

SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES:

CULTIVATING ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

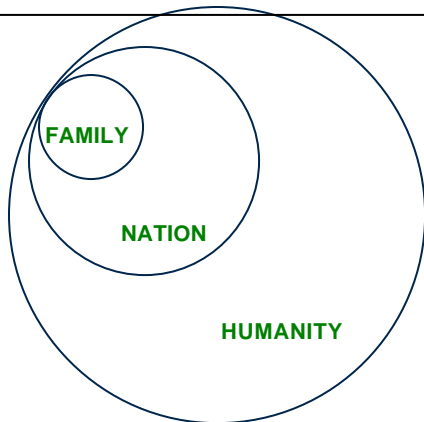
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Compare the nations of the world to the members of a family. A family is a nation in miniature. Simply enlarge the circle of the household and you have the nation. Enlarge the circle of nations and you have all humanity.

- Abdul-Bahá



SOME ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN
- CONSULTATION FOR PROBLEM SOLVING
- REWARD AND PUNISHMENT
- APPLYING VIRTUES

► THE FIVE ELEMENTS FOR CHANGE

Equality of Men and Women

"The world of humanity is possessed of two wings: the male and the female"

- Bahá'u'lláh

EXAMPLES OF PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

- THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS
- THE ADAPTATION OF WORK ENVIRONMENTS
- WOMEN IN THE WORLD PEACE PROCESS

As long as women are prevented from attaining their highest possibilities, so long will men be unable to achieve the greatness which might be theirs.

- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Consultation for problem solving

→ A distinctive method of non-adversarial decision-making

EXAMPLES OF PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

- GATHER INFORMATION FROM ALL SOURCES POSSIBLE
- DON'T EMPHASIZE POINT OF VIEWS
- ALL IDEAS PUT FORTH BELONG TO THE GROUP
- THE GROUP STRIVES FOR UNANIMITY, IF NONE STRIVE FOR MAJORITY
- COMMITMENT FOR JOINT ACTION

Reward and punishment

"That which traineth the world is Justice, for it is upheld by two pillars, reward and punishment."

- Bahá'u'lláh

EXAMPLES OF PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

- INDIVIDUAL JUSTICE VS SOCIAL JUSTICE
- CREATE A REWARD SYSTEM
- IDEAL: CRIME ITSELF IS THE BIGGEST PUNISHMENT

Applying virtues

Cultivate Virtue in your self,
And Virtue will be real.
Cultivate it in the family,
And Virtue will abound.
Cultivate in the the village,
And Virtue will grow.
Cultivate it in the nation,
And Virtue will be abundant.
Cultivate it in the universe,
And Virtue will be everywhere.

- Lao Tsu

WHY VIRTUES NOT VALUES?

- VIRTUES ARE THE QUALITIES OF CHARACTER
- VALUES ARE CULTURE SPECIFIC
- VIRTUES ARE UNIVERSAL VALUES

<http://www.virtuesproject.com>

THE VIRTUES PROJECT™ STRATEGIES

- SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF THE VIRTUES
- RECOGNIZE TEACHABLE MOMENTS
- SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES
- HONOR THE SPIRIT
- OFFER SPIRITUAL COMPANIONING™

<http://www.virtuesproject.com>

The five elements for change



Theory by: José Ignacio Mata (USAID)

- THE FIRST ELEMENT:
"THE RULES OF THE GAME"
- THE SECOND ELEMENT:
TECHNOLOGY
- THE THIRD ELEMENT:
EDUCATION
- THE FOURTH ELEMENT:
ETHIC

- THE FIFTH ELEMENT:



- THE FIFTH ELEMENT:

LOVE AND SOLIDARITY

► THE "EXTRA MILE"

The five elements for change

