

Edmund Rice Reflection

July 2016

A reflection on social justice

"I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is that they must change if they are to get better."

— **Georg Christoph Lichtenberg**

"The opposite of poverty is not wealth. In too many places, the opposite of poverty is justice."

— **Bryan Stevenson**

"Genuine equality means not treating everyone the same, but attending equally to everyone's different needs."

— **Terry Eagleton**

"Social justice has to do with issues such as poverty, inequality, war, racism, sexism, abortion, and lack of concern for ecology because what lies at the root at each of these is not so much someone's private sin but rather a huge, blind system that is inherently unfair."

— **Ronald Rolheiser**

"The world howls for social justice, but when it comes to social responsibility, you sometimes can't even hear crickets chirping."

— **Dean Koontz**

Question: What social justice issues matter in your own life? Why do they matter to you? What is something you that you do, or not do about them?

Song: Song: Imagine – John Lennon



Imagine there's no heaven
 It's easy if you try
 No hell below us
 Above us only sky
 Imagine all the people living for
 today
 Imagine there's no countries
 It isn't hard to do
 Nothing to kill or die for
 And no religion too
 Imagine all the people living life in
 peace

You may say I'm a dreamer
 But I'm not the only one
 I hope some day you'll join us
 And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions
 I wonder if you can
 No need for greed or hunger

A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people sharing all the world

You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one

From hearing each person's thoughts on social justice **what is one insight you have had about yourself, your life, or the world?**

Presence

Compassion

Liberation

Edmund Rice Prayer

O God
We thank you for the life of Edmund Rice
He opened his heart to Christ present in those oppressed by poverty and
injustice.
May we follow his example of faith and generosity.
Grant us the courage and compassion of Edmund as we seek to live lives of
love and service
We ask this through Christ our Lord
Amen.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever.

