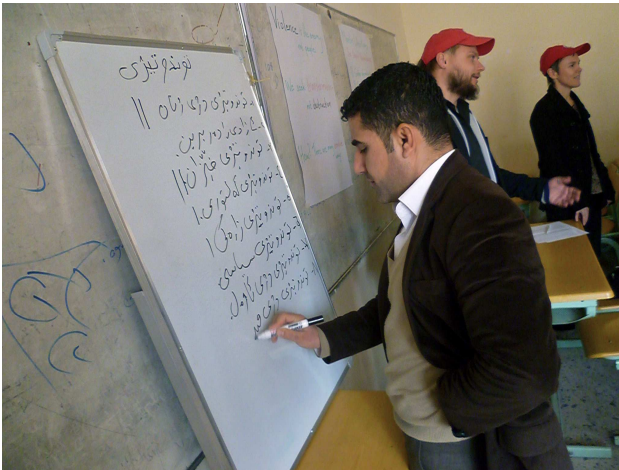


christian peacemaker teams

IRAQI KURDISTAN



NON-VIOLENCE WORKSHOPS

EVALUATION REPORT

Introduction

We, as Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), are an independent international human rights organization. We have worked in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq since 2006, learning about the human rights situation, and documenting the violence that the Kurdish society faces from within, and from outside the region. We have been active in advocating for peaceful solutions, supporting the work of the non-violent communities in Kurdistan, as well as bringing these issues to the attention of the international community.

In order to further promote non-violence as an effective tool to resist violence, we created a workshop about the philosophy and practice of non-violence in social life. We presented the workshop to high school students and other people. In the workshop, we aimed to introduce the principles and methods of non-violence based on the experiences of Kurdish activists, as well as communities of other nations, in their civil and peaceful struggle against violence, and in defence of their rights. Through the presentation of these international and regional experiences, discussion and interactive activities, our hope was to inspire and encourage young people to learn and think more deeply about the philosophy and power of non-violence, and the ways in which non-violence could be applied in their own lives, and in the life of their community.

In February 2013 with the assistance of the Directorate of Education of Suleimani, we conducted the workshops in five high schools in Suleimani city with 184 students from 10th—12th grades. In addition, we led the workshop in Suleimani: twice in the Culture Café and once in Café 11. Later on, we also conducted the workshop in Daraban village near Ranya, Ferhangkhana Center in Qaladize and Amez Center for Women in Halabja. 81 people participated in the workshops in those places. At the end of each workshop, we asked the participants to fill out evaluation forms and share their opinions about the content and style of the workshop, as well as their recommendations for the future. We have compiled the results of the evaluation and present them here in this report .

Contents - The evaluation questions

For the evaluation, the attendees were asked the following questions – the responses to which are contained in the graphs and data in this report:

- Do you think this kind of workshop was important for you?
- Do you want to know more about the philosophy of non-violence?
- Was the length of the workshop OK, too short, or too long?
- What did you find most interesting about the workshop?
- What did you learn?
- How do you think the workshop could be improved?

The responses we received were very diverse, and we categorised them accordingly, into the groupings you see in the individual charts.

The next step

CPT Iraqi Kurdistan feels very inspired by the evaluation results and would like to encourage Iraqi Kurdistan civil society organizations, as well as government officials, especially those working for the ministry of education and ministry of higher education, to provide for and create more opportunities for students and other segments of society to learn about non-violence. Participants of our workshops stressed very strongly that such workshops were important for them, and they also expressed a strong desire to learn more about non-violence as a tool to defend against violence.

CPT would also like to encourage students, teachers, principals, and the directors of education in the different parts of Iraqi Kurdistan to ask for more and more in-depth workshops and trainings covering non-violence. We hope that the authorities and civil society will respond positively to these requests.

Thanks

CPT would like to extend a special thanks to:

- The Director of Education of the Suleimani Directorate
- The Media Director of the Suleimani Directorate of Education
- The principals and teachers of the schools
- The representative of the Kurdistan Student Organization
- All those who helped to organize the workshops

Our very special thanks go to everyone who participated in the workshops and filled out the evaluations.

Contact information

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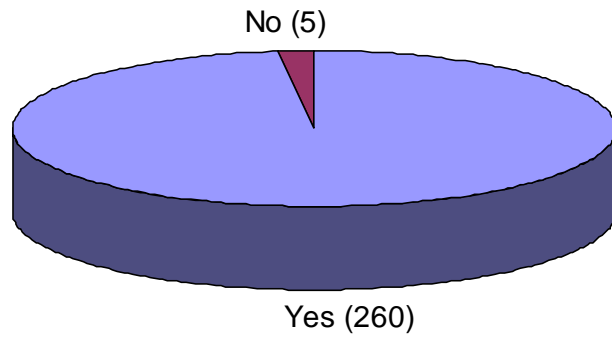
Website: www.cpt.org/work/iraq

Blog: www.cpt-iraqikurdistan.blogspot.com

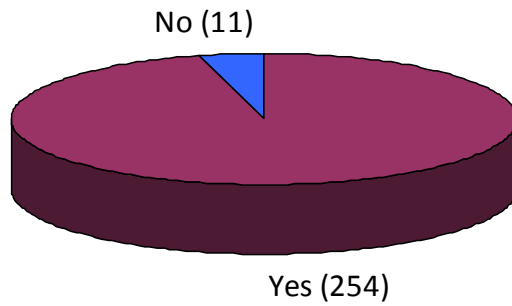
Facebook: www.facebook.com/cpt.ik



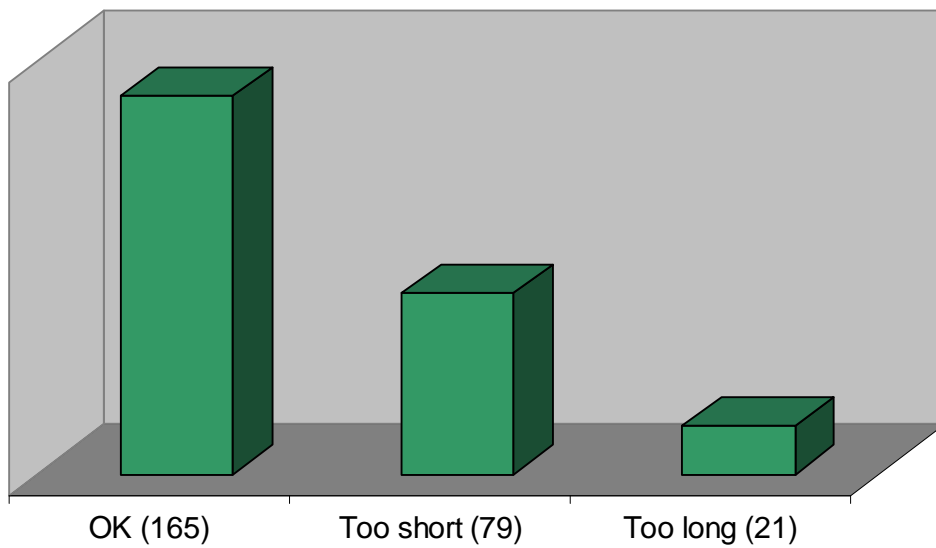
Do you think this kind of workshop was important for you?



Do you want to know more about the philosophy of non-violence?



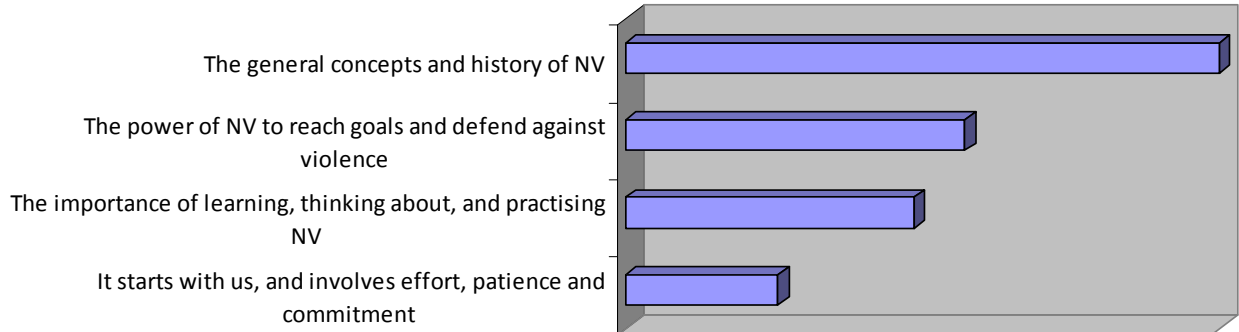
Was the length of the workshop OK, too short or too long?



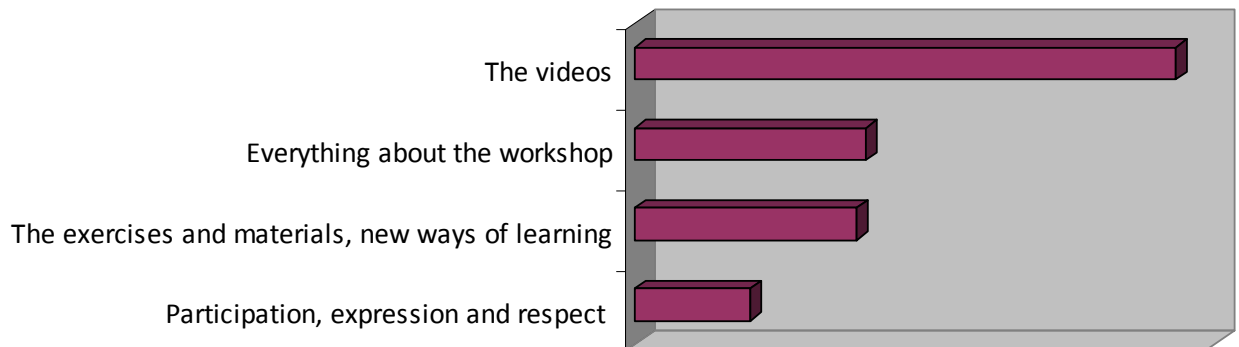
WHAT DID YOU FIND MOST INTERESTING ABOUT THE WORKSHOP?

(Total 243 responses)

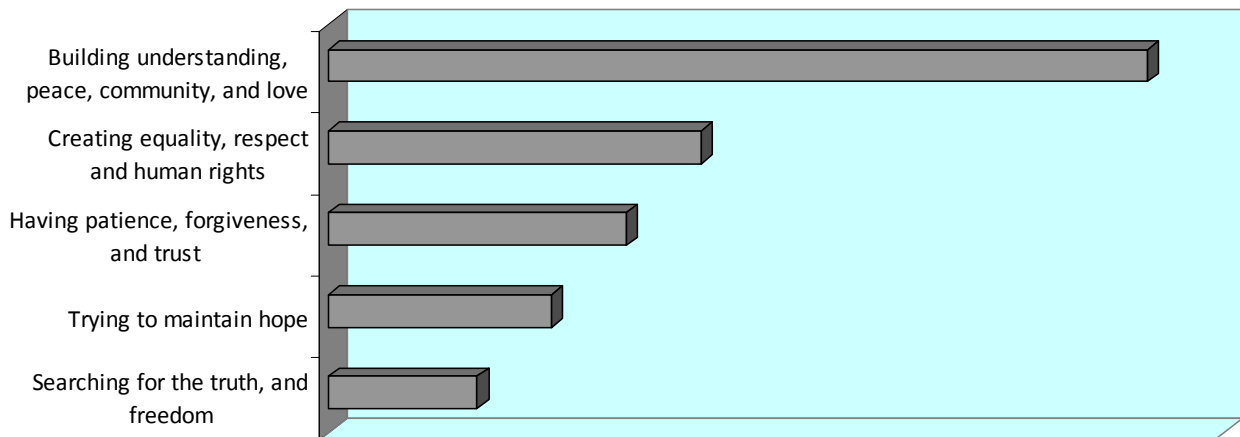
About non-violence (NV) and violence (81 responses)



About the workshop format (115 responses)



About rights, freedom, attitudes and lifestyle (25 responses)



Other (22 responses)

The translation

The evaluation

So much advice & important information!

Trainer's dedication (time/energy for preparation)

Important things that we didn't have any idea about

Knowledge and information

"Fixing" the community and the society

Dishonesty of fellow students

Fun

I don't know

Nothing important because I think that in this society no one is interested in these things

Foreigners / trainers from different countries

A most interesting thing is that foreigners take an interest in our problems

Try to understand the goal of life

I have to look at myself again

I have never participated in anything like this

That I need to be like a tree, if someone throws a rock at me I have to give him my fruit

This was necessary for the school, especially for some people

The things that you talked about are things that happen in our lives

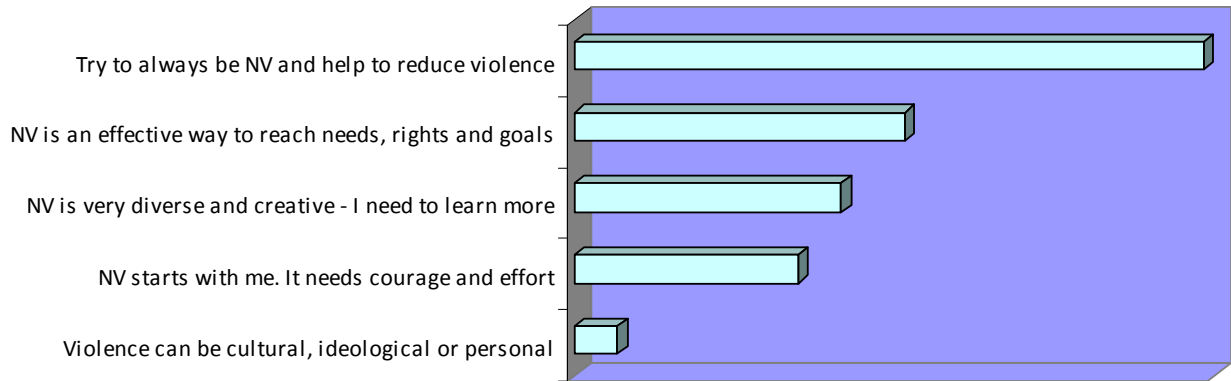
There is injustice at the Kurdish authorities

So many hidden things!

Some things you talked about won't work in reality

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN?
(Total 214 responses)**

About non-violence (NV) and violence (140 responses)



About rights, freedom, attitudes and lifestyle (64 responses)



My life is
My message
GANDHI

Other (10 responses)

That everyone has the right to life and freedom of speech

So many things about human rights

Experience of different groups, especially people of colour

How a peaceful life has a special taste

There are people who are very friendly with other human beings

Many things about how life will be beautiful if we learn to solve things in a peaceful way

To plant the roots of love among the individuals in society

In order to make peace we have to think less of ourselves, and be less competitive

I have learned about the struggles of civil society

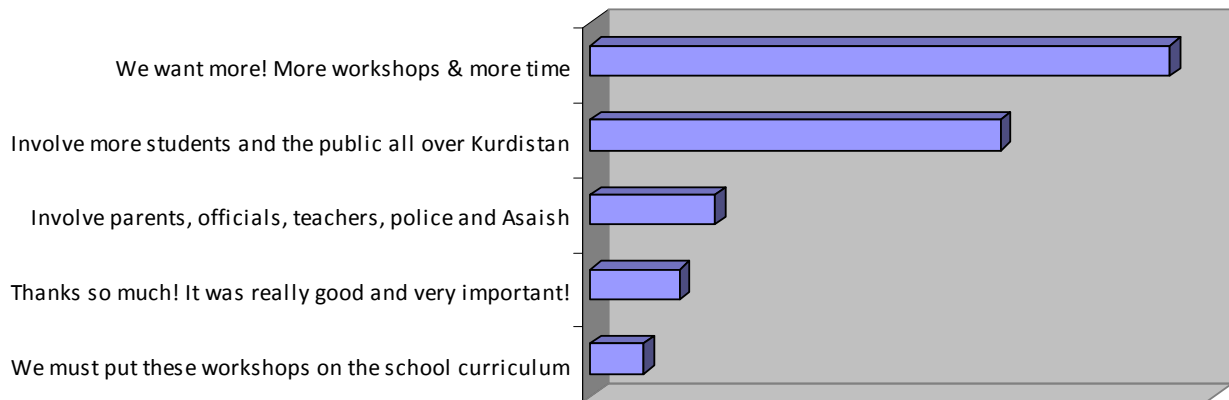
I need to be more active and committed to non-violence



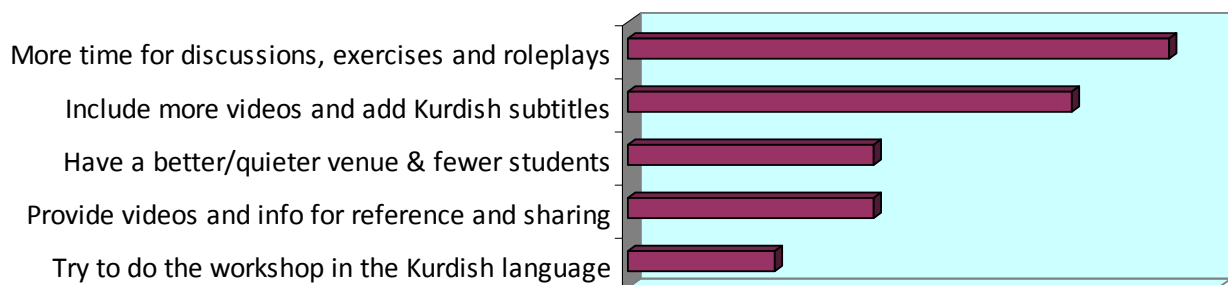
HOW DO YOU THINK THE WORKSHOP COULD BE IMPROVED?

(Total 214 responses)

On the theme "Do it more!" (141 responses)



About the workshop format (33 responses)



Other (12 responses)

Show more non-violence campaigns and examples from Kurdistan and the world

Try to involve mullahs to be trainers, the non-violence you can see only in Islam

Workshops on related topics like gender issues and sexual violence

Use the media to promote the workshops

Do the workshops in different countries

Put the workshop on the internet

Talk more about the philosophy of violence and history of violence

Participants to share stories of violence and non-violence from their lives

Try to develop your communication with the people

Talk more about the education and culture of the individuals in the society

We want to have more contact with the outside world and know about differences

Talk more about student's problems

