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## **SOCIAL DIMENSION OF A HUMAN PERSON SEARCHING THE INNER MOTIVATIONS**

No one is an island. Every person is immersed into environment, into the society. Links with the society are not merely external (geographical, political, racial), but also internal (values, beliefs, goals). These are very important in building the identity of the person. Active citizenship requires an inner motivation of the person and such a motivation comes up from well-formed individuality. Subjective and social dimension come together. If we believe that the active participation is required for functioning well the democratic society, then we ought to approach the question how to foster this inner process.

In the intensive journal workshop *Personal diary* that we have been propose for twenty years, following the method of Ira Progoff, offers an interesting written exercise by which a person can investigate and develop his/her own social dimension. This exercise enables the participant to explore history, cultural background, national history, race, professional identity, and other social dimensions. "At various points in our life, it becomes important that we deepen our group situation into which we were born. This may be a notional group, Italian or English or Japanese. It may involve not only biological connections but the geographic ties of living in a particular area, being mountaineers or farmers or city workers, living in the South or West or East of a particular country" (Ira Progoff).

Each person slowly through the personal experience develops this social dimension. The awareness of these levels enriches the personal life and energizes for personal involvement. Through the active participation the person may experience and develop particular talents, personal interests, inner motivations, formulate personal goals and discover the meaning of the his/her life and the meaning of the community to which he/she belongs. "As we continue to work in the *Intensive journal process* over a period of time, these relationships have an opportunity to grow and change and deepen themselves. Our social identifications are not necessarily fixed, therefore, by a decision or commitment that we make at any particular point in our lives. As our inner experience deepens, our social identifications can be correspondingly deepened and enlarged in their meaning and in the quality of action which they suggest to us" (Ira Progoff).

The individual cannot develop his/her own identity without discovering and developing his/her social dimension. By discovering this dimension and reasons why to be involved in some particular social action an aspiration for active participation grows up. In the time of the European enlargement and a modest participation from the part of electorate in some elections in the last period of time something more should be done in adult education. I believe that also the suggested exercise within the context of the whole seminar is very valuable opportunity to promote active citizenship.