

- Human Rights Education within German public schools –

How Grassroots Initiatives can contribute to the gaps of HRE within German public schools

An Abstract of the Thesis By

Louisa C. Klaffen

In Germany, the knowledge about human rights is troublesome. On average Germans only know 3- 7 human rights out of the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration Human Rights (UDHR). Within the German public school context, HRE has been only implemented rudimentarily and if so, only in a facultative manner. Emotional engagement towards human rights and skills on how to claim human rights for one's own life, is missing. Discrimination in German public schools is however a human rights violation that needs awareness and attention. This thesis will take a closer look at gaps of HRE within German public school. Instead of giving a detailed analysis of the German public school system, the thesis will focus on the possible contribution to these gaps by grassroots initiative. It will be argued, that the closer look at grassroots initiatives and NGOs can have a leading role in reforming HRE within German public schools.