issues the play deals with are appropriate for your group.



#### ***Aims of Moving people***

The play enables young people to understand four ways people may be forced from their homes. Being: a refugee; made homeless; a victim of human trafficking and persecuted for one's faith.

The play enables young people to engage with the principle of human dignity which underpins Catholic Social Teaching and all of CAFOD's work.

It gives young people the chance to reflect on the reality of the *Parable of the sheep and goats* (Matthew 25:31-46) and seeing 'the face of Christ' in others in a creative way.

The play is written to inspire and develop feelings of empathy in the audience, as a spring board to taking meaningful social action.



### How can I use *Moving people* with my youth group, Confirmation group or parish?

- Watch or read through the play in your group.
- If reading through the play, run an ice breaker activity first.
- Discuss the questions below.
- Write your own prayer or reflection inspired by the play.
- Perform the play during a liturgy. Share your prayer or reflection.
- Read the quotes below and choose your favourite. Why do you like it?
- Use another CAFOD activity to explore the issue of refugees, such as the *Young people in Lebanon* film and stories, *On the move* simulation game or *Refugee pilgrimage for young people*.
- Take action! Check out the ideas below.



### How can I use *Moving people* with my class or school?

- Great for KS3,4,5 and chaplaincy.
- Watch or read through the play in your class or small groups.
- If reading through the play, run an ice breaker activity first.
- Discuss the questions below.
- Individuals or small groups could choose one character and read their story again from the script. Then read the real-life story below that relates to their character.
- Individuals or groups could create their own story, play or short film to explore the character further. How

may they have come to be in their situation, what happens to them next, or what might have been different? What are their thoughts about their situation?

- Perform the play at an assembly to do with: why we're all valuable; refugees; human rights or on why we need to treat everyone as our sisters and brothers.
- Perform the play during a talent show-case.
- Have a debate, or write a short essay: *"Welcoming others means welcoming God in person"* Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer showing you have thought about more than one point of view.
- Take action! Check out the ideas below.



### Discussion questions

- What do you think of the play?
- How did the play make you feel?
- What did the play make you think about?
- Which character was your favourite/stuck out to you? Why?
- What questions does the play make you want to ask?
- Why do you think we are watching/performing this play today?
- Who do you think would be a good audience for the play?
- Do you think that everyone is unique/special? Why/why not?
- Do you think everyone should have human rights? Why/why not?

<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis. 'Message of his Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2016.'

- Read the *Parable of the sheep and goats*. (Matthew 25:31-46.) What is this parable about? What is Jesus teaching us in this parable? How does the parable relate to the play?
- "Welcoming others means welcoming God in person." What do you think Pope Francis meant when he said this? What do you think about it?
- What does the play make you want to do next?



### Take action!

As a group decide what you want to do next having seen the play. It could be:

- Write messages of hope to refugees.
- **Cafod.org.uk/greatgeneration**
- Fundraise for CAFOD's work to support refugees around the world, perhaps by performing the play!
- Get involved with a local charity to support people who are refugees or who are homeless.
- Plan ways to make your parish or school a more warm and welcoming community. Put your plan into action!
- Create a display that challenges negative attitudes towards refugees and asylum seekers. You could use photos, clips from newspapers and your own artwork.

*Charley, Stephen and John from the RISE theatre group take part in CAFOD's HOPE photo stunt during Flame 2017.*

Photo credit: Thom Flint.

### Note

The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International.

CAFOD works in communities across Africa, Asia and Latin America, helping people to tackle the poverty and injustice they face. We work wherever the need is greatest, with people of all faiths and none.

March 2017. JP, CAFOD Youth Team.



## Real-life stories

### Story 1: A woman escaping human trafficking

This is a story of a lady who is a guest at Bakhita House. Bakhita House provides women escaping human trafficking with the safety and support to allow them to begin the recovery process.

A representative from Bakhita House says: *"Our guest says that she arrived in the UK from Nigeria with a man who posed as her husband. She was left in the airport by him and then collected by another man who took her to a location outside London, where she was forced into sexual slavery."*

*"She believed she was coming for a better education which would lead to her gaining employment."*

*"Our guest managed to escape in December with the help of one of the clients."*

*"When our guest came to Bakhita House she was eight months pregnant. She has been rough sleeping since February. This is because the man that rescued her from the location where she was trafficked to for sexual exploitation, asked her to leave his accommodation when he found out that she was pregnant."*

Karen, Bakhita House Manager, says: *"[Our guests are] women who I could never be as dignified, resilient or courageous as. They have shown me how important it is to fight injustice and live life to the full."*

Source: Caritas Westminster/CSAN,  
Karen's quote: Caritas Westminster

### Story 2: A person who is a refugee and has travelled to Europe

18-year old Farzana is from Afghanistan and is living in a refugee camp in Greece with her mother and four siblings.

CAFOD are directly supporting Caritas Hellas, who have been providing food, water, shelter, weather-proof and warm clothing and sleeping bags to thousands of refugees in Greece.

Farzana says: *"If you went to Afghanistan for just one day you would see how they kill us, how they kill our brothers, our fathers. Every day there is a bomb blast."*

*"My message to people in the UK is why aren't more of us being accepted into their country? I have been here for eight months. We don't have money. We don't have clothes. We don't have shoes. Maybe the people can't do anything, but their government, it has to think about us."*

*"They welcome Syrian people, because there is conflict there, but Afghanistan is also like this. We are humans too."*

Source: CAFOD

Photo credit: Natalia Tsoukala



### Story 3: A person who was homeless

Liam, who was homeless, is supported by Depaul UK. [depaulcharity.org.uk](http://depaulcharity.org.uk)

Liam says: *"My mum asked me to leave home when our relationship broke down.*

*"I was worried as I had never lived independently or had to deal with money before. I struggled to set up my benefit claim and didn't understand the staff at the Job Centre.*

*"Depaul UK offered me a place to go. They recognised I was struggling and that I found it hard to trust people and go to new places on my own. I was encouraged to see a doctor and was diagnosed with anxiety and depression.*

*"The staff supported me with regular sessions. They matched me with a volunteer mentor, who helped me attend my appointments and go to the gym and local parks.*

*"Depaul encouraged me to take up volunteering opportunities and work on my independent living skills. These included budgeting sessions and guidance with my benefits. I have now moved into Depaul's transitional accommodation where I am managing well.*

*"I have changed my life. Now I can budget and pay bills. Moving out has helped me and my mum to get on better. I also feel moving into the transitional flats is helping me build up the confidence I will need to move on eventually to my own tenancy."*

Source: Depaul UK/CSAN

### Story 4: A person forced from their home because of their faith

Karim, his wife Habiba and their son James, say they fled Iran because of religious persecution. They are living in a refugee camp in Greece.

CAFOD are directly supporting Caritas Hellas, who have been providing food, water, shelter, weather-proof and warm clothing and sleeping bags to thousands of refugees in Greece.

Karim says: *"We converted to Christianity two years ago. Because of that, we had to leave Iran. The journey was terrible, it was so dangerous. For seven months we have been here in this camp. We would like to go to America but whether that's possible, I don't know. We don't know what to think for our future, because we're stuck here for now.*

*"My message to people in the UK is that if they can pray for us, that's the best thing. Pray for our safety, for us settling somewhere."*

Source: CAFOD

Photo credit: Natalia Tsoukala





## Quotes

*"Welcoming others means welcoming God in person."*

Pope Francis, World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2016

*"Young people demand change."*

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 13

*"Human persons are willed by God; they are imprinted with God's image. Their dignity does not come from the work they do, but from the persons they are."*

Pope John Paul II, On the Hundredth Year, 11

*"In the image of God he created them, male and female he created them."*

Genesis 1:27

*"I have engraved you on the palms of my hands"*

Isaiah 49:16

*"Lord, when did we see you a stranger and make you welcome?... And the King will answer, "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."*

Matthew 25: 38, 40

*"Sing, love could change the world in a moment, but what do I know?"*

Ed Sheeran, What do I know?

*"Baby you're a firework, come on let your colours burst."*

Katy Perry, Firework

*"I'm with you till the end of the line."*

Bucky, Captain America: The Winter Soldier