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Intolerance against Migrants

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DeuKische Generation e.V. is an NGO founded by the German youth of Turkish descent in 2006. It seeks to overcome prejudices, to provide equality of opportunity and to further strengthen the process of participation and integration. As the speaking tube of young Germans with Turkish descent, DeuKische Generation e.V. works together with local and national politicians and the media all over Germany. Throughout the versatility of projects, the members of DeuKische Generation e.V. work completely on voluntary basis to achieve their dearest goal. Their main concern is to sensitize German society to the fact that people with a non-German descent are also part of German society and want to be accepted as equal citizens.

There are living over 16 mio. people with a non-German origin in Germany. Nearly every fifth inhabitant of Germany has a foreign origin. 2.7 mio people with a Turkish descent do represent the biggest ethnic group of people with a non-German origin. Over 600 000 of these people were born in Germany.

It is a fact that German politicians did not accept for many years that Germany is an immigration society. Therefore, Germany did not have any political regulations for the process of integration of immigrant people for years.

In recent time, this has changed. Politicians realized and accepted that Germany is an immigrant society and therefore they began to enact regulations in order to generate a better platform for integration of immigrant people. Above all, the current government of Germany took this duty by heart and did organize summits concerning integration like Islam Conference (2006 -2009) , and National Integration Summit (2006/ 2007).

Nevertheless is this just a beginning and the efforts aren't adequate. Even if we can recognize the improvements concerning this topic in politics, there is a great state of underdevelopment and backwardness in society. Germany still has to do much more for integration and participation of immigrant people in the society. There are still too many prejudices, hate-crimes and racism. Especially the media has to be more skilled in this context, because they are the ones who play an important part by the formation of opinion and prejudices within the society.

An example for this is Thilo Sarrazin. Thilo Sarrazin is a member of Social-Democratic-Party of Germany, the former minister of finance of Berlin and a management board member of the German Central Bank. 2 Months ago he released a book with the title : "Germany abolishes itself". In his book and theses he accomplishes kind of Race Theories about Turks, Arabs and Jewish people living in Germany.

Here are some theses of him:

*-Immigrant people from Turkey, Africa and the Middle East do have genetically a reduced intelligence. Since they produce more kids as Germans, they will be the reason why our country will get naturally more and more dull.*

*- All Jewish people do have a common gene which unifies them.*

*-I don't have to accept anyone, ..... ,who just produces more and more headscarf-girls.*

*-A big number of Arabs and Turks do not have an efficient function apart from for the fruit and vegetable trade.*

With the help of the German Media this book and his thesis became very popular and it was really shocking to see that over 70% of German people did agree with Sarrazins racist theories. Even 12 % would vote for his party if he'll form his own political party.

The Media did play a big role in this context and did provoke people more and more and supported prejudices. They ignored the human right of inviolability of human dignity and freedom of religion of Turkish, Arabic and Jewish people under the cover that it's freedom of expression.

German politicians tried to be calm the circumstances. Our President Mr. Wulff took a very praiseworthy speech on 3th of October where he emphasized that immigrant people and Muslim people are also part of German society and should be accepted as equal members of the society.

Again the media took this speech as feed for provocation and hated against this speech.

Since then we recognize a grown racism and intolerance to Muslim people and people with Turkish decent in Germany. A survey of the Open Society Institute in 2010 shows that over 71 % of Turks were confronted with prejudices and racism in Germany.

We think that this kind of provocation isn't healthy for the society and destroy piece and solidarity. Therefore I'd like to propose that we all should consider more representatives of the media in our work. They should be more skilled and dedicated about this topic in order to be more sensitized and gain a greater sense of empathy when they write about such topics.

( the spoken word is valid)