

# Venezuela

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# THE MATERIALISTIC THINKING OF YOUNG PEOPLE

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ENGLISH- 270 A

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At present, young people are faced with different situations, difficulties and drastic changes personally, family and community. This document deals with the issue of consumerism in youth, focusing mainly on situations and aspects that provoke material thoughts, values, feelings, fictitious needs and a loss of identity.

Nowadays more and more young people have a materialistic thought because they do not worry about what happens in their environment, they just think that they must possess more objects, their values change with respect to the paradigms that society dictates: "having money and owning things make us be better ", that is why" The individual strives to succeed and not to be a person "(Lowen, 2007: 12), We do not settle for what we have or meet our real needs, but every time we want more and we create false needs. Most people think that by acquiring material things they will be happy, but I think it is a false and fleeting happiness. To have this false need to acquire objects we leave aside the step towards a change, the possibility of helping the planet, having empathy towards others and doing something to help them, not buying things that are often absurd, unnecessary, not trying to belong to society by acquiring objects and materials. "Being, reduced by having", "Things that we possess, possess us" (Lowen, 2005: 17)

This change of thought arises because young people want to fit into today's society, which from childhood creates stereotypes: "Those who have more, are worth more or deserve more respect."

Some factors that influence values, the way of being and thinking of many young people are due to social disconnection, this factor now has a lot of weight in our lives. Technology and its misuse has caused young people a disconnection towards the real world. Another aspect to highlight is the large amount of advertising that we see every day, which causes a destructive environment, low self-esteem, the desire to be someone that we really are not and consequently young people wanting to shelter that fear of rejection in materialism.

"We produce a lot of emotional poison by making assumptions" - (Ruiz, 1997: 29)  
Many young people suffer because they think they will be rejected or they will not be accepted in a group, due to the fact that they do not have many material things, we

must leave those things aside and be ourselves, not be manipulated by anyone, or think that we are not worth not having the same or what is fashionable, we must start living without worrying about what others say, because we will never move towards what really makes us happy, towards what we really want to achieve, we create a false and unprecedented happiness when acquiring objects

At first I did not realize the enormous impact it has had on my life, I have always thought about being like other girls, "I want to be like that girl", "I need those shoes, that sweater", "I need to be in tune with others (fashion) ", " That's the car of my dreams ". After becoming aware and reflecting on this issue I realized that I do not need to be this way to be accepted by others; the people who really love me will do so because of my way of being, not because of what I have. I feel that respect is earned for your actions and not for your possessions.

I must be active, instead of waiting for someone else to do something, stop thinking about materialism and look for ways to bring about a change to the planet, to society and to myself, promote values starting with me and moving forward with my family and friends, make my "own" decisions, not letting publicity, paradigms or other people make them for me, and act towards a more sustainable world.

#### REFERENCES.

Miguel Ruiz. (1997). Los Cuatro Acuerdos. Barcelona, España: Urano.

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Francisco. (2015). Laudato. 02/07/2017, de aciprensa Sitio web: <https://www.aciprensa.com/Docum/LaudatoSi.pdf>

**Procedure:**

The first step was generating ideas:



Then, writing the outline:

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What causes material thoughts
- ✓ Factors that influence values
- ✓ A personal perspective
- ✓ Conclusion

After that, I hand wrote my first draft based on the books that I have read recently; I checked it for content and form.

Here is my second draft:

At present young people are faced with different situations, difficulties and drastic changes both personal, family and community.

This document will deal with the issue of consumerism in youth, focusing mainly on situations and aspects that provoke material thoughts, values, feelings, fictitious needs and a loss of identity.

Nowadays more and more young people have a materialistic thought; they do not worry about what happens in their environment, they just think that they must possess more objects, their values change with respect to the paradigms that society dictates: "Have money and own things make us be better"; that is why "The individual strives to succeed and not to be a person" (Lowen, 2007: 12). We do not settle for what we have or meet our real needs, but every time we want more and we create false needs, most people think that by acquiring material things they will be happy, but I think it is a false and fleeting happiness, to have this false need to acquire objects we leave aside the step towards a change, the possibility of helping the planet, having empathy towards others and doing something to help them, stop buying things that are often absurd, unnecessary, do not try to belong to society by acquiring objects and materials. "Being, reduced by having", "The things that we possess, possess us" (Lowen, 2005: 17)

This change of thought arises because young people want to fit into today's society, which from childhood creates stereotypes, "those who have more, are worth more or deserve more respect."

Some factors that influence the values, the way of being and thinking of many young people are due to social disconnection, this factor now has a lot of weight in our lives, technology and its misuse have caused young people a disconnection towards the real world, another aspect to highlight is the large amount of advertising that we see every day, which causes a destructive environment, low self-esteem, the desire to be someone that we really are not and consequently young people wanting to shelter that fear of rejection in the materialism.

"We produce a lot of emotional poison by making assumptions" - (Ruiz, 1997: 29)  
Many young people suffer because they think they will be rejected or they will not be accepted in a group, due to the fact that they do not have many material things, we must leave those things aside and be ourselves, not be manipulated by anyone, or think that we are not worth not having the same or what is fashionable, we must start living without worrying <sup>about</sup> what others say, because we will never move towards what really makes us happy, towards what we really want to achieve, we create a false and unprecedented happiness when acquiring objects.

### (CONCLUSION.)

It's a topic that <sup>at</sup> first I did not realize the enormous impact it has had on my life, I've always thought about being like other girls, "I want to be like that girl", "I need those shoes, sweater", "I need to be in tuning in with others (fashions)", "that's the car of my dreams". After becoming aware and reflecting on this issue I realized that I do not need to be this way to be accepted by others, the people who really love me will do it because of my way of being, not because of what I have, I feel that respect is earned for your actions and not for your possessions.

I must be active, not wait for someone else to do something <sup>instead of waiting</sup> (about it), stop thinking about materialism and look for ways to bring about a change to the planet, to society and to myself, promote values starting with me and move forward with my family and friends, take my "own" decisions, not letting publicity, paradigms or other people take them for me, act towards a more sustainable world.

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Finally, I wrote the final draft, which appears at the beginning of this document.