

- “What would you do, if it was you?”

This is one of the questions that I’ve heard the most for the last few months.

- “I don’t know. It is not me.”

I can tell without others' help this is not the answer people expect to hear. I can tell without others' help this is not the most popular answer to give. I can tell from the bottom of my heart, this is, in my opinion, the most honest answer any of us could give to that question.

Empathy means that I can get out of my shoes and share the path with these people who arrived here with a hand full of dreams and a backpack full with memories, I can get out of my shoes, my home, my life, and hold their hand, listen to their words, provide them, as possible, with the dignity all humans deserve. I can get out of my shoes, but I can’t ever get into theirs, because I had the privilege to live for 31 years without knowing a war at my door.

This I try to remind myself every single day: I know nothing about what they really feel, what they really fear, what holds them together in their endless hope on what may come after, I know nothing. And I shall not have the arrogance to assume otherwise, or I will be falling in the place of judging something I can’t really understand. This I try to remind myself every single day. I can hear all the stories, I can hold every child, I can share every tear around me, I can even fall asleep in the arms of the man this path brought to my heart, and still, I know nothing.

The truth is: you don’t need to know that answer. And the moment you stop thinking about it in search of yourself to justify your attitude towards others, you will have the space to accept that it matters not if you are similar or not, it matters not if you understand or not. You just look through the biggest window of what should be the basic principles of humanity, you just let your heart show you how you feel about the situation in front of you, you just hear what your guts tell you what is the right thing to do from where you stand, you just make peace with yourself first.

What would you do, if it was you?

It’s you. Here. Now.

what are you going to do?

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