# **Train the Trainer Course, Day 3**

# **Scenario:** Compulsory Schooling

**Case**

A young couple belonging to a minority religious group moves into a neighbourhood where all residents are part of the majority religious group. There is no school in the vicinity offering religious education or meals acceptable from a religious point of view which are suitable to the needs of the daughter of the couple.

After mediation, the school is willing to undertake some modifications to its dietary plan but is not willing to introduce religious education suited to the minority religion. This leads the couple to refuse to send their daughter to school, thus violating the law according to which all children have to attend school upon turning seven.

After some time, the police/school inspectors fine the parents and sentence them to community labour. At the same time, the daughter is obliged to go to the local school, where she is bullied and left out for her different appearance and behaviour.

**Questions:**

1. Do you believe that the action of not including classes of religious education is proportionate? Please argue for or against.
2. Do you believe that the penalties imposed and the fact that the daughter was forced to go to the local school was a proportionate response for the authorities? Please argue for or against.