

Formation Guérison des mémoires -Grand- Popo 2024

EXCHANGES OF VIEWS on collective wounds

Our personal reflections led us to identify the different feelings or wounds we had noticed with those around us and the people we knew, and we listed wounds such as: hatred, anarchy, anger, fear, depression, discouragement, humiliation, slavery and rejection.

Our collective reflections, with the help of Mr Bruno Haden, enabled us to revisit the various wounds listed above, and we gave a great deal of thought to the subject of slavery, hence the question "How is slavery present in the lives of the Togolese people today?"

We thought it would be useful to bring all these wounds together in a single word, "**intergenerational wound**", because it is possible that all these wounds have been passed on from generation to generation from a collective point of view.

The search for accounts was carried out separately, each of us at our own level, as we both chose the wound that particularly affected us and called on people who were indirectly part of our network of people we knew. We also noticed that the sources of these wounds had always been kept silent because some people didn't want to talk about them.

The origin of Testimonial I is the unlimited strike of 1992 and it is a very old wound that Mr SOSSOU Raoul, a retired teacher, had the pleasure of recounting to us as a victim who lived through those painful moments.

The origin of Testimonial II, whose source is COVID 19, as a recent injury still alive in everyone's mind, was recounted by Mrs BATENTA Sankassa, a seller at Assivito.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN QUESTIONNAIRE

1) PERSONAL REFLECTION

The different ancient wounds most often felt :

- Hatred
- Injustice
- Anger

- Betrayal

The various recent wounds :

- Depression
- Contempt
- Discouragement
- Fear

2) COLLECTIVE REFLECTION

Two old wounds that affect us in particular:

- Injustice
- Betrayal

Two recent wounds that affect us in particular:

- Fear
- Discouragement

3) The sources of the old wounds go back to the event of '**the unlimited strike of 1992**' in TOGO.

The source of the more recent wounds goes back to the **CORONAVIRUS (COVID19) epidemic in TOGO.**

These events :

In some people or groups concerned, they were rather violent, heinous, angry while in others there was mutism, fear and discouragement.

In this context :

The OTHERS: the victims

US: the survivors

THEM: the oppressors

PEOPLE INTERVIEWED

- Testimonial I

" Often when I think back on it, I am overcome with fear, it was horrible. It was a hunt for people identified as opponents or rebels and our hours were counted because the bullets rained down from everywhere and at close range. It's sincerely serious because how can one person organise such a massacre against an entire population?"

Mr SOSSOU Raoul, retired teacher in LOME (TOGO)

-Testimonial II

"In a day everything changed in our lives, everything was blocked and stopped, we ended up at home with very strict curfews. My small business collapsed under the constraints of COVID19. I felt discouraged and devastated with the hope of not contracting the disease and ending up in quarantine and eventually dying."

Mrs BATENTA Sankassa, seller at Assivito market