

# Service, solidarity and social justice



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Sudent Number Service, Solidarity, and Social Justice Summary The highlights the neglected issues of loss and grief; that is, making meaning of suffering and death in the form of consolation and solidarity. Fields such as medicine and public health seem to cover such issues insufficiently yet typical clinical practices encounter them often. The author further claims that reflecting on suffering is not the same as dealing with it. Some pain results from premature illness yet some are due to poverty. The author notes that one may wonder where the victims can turn for inspiration and hope. The author identifies Gustavo, Martin and Romero as personalities who offered voices to champion for the poor and the oppressed. In the author's view, social injustices and suffering do have an exact form of measure thereby making it difficult to quantify or minimize.

The three personalities showed solidarity with the poor, fought for their rights and stood by them. However, the culprits oppressing the disadvantage take every measure to ensure they continue with their oppression; a good example being the killings of Romero and Gustavo when they were campaigning against the oppression of the poor. The author proposes that the best way to deal with suffering and violence is to lay down fundamentals such as schools and hospitals. Additionally, many other allies to join the fight against oppression the way Martin Luther and the predecessors have done in the past. In summary, the author views accompaniments as the best way of dealing with grief and loss.

#### Reflection

One of the author's main point of argument is that fields such as medicine and public health are neglecting the issue of grief and loss. I think this is not true because one of the fundamental principles taught to medicine students

is how to console their patients and make them feel at home even when they are facing the toughest challenges such as cancer. In my opinion, doctors and public health officials offer much consolation the same way the liberation fighters provide solidarity to the poor. On the other hand, I strongly concur with the author that indeed it is quite challenging to quantify the amount of suffering one experience. Suffering that causes grief and loss are subjective in that what I view as suffering may not be misery to another person. The controversial view of suffering makes it hard to dealing with it. Respecting and acknowledging the efforts that activists such as Romero, Gustavo, and Martin did put in liberating the poor from oppression is not inevitable as they impacted on the lives of the helpless at a time of need. Sometimes, the disadvantaged needs a voice to lead them so that they can march forward in solidarity to resist any oppression against them. The efforts of Martin junior, Romero and many other pioneers in the fight against oppressing the poor formed the foundation for today's human rights activists. Currently, the world is very liberal. However, insignificant one may perceive their initiatives, the fruits of their labor resonates to date. It fosters the belief that every step is vital for the initiation of change in the society. Thanks to the firm foundation. Lastly, the accompaniment may not be the best way of dealing with a loss because there are many root causes of the same. Actual actions such as poverty reduction, enhancing equality and making conditions of living better may be appropriate measures.