



LET'S PLAY, LET'S ACT

FORUM THEATRE

Cyprus LTTA

16 - 20 February, 2017

FOUNDER

- Augusto Boal was a Brazilian theatre director, writer and politician. He was the founder of Theatre of the Oppressed
- Born: March 16, 1931, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Died: May 2, 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augusto_Boal*



- A play or scene, usually indicating some kind of oppression (negative situation), is shown twice. During the replay, any member of the audience ('spect-actor') is allowed to shout 'Stop!', step forward and take the place of one of the oppressed characters, showing how they could change the situation to enable a different outcome. Several alternatives may be explored by different spect-actors. The other actors remain in character, improvising their responses.



- <http://dramaresource.com/forum-theatre>

So what did we do?

- A scenario was formed so as to get in the same place as a migrant/refugee student.
- A migrant student comes to Cyprus and wants to play with some kids. Unfortunately, these kids are not very friendly but they treat him in a racist way.
- Frozen scene. How do you think kids welcome migrant student?



Who is the migrant student? Why did you choose this particular kid?

Next...

- We had some group work on deciding what might have happened before and after this incident.



So...



- Three friends were sitting and talking about what they would do on their weekend.



- This boy sees the three friends and wonders if he can go close to them and ask them to play.



- Finally, he decides to do it! “I will go and ask them to play”, he thinks.
- Can I play with you?
- How does the young boy look? Feelings ?



- “Oh, he must be a migrant. He surely smells very bad. And look at that clothes. They are different from ours. These migrants eat our food. We must send him away”, the three friends say each other.



- “We have to do something right now.”
- “We don’t like you. Get out of here. Don’t you understand”?



- “Let’s throw stones at him. This will keep him away...”



- “Don’t you dare come close to us again”!

Then ...

- SO at that time, the rest of the students had the chance to say “STOP” and get in the play so as to change things!



- “Why do you treat him that way? He is just a boy!”



- “Would you like to be treated the same way”?

Then another student...



- “We all are different between us. Nobody is the same with someone else”.

And another one ...



- “Just give him a chance to get to know him”

And more ...



- “We are all children. We deserve to be treated with respect. We just want to PLAY!!!”

So finally ...



- “Sorry. Let’s start from the beginning”!

Thank you !!! You were excellent!



Let's try to find out why?



- “Why did you act like that to the migrant boy”?

Our turn!!!

- Let's try to do it!
- We would like the help of our teachers.
- We will be divided into four teams.
- Each team will decide a similar scenario in which somebody is oppressed.
- Write it down to your handout notebook.
- Decide roles and actors.
- The stage is yours!