



# Connecting with secular organisations through a Catholic lens

## Who are we?

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Share the Dignity is an Australian women's charity bringing dignity to homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence through distribution of sanitary items and funding funerals of those killed as a result of domestic violence. We believe all women matter and all women deserve dignity and justice.



# Social Catholic Teaching

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**CST**

**IN 3 MINUTES**



Share the Dignity

Cotton On Foundation and  
Mannya Uganda

Oxfam Australia

Teaching



# Why Catholic Social Teaching?

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**“Members of the millennial generation consistently reflect the opinion that helping the poor and outcast is as central to the practice of their faith as the life of the sacraments or the doctrinal articles found in creeds. This is a rising generation whose understanding of discipleship clearly includes a healthy dose of concern for social justice. Catholic social teaching, then, can serve as a unifying force, a banner under which believers may rally even if they remain somewhat divided on certain matters regarding the internal life of the Church...it is a promising possibility to look to the Church’s teaching on economic, political, and social issues with pride and hope.”**

Massaro, SJ, Thomas,. Living Justice : Catholic Social Teaching in Action, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2011. ProQuest Ebook Central,

**Open New Horizons For Spreading Joy**

# How CST can be used in teaching and learning

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# Mannya, Uganda



<https://vimeo.com/174618089>

# Examples

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## Unit of work

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pd52iptYqhJJj7P2w0lXna8VUT5kEleAKJycW7Xmp0M/edit>

## Student sample

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ImY7bofN7nJFgI9-3igz10YoZa9hIB\\_0WCUmDAy3q5U/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ImY7bofN7nJFgI9-3igz10YoZa9hIB_0WCUmDAy3q5U/edit)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/106y10W3yGJHMur0S9CXiplEUeidtSWbW0dPafekxUcQ/edit>

# Share the Dignity

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**What Catholic values do you see in this organisation?**

# Dignity of the human person

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At Share the Dignity we believe everybody has the basic right to have access to sanitary items.

## **Pope Francis- Laudato Si**

**“Those who are committed to defending human dignity can find in the Christian faith the deepest reasons for this commitment. How wonderful is the certainty that each human life is not adrift in the midst of hopeless chaos, in a world ruled by pure chance or endlessly recurring cycles!”**

## **Genesis 1:27**

“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them”

# Preferential option for the poor

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This is shown in Share the Dignity's commitment to the wellbeing of people who are less fortunate and cannot afford sanitary items. That is why Share the Dignity has 3500 volunteers and is growing everyday. As a school this is an active way to live out the teachings of Jesus.

Jesus through his words and deeds always advocated for the most vulnerable and marginalised people.

## **Luke 6:20-26**

Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

# Subsidiarity and participation

Share the Dignity works closely with the organisations that support women in need. This is how a small group of women collecting sanitary items has grown to support countless women. Share the Dignity listened to what was a need and worked hard to create independence for the women; because of this Share the Dignity now has:

- It's in the Bag campaign
- [Pink Box Dignity Vending machines](#)
- April/August Drive
- Because we Care

As a volunteer you contribute to your local community even though Share the Dignity is a National charity

Subsidiarity is the understanding that decisions need to be made by the people directly involved and that initiatives should be undertaken on a local level and a national level.

Catholic organisations Share the Dignity work with are:

- St Vincent de Paul
- One love in Christ
- Sacred Heart Mission
- Catholic Care
- Mission Australia
- Good Samaritan housing
- St John of God

# Solidarity and the common good

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Matthew 25: 31-40

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

Solidarity and the common good is based on the belief that we are all part of God's community and that we need to support one another.

## Love your neighbour

This embodies the legacy of Share the Dignity; Rochelle saw a need in her community and did not ignore it but instead made a change.

**What schools can do...**

# Big fundraisers

## Dignity Drive

Twice a year we collect sanitary items that are donated to our registered charities. Our Charity Partners then supply homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence with dignity at a time they need it most. Dignity Drives happen in April and August. This is probably our most life changing campaign, therefore, we need your help.

Surround yourself  
with people who get it.

Get your friends together and donate sanitary items to the  
April & August #dignitydrives.



## It's in the Bag

Each November we collect handbags filled with personal care products. We distribute these Christmas gifts through our partner shelters and charitable organisations. Our partner charities give them to homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence. Due to the high demand at Christmas we need your help.

## Activities for All

We believe all kids need sports! Share The Dignity provides free kids activities to children in crisis. We partner with sporting, arts and STEM clubs to provide free access for these kids. These lovely organisations provide these children with at least six months of lessons but most of all, a safe and friendly community.



## Because we care

Share The Dignity believes that women deserve a lifetime of dignity and safety. The Because We Care initiative covers funeral costs for women killed by violent family members. Our generous cash donors and businesses provide the much needed funds.



## Dignity Vending Machines

We place free pad and tampon vending machines in schools and public toilets where they're needed most. We believe that no woman should ever have to choose between eating and buying sanitary products. No girl should ever have to miss a day of school because she can't afford pads and tampons. We fund Dignity vending machines through cash donations and corporate sponsorship.

# How can you get involved?

- If you are over 18 you can join a team of volunteers that make this charity run.
- Share the Dignity always needs donations to help various initiatives such as Because we Care. You can hold a fundraiser and donate the proceeds to Share the Dignity.
- Activate your community in our April and August drives when people around Australia donate sanitary items.
- Create a handbag of personal products in November for our It's in the Bag campaign.
- Raise money for a [Vending Machine](#).

# Schools who have already helped

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- Loreto
- Catholic Ladies College
- Mount St Joseph Girls' College
- Sacred Heart College
- St. Francis of Assisi Wodonga
- Avila College
- Catholic Regional College
- Marian College
- Our Lady of Mercy
- St Joseph's Girls College

*Thankyou*

**JOIN  
US AND  
SHARE  
THE  
Dignity**



**There are over 85,000 women  
urgently needing our help this year.**

By donating sanitary items to your nearest collection point **this APRIL & AUGUST**, you are making a difference to women who are struggling to maintain a sense of dignity during their period.

Find your local collection centre at [www.sharethedignity.com.au](http://www.sharethedignity.com.au)