

Sofia Muñoz · Sofia Jaspe · Melissa Pasquini · Barbara León

What do you

BE lieve?



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

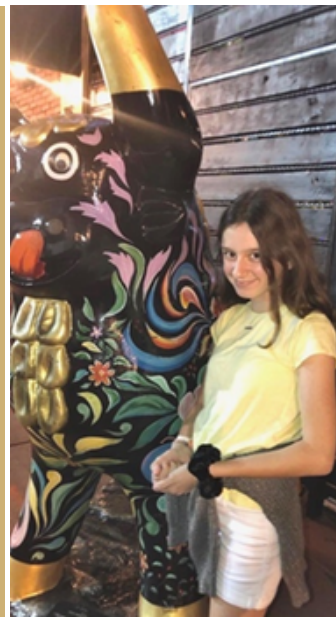


MELISSA PASQUINI

Melissa Pasquini was born on January 16, 2009 in Brazil. She has mom named Lucia and a dad named Eduardo. She also has a cat whose name is Kiss. Melissa enjoys playing the guitar, drawing, running and swimming. She would like to learn how to play the piano. She chose the topic of religion because she knows that a lot of people get harmed because of their religion and she would like to make a change in their lives.

SOFIA MUNOZ

Sofia Muñoz was born on January 30th, 2009, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is the daughter of Maria and Rodrigo and has 2 older siblings. She likes to spend time with family and friends and browse the internet. Her hobbies are to paint and go swimming. Her favorite food is pasta and her favorite drink strawberry milkshake. She is currently studying at Ada Merritt K-8 Centre and is in 5th grade. She picked the topic religious discrimination because she felt a strong need to change something in the world.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR




BARBARA LEON

Barbara Leon was born on August 26, 2009 in Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela. The school she attends is Ada Merritt k-8 Center. She lives with her mom and her stepdad in downtown Miami. She is an only child. She also does not have any pets of her own. Her hobby is dance. When she grows up, she would like to be a doctor. On her free time, she likes to ride her bike and paint. She chose the topic of religion because she would like to make an impact on the worlds point of view.

SOFIA JASPE

Sofia Jaspe was born in Hialeah, Miami. Her date of birth was December 15, 2008. She has parents called Susana Fajardo and Rodolfo Jaspe. She is 11 years old and loves to dance. Sofia was interested in this topic because she wanted to learn about the different types of religions. She has a dog named Lala and she is a beagle mixed with a Labrador. Her favorite types of dances are hip-hop, contemporary, and ballet. She also does acrobatics. Sofia wants to learn more about the traditions they do in different religions.





Respect other religions
Everybody has a different faith
Learn about other beliefs
Include people from different religions
Get to know people with different beliefs
Imagine a world of peace
Other beliefs are equally important as yours
Never make fun of someone's religion
Stand up for those who are being bullied
because of their religion

ACROSTIC POEM

BY MELISSA PASQUINI

WORD CLOUD

BY SOFIA MUNOZ

Religion
Christianity
Judaism
Muslim
Islam
church
God
pray

WORD SCRAMBLE

BY BARBARA LEON

Instructions: Read the scrambled word and then the clue under it. Finally, unscramble the word.

1. **amiposscon**- _____

Sympathy for the sufferings or trouble of another or others

2. **pohe**- _____

To want something to happen or to be true and think it could happen or be true

3. **eovl**- _____

Deep feeling or affection

4. **rhcistian**- _____

A person who believes in the teachings of Jesus Christ

5. **mmsliu**- _____

A follower of the religion of Islam

6. **peuseorcitn**- _____

To treat (someone) cruelly or unfairly especially because of race or religious beliefs

7. **awr**- _____

A state or period of fighting between countries or groups

8. **febiels**- _____

A feeling of being sure that someone or something exists or that something is true

9. **eorlwidd**- _____

Happening or existing in all parts of the world

10. **drefeom**- _____

The state of being free

11. **catcohli**- _____

Of or relating to the roman catholic church

12. **rgliieon**- _____

A belief that follows rules or a certain way of life, usually a person or god

13. **ntmigraaiom**- _____

The act of someone coming to live in a different country

WORD SCRAMBLE

ANSWER KEY

Instructions: Read the scrambled word and then the clue under it. Finally, unscramble the word.

1. **amiposscon**- *compassion*

Sympathy for the sufferings or trouble of another or others

2. **pohe**- *hope*

To want something to happen or to be true and think it could happen or be true

3. **eovl**- *love*

Deep feeling or affection

4. **rhcistian**- *christian*

A person who believes in the teachings of Jesus Christ

5. **mmsliu**- *muslim*

A follower of the religion of Islam

6. **peuseorcitn**- *persecution*

To treat (someone) cruelly or unfairly especially because of race or religious beliefs

7. **awr**- *war*

A state or period of fighting between countries or groups

8. **febiels**- *beliefs*

A feeling of being sure that someone or something exists or that something is true

9. **eorlwidd**- *worldwide*

Happening or existing in all parts of the world

10. **drefeom**- *freedom*

The state of being free

11. **catcohli**- *catholic*

Of or relating to the roman catholic church

12. **rgliieon**- *religion*

A belief that follows rules or a certain way of life, usually a person or god

13. **ntmigraiiom**- *immigration*

The act of someone coming to live in a different country

WORD SEARCH

BY SOFIA JASPE

H	I	N	D	U	I	S	M	X	U	I
D	U	T	J	H	D	U	V	X	W	S
R	E	I	A	V	B	Q	J	O	P	L
T	M	H	G	D	D	U	Y	F	L	A
W	T	Y	A	N	G	I	I	T	C	M
U	Y	B	E	Z	X	Z	V	A	B	O
A	M	M	M	X	Z	J	I	O	C	H
V	O	W	B	L	L	N	X	I	T	X
E	E	V	U	C	F	N	B	S	I	Z
J	I	W	D	B	R	Y	E	M	O	C
X	H	O	D	J	A	X	Z	O	K	H
T	W	T	H	K	I	X	X	B	U	V
I	G	P	I	M	R	T	Q	U	W	F
C	I	P	S	Y	P	V	T	V	D	Q
T	L	U	M	A	V	I	Q	W	K	T
C	H	R	I	S	T	I	A	N	I	T
M	D	E	O	H	G	W	A	I	F	Y
R	W	W	C	J	U	D	A	I	S	M
R	F	T	Q	D	S	X	M	L	V	E
C	O	N	F	U	C	I	A	N	I	S

WORDS:

**HINDUISM, BUDDHISM, ISLAM,
CONFUCIANISM, CHRISTIANITY,
TAOISM AND JUDAISM**

WORD SEARCH ANSWER KEY

H	I	N	D	U	I	S	M	X	U	I
D	U	T	J	H	D	U	V	X	W	S
R	E	I	A	V	B	Q	J	O	P	L
T	M	H	G	D	D	U	Y	F	L	A
W	T	Y	A	N	G	I	I	T	C	M
U	Y	B	E	Z	X	Z	V	A	B	O
A	M	M	M	X	Z	J	I	O	C	H
V	O	W	B	L	L	N	X	I	T	X
E	E	V	U	C	F	N	B	S	I	Z
J	I	W	D	B	R	Y	E	M	O	C
X	H	O	D	J	A	X	Z	O	K	H
T	W	T	H	K	I	X	X	B	U	V
I	G	P	I	M	R	T	Q	U	W	F
C	I	P	S	Y	P	V	T	V	D	Q
T	L	U	M	A	V	I	Q	W	K	T
C	H	R	I	S	T	I	A	N	I	T
M	D	E	O	H	G	W	A	I	F	Y
R	W	W	C	J	U	D	A	I	S	M
R	F	T	Q	D	S	X	M	L	V	E
C	O	N	F	U	C	I	A	N	I	S

WORDS:

HINDUISM, BUDDHISM, ISLAM,
CONFUCIANISM, CHRISTIANITY,
TAOISM AND JUDAISM

WHAT IS RELIGION

BY MELISSA PASQUINI

What is religion? There are many answers to that question, but this is one I believe fits perfectly. According to dictionary.com “religion is a set of beliefs concerning the cause, nature, and purpose of the universe, especially when considered as the creation of a superhuman agency or agencies, usually involving devotional and ritual observances, and often containing a moral code governing the conduct of human affairs”. There are an estimated 10,000 distinct religions worldwide.

About 84% of the world's population is affiliated with one of the five largest religion groups, namely Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism or folk religion.



First, Christianity. Christianity is based on the life and teachings of Jesus as presented in the New testament. The Christian faith is essentially faith in Jesus as the Christ and as Savior and Lord. Most Christians believe in the Trinity, which teaches the unity of Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit as three persons in one God. Now let's talk about the Islam Religion. Islam is based on the Quran, one of the holy books considered by Muslims to be revealed by God, and one of the teachings of the Islamic prophet Muhammad, a major political and religious figure of the 7th century CE. Islam is also based on the unity of all religious philosophies and accepts all of the Abrahamic prophets of Judaism, Christianity and other Abrahamic religions before Muhammad. It is the most widely practiced religion of Southeast Asia, North Africa, Asia, while Muslim-majority countries also exist in parts of South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and South East Europe.

Next comes Hinduism. Hinduism is preferentially self-designated by the term Vaidika Dharma. Hinduism is one of the most ancient of still-active religions, with origins perhaps as far back as prehistoric times. Hinduism is not a monolithic religion but a religious category containing dozens of separate philosophies. Now, Buddhism is different. Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha Gautama in the 6th century BCE. Buddhists generally agree that Gautama aimed to help Sentient beings end their suffering by understanding the true nature of phenomena, thereby escaping the cycle of suffering and rebirth.



Finally, folk religion. Folk religions refer to a broad category of traditional religions that can be characterized ancestor workmanship, where traditional means "indigenous, that which is aboriginal or foundational, handed down from generation to generation...". These are religions that are closely associated with a particular group of people, ethnicity or tribe; they often have no formal creeds or sacred texts. Some faiths are syncretic, fusing diverse religious beliefs and practices.

The term "folk religion" is generally held to encompass two related but separate subjects. The first is the religious dimension of folk culture, or the folk-cultural dimensions of religion. The second refers to the study of syncretism's between two cultures with different stages of formal expression, such as the blend of African folk beliefs and Roman Catholicism that led to the development of Voodoo and Santería, and similar mixtures of formal religions with folk cultures. The term is also used to describe the desire of people who otherwise infrequently attend religious worship, do not belong to a church or similar religious society, and who have not made a formal profession of faith in a particular creed, to have religious weddings or funerals, or (among Christians) to have their children baptized.

As I mentioned before, there are many more religions of the world and there are too many to be told. There are also religions inside religions. For example, there are many types of Christianity such as Catholic, Protestant and (Eastern) Orthodox

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RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

BY SOFIA MUNOZ

Religious discrimination is when someone treats another person unfairly because of his or her religious beliefs. Religious discrimination also happens when someone is being treated differently for being married or associated with an individual religion. Religious discrimination has been around since title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. There are two types of religious discrimination, direct religious discrimination and indirect religious discrimination. Direct religious discrimination is when an employer treats someone less favorably than other employees because of their religion. Some examples of direct religious discrimination are dismissing an employee because of their religion, deciding to not hire an employee because of their religion, paying an employee less, etc. Indirect religious discrimination is when an employer sets rules that apply to everyone, but which unfairly disadvantage employees with certain religions or beliefs. Some examples of religious discrimination are requiring a dress code that excludes people who wear items of clothing as part of their path, unfairly setting work schedules that prevent employees taking time off for religious observance, etc.

A woman named Shahin Indorewala applied for the position junior management position at Fast Track Management Inc. She claimed they

were about to hire her until she asked for prayer breaks during the day. Shahin was brought back for a second interview by an assistant manager who went as far back as to explaining the time and schedules. Her schedule included a 2-hour lunch break. She told them it was a long lunch break and if she could have a shorter one which included 5 minutes throughout the day to pray. The assistant manager pointed to her head and was



making all sorts of hand movements and becoming very loud. He said that they didn't want any type of religious shenanigans there. GaviLondo defended his actions and said that they ask people to keep religion to themselves and that he did not see a need for religious preaching in the 21st century. Then they later showed her wto the door.

Religious discrimination affects a person's mental and physical health. It can cause consequences such as depression, stress and anxiety. It can also cause fear, anger, etc. Many laws were made against religious discrimination for example, the Civil Rights Act. The law prohibits religious discrimination in the workplace including hiring, firing, promotions, and other aspects of employment. The law also requires employees to make reasonable accommodations for employees that want to practice their religion with restraint. Some ways to stop religious discrimination in your workplace are by having freedom of belief. All employees should have the right to practice their religious beliefs at work. You can also resolve religious discrimination by speaking to the person causing the problem, you can also ask the line manager to intervene, follow your company's grievance procedure, make an appeal against an unsuccessful grievance procedure, and you can raise a complaint.

**GOD
HAS
NO
RELIGION**



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HOW DOES RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION CHANGE PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVE OF RELIGION?

BY BARBARA LEON

Religious persecution is when a person or a group of people do not like another religion other than their religion and find other beliefs as a threat.

Religious persecution can be done through violence or hate of speech. Many religions suffer through hate because of what they believe. This hate towards another person is wrong. Imagine having to deal with being mistreated by others because you don't believe in their religion. This can create big arguments or even war between groups of people. Religious persecution can be done anywhere to anyone. This behavior is very unfair and should not be done under any circumstances. Just because someone does not think the same as you does not mean their religion deserves mistreatment or hate. Religious persecution can be a product of religious bigotry. Religious bigotry is when one group of people see a religion as a way they should not or talk bad about that specific religion.

Religious persecution can be done in many ways. One way is "Religious cleansing", religious cleansing is done when a group of people try to eliminate another group of people because they see their religion badly. Trying to get rid of a whole population of people can start fights or even war. This can also be a threat and a safety issue to the religion being harmed. Religious persecution can also be done by destruction or property, torture, arrests, and execution. It is even said that religious persecution is considered the opposite of freedom of religion. It is also known as a human rights problem for the world.



Religious persecution is a huge threat all around the world. People need to help to stop this problem and find a solution quick. If not, no one will have the right to believe in their thoughts and opinions. This is very wrong and cruel to the entire world. Peace will also be non-existent. If we continue this horrible path the world will be filled with hate, war, and people with cruel people hurting others because they are not the same.

Like I stated before, religious persecution can happen anywhere to anyone. Today in Iran, Christians are being persecuted the most. In countries like the Middle East and North Africa persecution is also a problem to the people. Persecution can spread quickly and today there are millions of people throughout the world suffering. Some people are in prison just for something they believe which does no harm to anyone. People have to take action. Many organizations are working on protecting people in danger. What people like me and you can do is donate to different organizations or even lend a hand yourself at a community event about this topic.

Many organizations are busy finding ways to show awareness and help others to learn about what is going on in the world today to prevent them from doing the same. Some organizations are even going to the places where religious persecution happens and work to save all the hurt people from being harmed even more. People like this are the ones that



can help make a difference and people should also help their world not only for others but also for themselves. Even the slightest donation can help. I'm sure that if we all work together the hate towards others and the world will take a big turn.

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RELIGIOUS RIGHTS & LIBERTY

BY SOFIA JASPE

Religious Rights

Everybody has a right to believe. Believers can choose whichever religion they want to worship. Religious rights are civil rights which let you believe what you want to. In some other places, people make you believe what they believe even though you may not believe in that. These people think they control their life. That is wrong, they are the ones who know themselves the best so, they believe in many things in that religion. Most religions have traditions they follow. If you celebrate and you would like to make a new tradition in their family they could but they cannot force other people to do the same tradition.



This is an example of a quote from a book called "Defiance" which says, "Whoever takes my freedom takes my life." This means that if you take someone's freedom away, you are basically controlling their life. Now, imagine if someone would do that to you. It would not feel good huh?



Well, if you are doing these things to others, think of it if your mom would control your life until she is no longer living. That would be very boring!!

People also shame others for not believing common religions such as Christianity. This may cause mental illnesses such as Depression and Anxiety. Let's say, if you travel to another state, country or city, you most likely see different cultures of different races of people. You may

have to adapt to their environment, or you can change your religion to blend in with the crowd. But, it is okay to show your true self even if people don't like you, it only matters if you like yourself. Religious rights protect your freedom to this what you believe. Everybody has a right to work or to choose your employment. But, in some places you cannot work according to your religion. These places are: Illinois, Delaware, Kentucky, Indiana, New Hampshire, West Virginia, New Mexico, and Missouri. There are 28 states that have the right to work law. Some people think you are different just because of your religion, it does not matter if you have different religions you can be friends with whoever you want.

Religious Liberty

Religious Freedom is the freedom of you picking a religion and the government not interfering with your choice. This is important because you have a voice and you can pick whichever religion you prefer even when



your family does not celebrate it. You may like this type of religion because you might think that the traditions are interesting. Or, you may like what they believe in. It was said in the First Amendment that freedom from religion is guaranteed to the Constitution. Freedom of religion is a

principle that supports the freedom of an individual or community, in public or private, to exhibit religion or belief in teaching their traditions, practice, support, and observance.

Why is Religious Liberty important?

It is important to have Religious Liberty because it gives us a freedom to live calmly, peacefully, and believe in what you believe.

What are religious freedom laws?

In the United States, a religious freedom bill is a bill that, according to its supporters, allows those with religious objections to certain activities to act in agreement with their beliefs without being punished by the government for doing so.

Freedom of religion is protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which prevents laws from beginning a national religion or hold back the free exercise of religion for its citizens. While the First Amendment enforces the “separation of church and state” it does not exclude religion from public life.



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ACTION PLAN

Action Plan



To change in our community, we had to act. To do this we planned on doing three things going in the morning announcements, putting up posters and presenting to the third graders. First we had to prepare our material. Half of our group made a script and a poster for the morning announcements and the other half made flyers. Then the whole group began working in the PowerPoint presentation but we did not finish it because we did not have time. Suposently the people who did not write about their

topic would finish it at home but that didn't happen due to the corona virus.

In the morning announcements we talked about the types of religions, religious persecution, religious discrimination, religious rights and religious liberty. Our poster said "RESPECT RELIGION" and had many religious symbols. We normally passed out flyers during recess and lunch if we were done eating. Our flyer contained various tips about



religion. We printed many copies of the flyers and spread them around the school. We were going to present to the 3rd graders and show them how to respect religion.



Our PowerPoint Presentation contained the types of religions, religious persecution, religious discrimination, religious rights, religious liberty and more.



**THANK YOU
FOR READING**

“You are what you believe in.
You become that which you
believe you can become”

Bhagavad Gita



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