Lesson 22: Stepping Into Action

What can you do when you see something that is causing a public problem? You can take responsible action to help solve the problem. Here is how:

1. **GET ORGANISED** Find people who share your concerns.

2. **DEFINE THE PROBLEM** Write it down. Be specific. For whom is a problem being caused?

3. **GET THE FACTS** Study all sides of the issue. Who is responsible or in a position to make changes? What has already been done?

4. **BRAINSTORM IDEAS** List all ideas, even wild and crazy ones. Pick the ones that might work. Discuss possible consequences. Identify your spokesperson. Come up with an action plan. What methods are we going to use?

a) Information fact sheets
b) Letters to the Editor
c) Posters Call-in Programmes
d) Marches/demonstrations
e) Petitions
f) Speakers
g) Contacting elected officials
h) Press conferences
i) Radio/television/press coverage

5. **DO IT!** Implement the plan.

Remember that the democratic process can only work when citizens have the courage to face conflict fairly and deal constructively with change. Our world needs more people like you!

YOUR CHALLENGES!

1. Class activity - List as many public problems as you can which take place in your country and community.
2. With a group of your classmates, choose one public problem and use "Stepping Into Action" to resolve it.

As a peacemaker I learned

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