

The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping organic shapes in bright yellow, red, green, blue, and magenta. Scattered throughout are stylized white-outlined hand icons in various poses: a thumbs up, a peace sign, a heart, a fist, and a hand with a small heart on the palm. The title 'CHANGING OUR STORY' is centered in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with 'CHANG' and 'ING' on the top line, and 'OUR' and 'STORY' on the bottom line.

# CHANG ING OUR STORY

Changing  
Our Story

ZINE, VOL. 2

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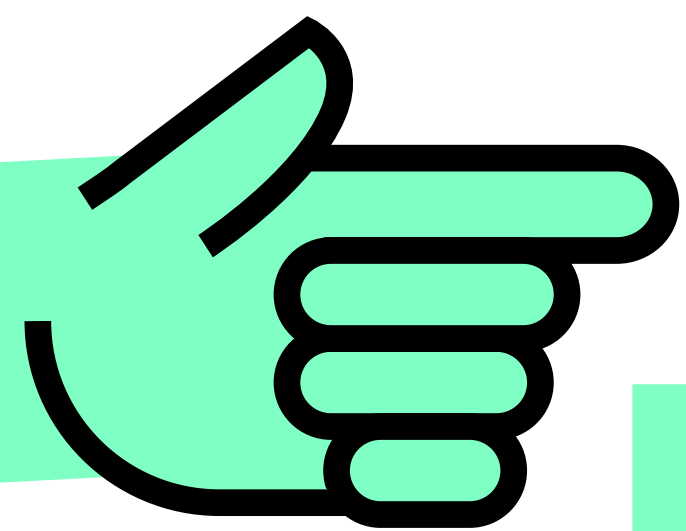


“

TO ASSUME  
THAT ANYTHING  
IS SIMPLE IS  
TO IGNORE  
THE NATURAL  
INTER-  
SECTIONAL  
NATURE  
OF HUMAN  
EXISTENCE

”





# INTRODUCTION

The path to understanding inclusion leads through information, information ideally received through experience. The aim of the Changing Our Story summer schools is therefore to familiarise students who collaborate on the project with the typical problems and challenges of the society of the country where the summer school takes place since those can act as frequent factors of exclusion of an individual or even whole group of people.

The second summer school organised within the project took place in Pilsen and the local University of West Bohemia. The students from partner universities in Slovakia and the Netherlands were introduced to the topics of mental health and illness, which represent a growing problem as well as persistent stigma, social exclusion and the closely related problems of over-indebtedness or child debt, the overlooked issue of homelessness or the current topic of integration and coexistence with high number of newly arrived Ukrainian refugees.

Students were invited to portray their experiences and impressions in the form of photographs and visual art on the theme of inclusion in the Fresh Air Gallery in Pilsen, where their creations were accessible to hundreds of people who walk through this place every day. They then freely recorded their thoughts in self-made diaries, which are an integral part of this zine.

# PROGRAMME OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL

15 — 19 May

## MONDAY

- 9:00 Summer school kick off
- 10:30 Inclusion in the Czech Republic and UWB
- 11:45 Lunch
- 13:00 Diary making
- 14:30 PODUZ project

## TUESDAY

- 9:30 Tady a Ted' NGO
- 11:30 Lunch
- 12:30 Walk with Tady a Ted'
- 14:30 Fresh Air Gallery (first ideas)
- 14:30 Žonglobalizace

## WEDNESDAY

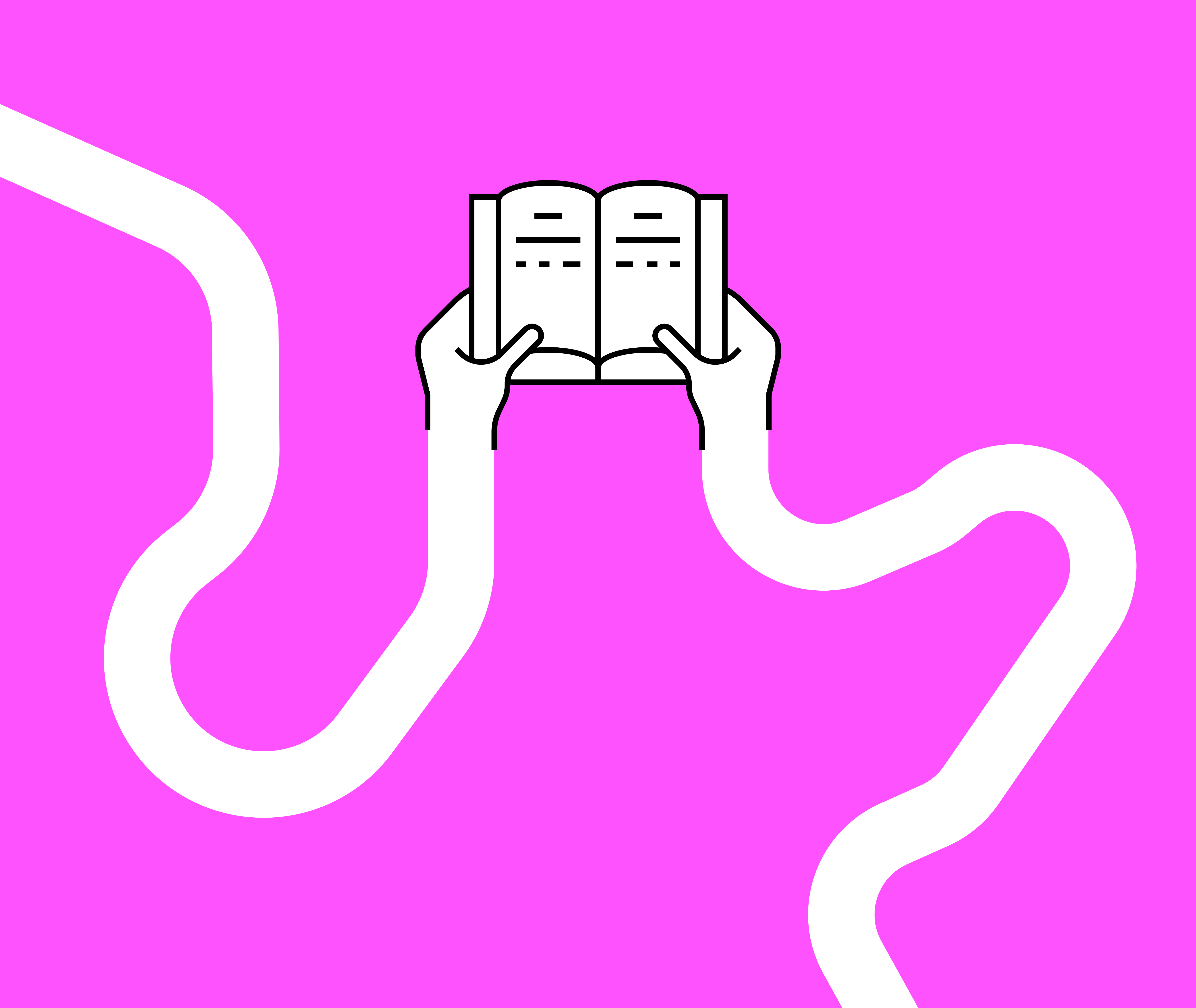
- 8:30 Departure to Prague
- 10:00 Walk  
+ photos in Prague city centre
- 13:00 Pragulic tour
- 17:00 Departure to Pilsen

## THURSDAY

- 9:00 Brunch in Kulturka
- 10:00 Ukrainian refugees talk
- 12:00 Break
- 13:00 Fresh Air Gallery (art exercise)

## FRIDAY

- 7:30 Closing, feedback
- 12:00 Lunch



# STUDENTS REFLECTIONS ON INCLUSION

During the first day the participating students created notebooks which they used for the rest of the week to collect their ideas and reflection.

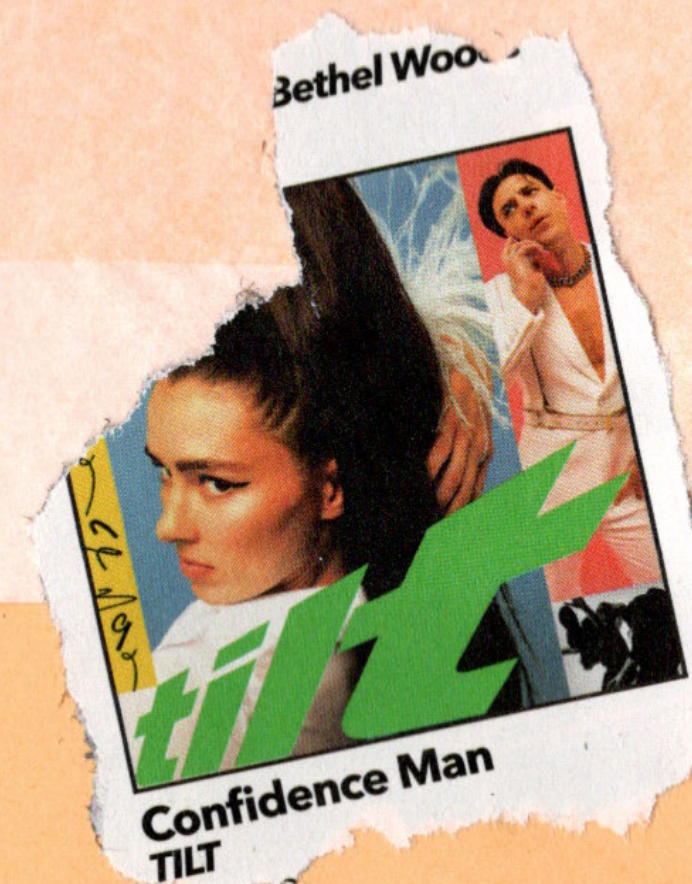






Whenever I go to a new place, I make it a point to observe as much as I can. Feeling the nature, the air, and observing the people and the things around me. It is the small details that shape the norms of everyday life, those things that we often overlook within our own contexts are what I attempt to focus on. I often think to myself how, as tourists, we observe a new place through the lens of our own norms. Our contexts, backgrounds, and norms shape the way we perceive the world around us. We base our judgment of what is 'normal' or what is not, through this lens. Often looking outside of this lens is challenging, and creates barriers towards attempting to understand the other. The principle of opening our eyes to observe the world around us, can be translated into how we see inclusivity. The way in which we perceive the world around us plays a role in what we believe inclusivity looks like. I believe that inclusivity is defined through the eyes of the beholder. But this makes our work towards achieving greater inclusivity so complex, as we toil with what is & is not the correct method. Alongside this comes the question of what should be centralized in the first steps towards inclusivity. From our own perspectives, we often forget that those around us start at different points. Starting from

the point of their own knowledge and their own context. This is one of the fundamental learning points of this project for me. Things which, from my own perspective/context seem like givens, are new concepts for others. Things which I believe should be applied without question, are far from realistic in other contexts. It impounds the idea that the road to inclusivity is long and winding.



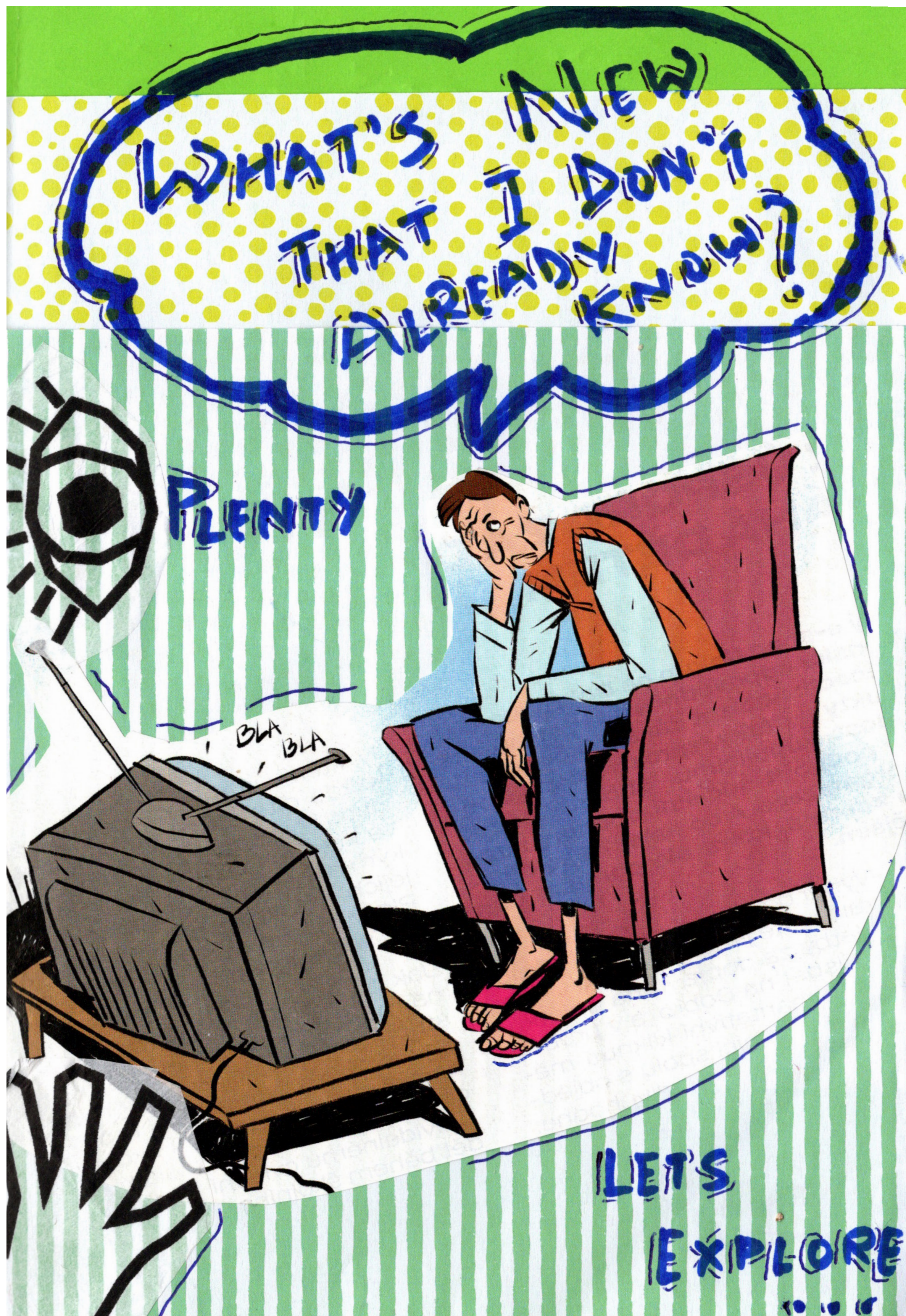
We are more than  
what we may seem.

Through the eye  
of the beholder

**INCLUSION IS MORE  
THAN WHAT I IMAGINED,  
BECAUSE IT DOES NOT  
START FROM LETTING  
EVERYONE IN,  
BUT THERE IS ALSO  
A CONSIDERATION  
(or there must be)  
OF THE PARTICIPANTS  
SPECIAL NEEDS.**

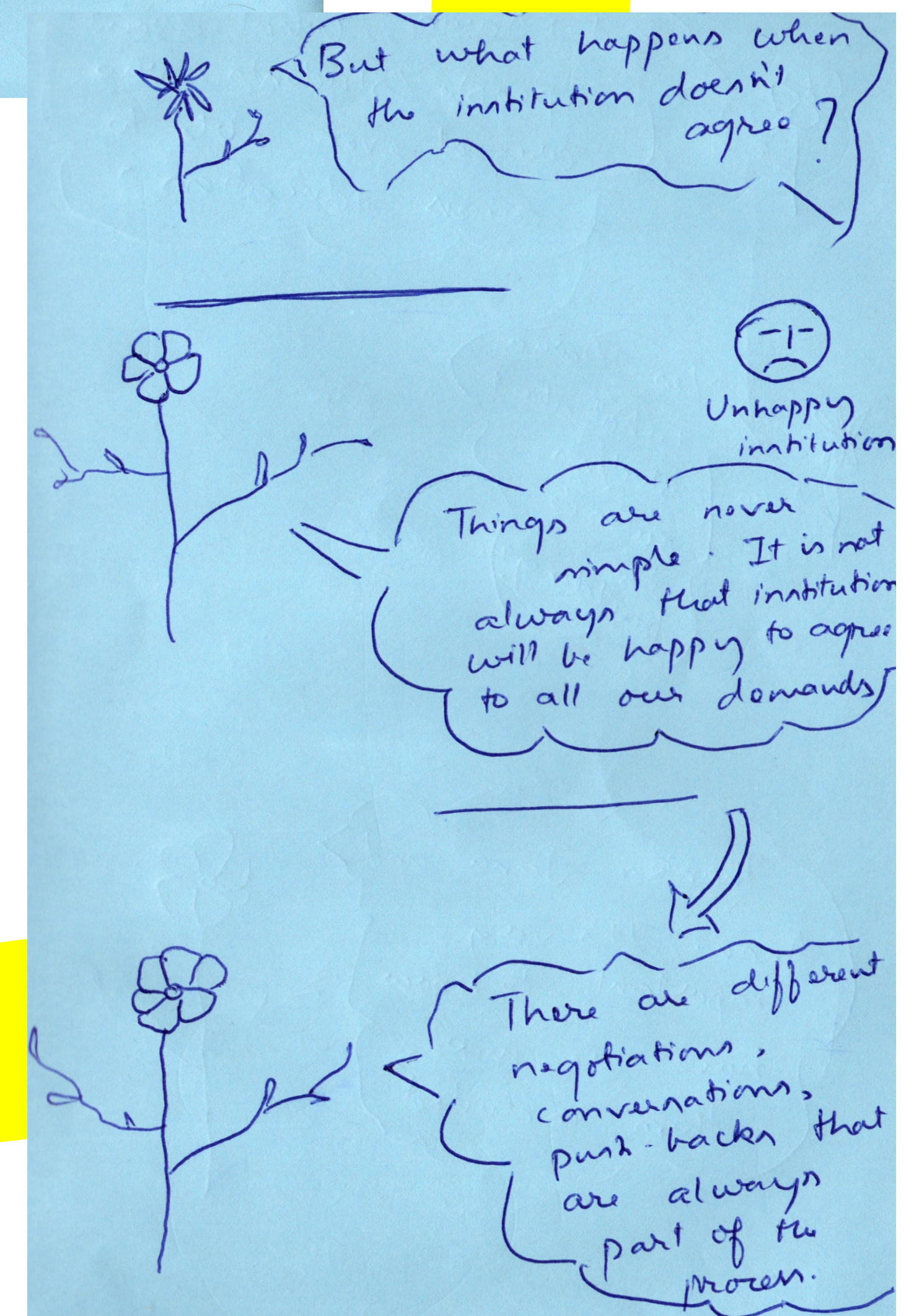
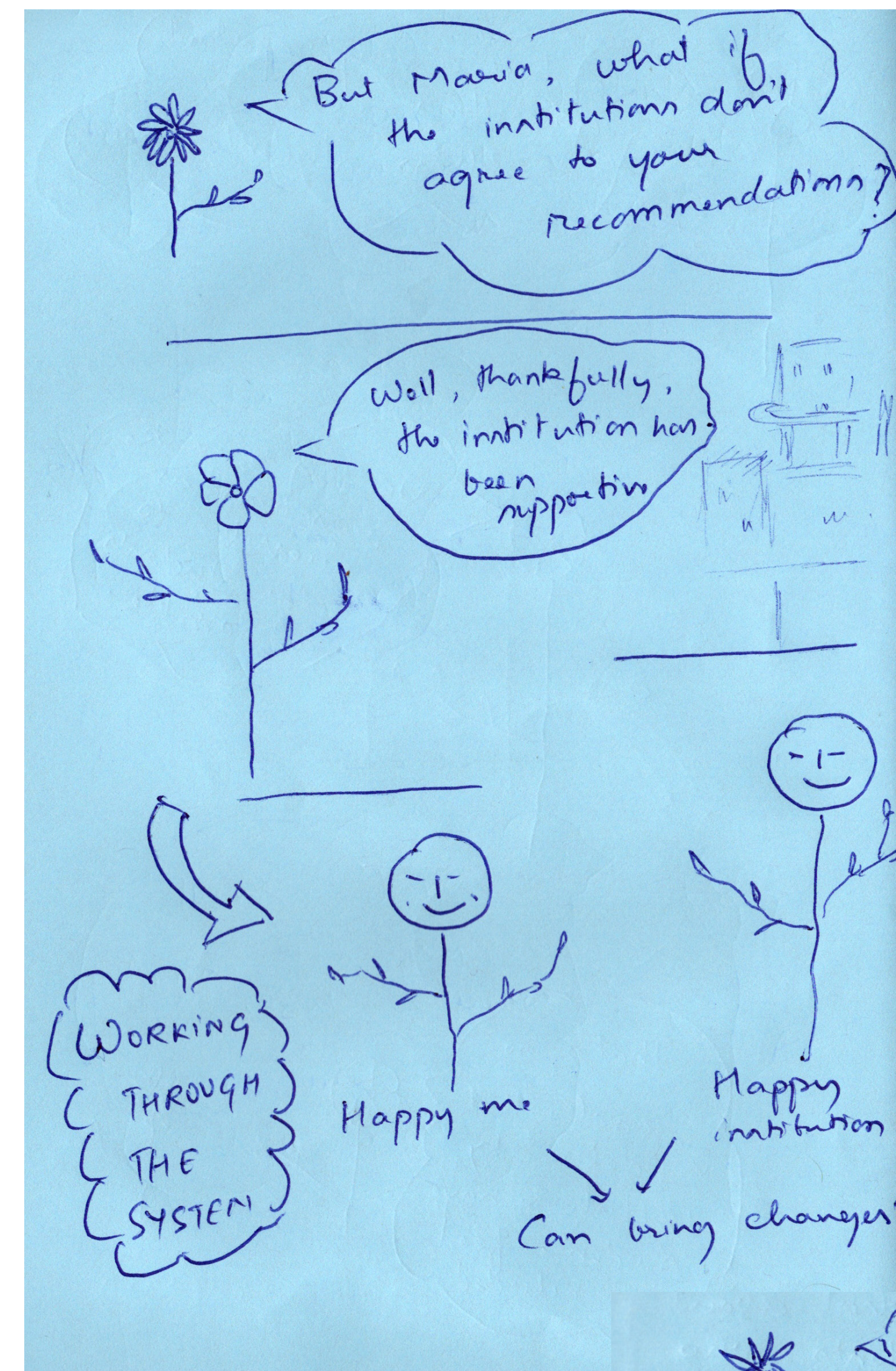
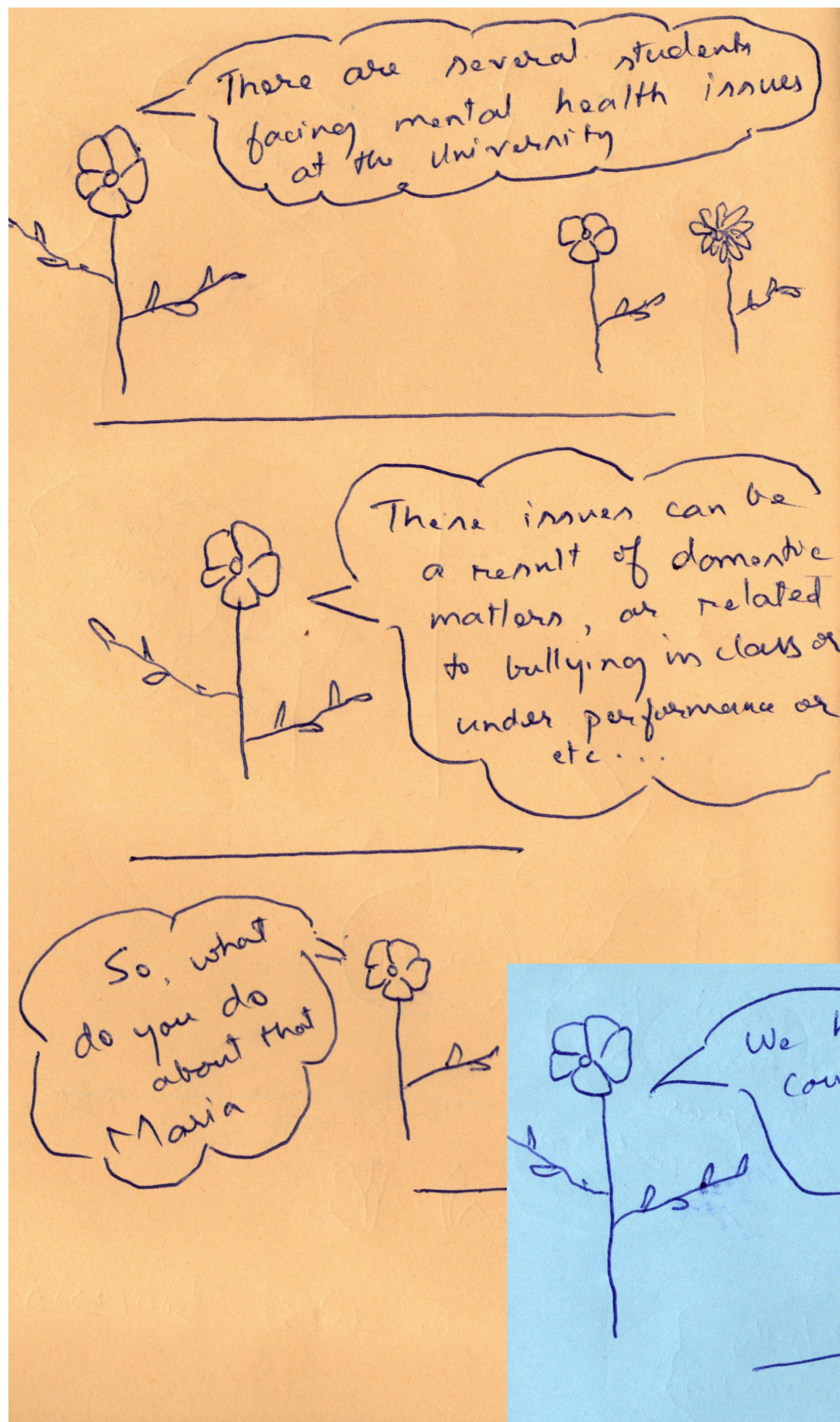
**EXCLUSION DOES NOT  
OCCURE ONLY AMONG  
THE PEOPLE FROM  
DIFFERENT COUNTRIES,  
BUT ALSO AMONG  
PEOPLE WITH THE  
SAME NATIONALITY, AS  
THEY CAN EXPERIENCE  
DISCRIMINATION  
ON CLASSES  
OR ETHNIC GROUPS.**

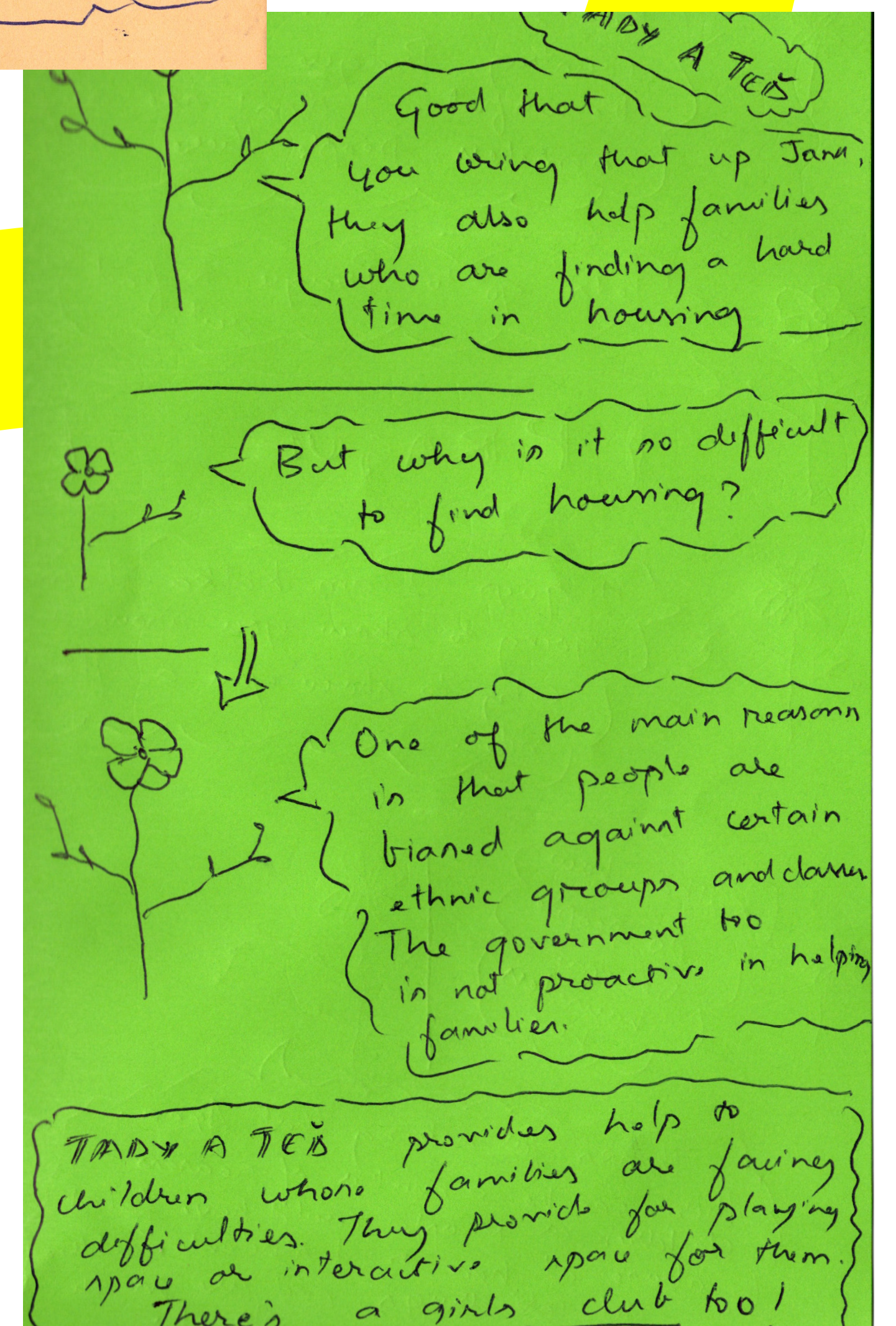
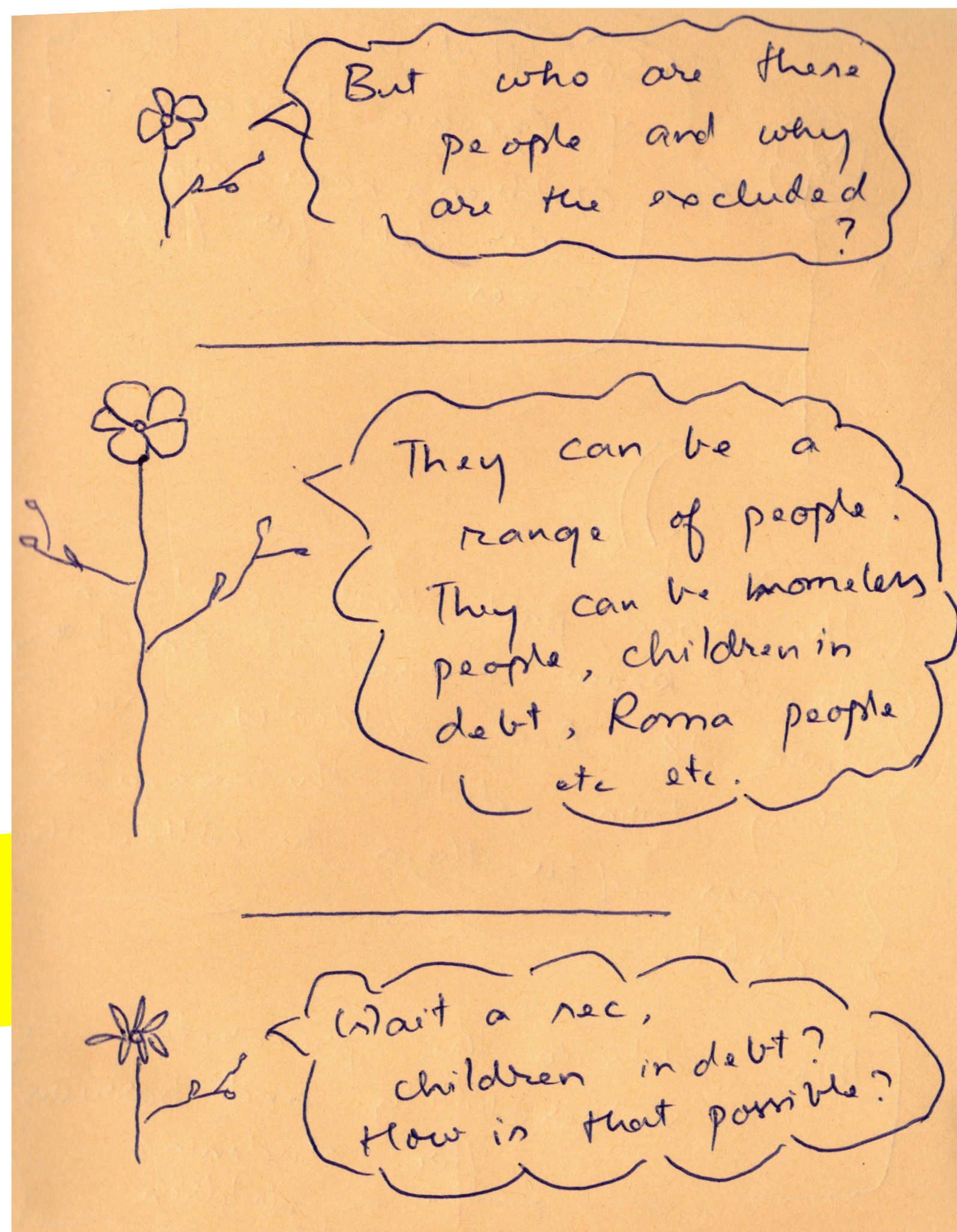
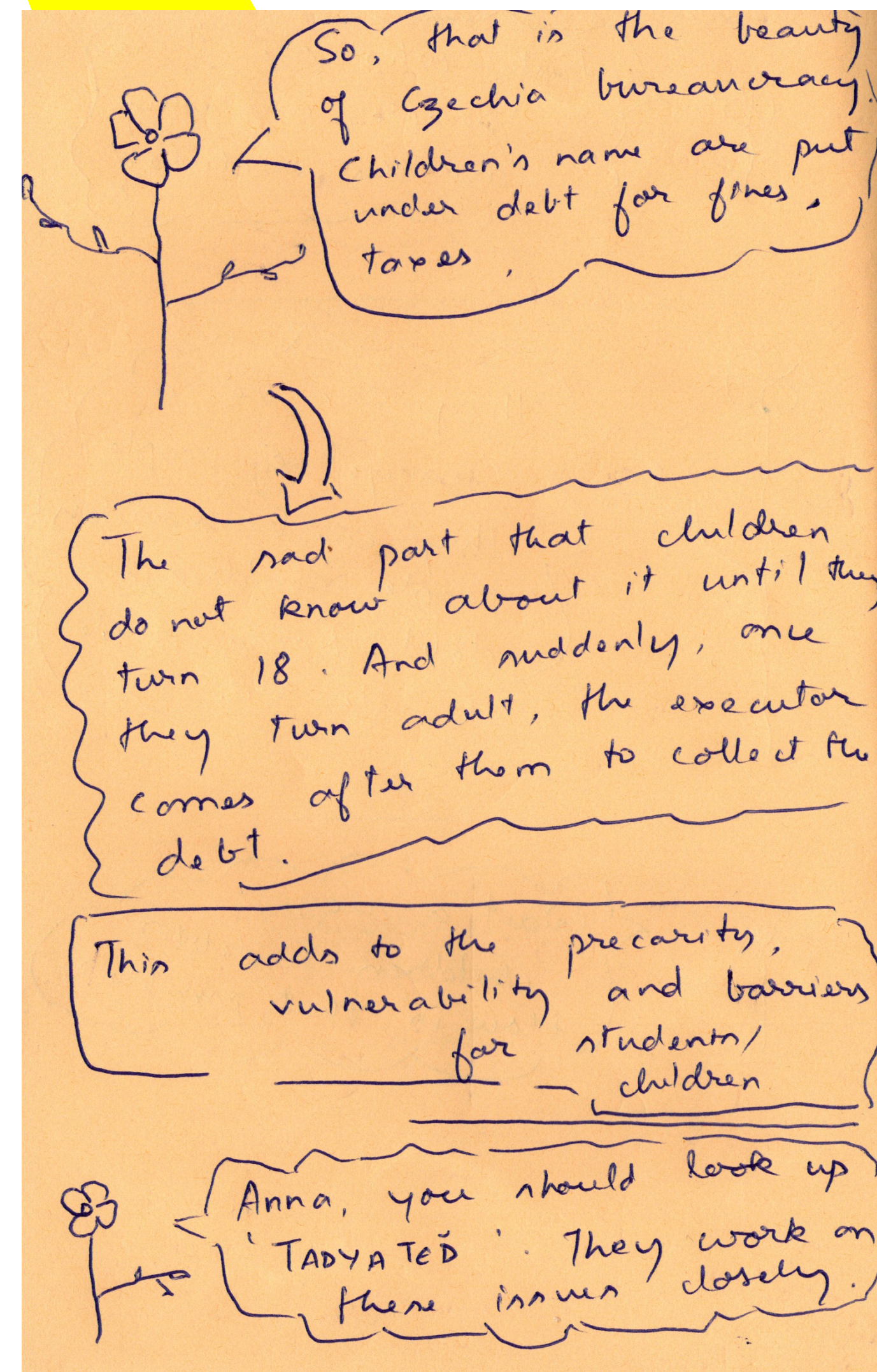
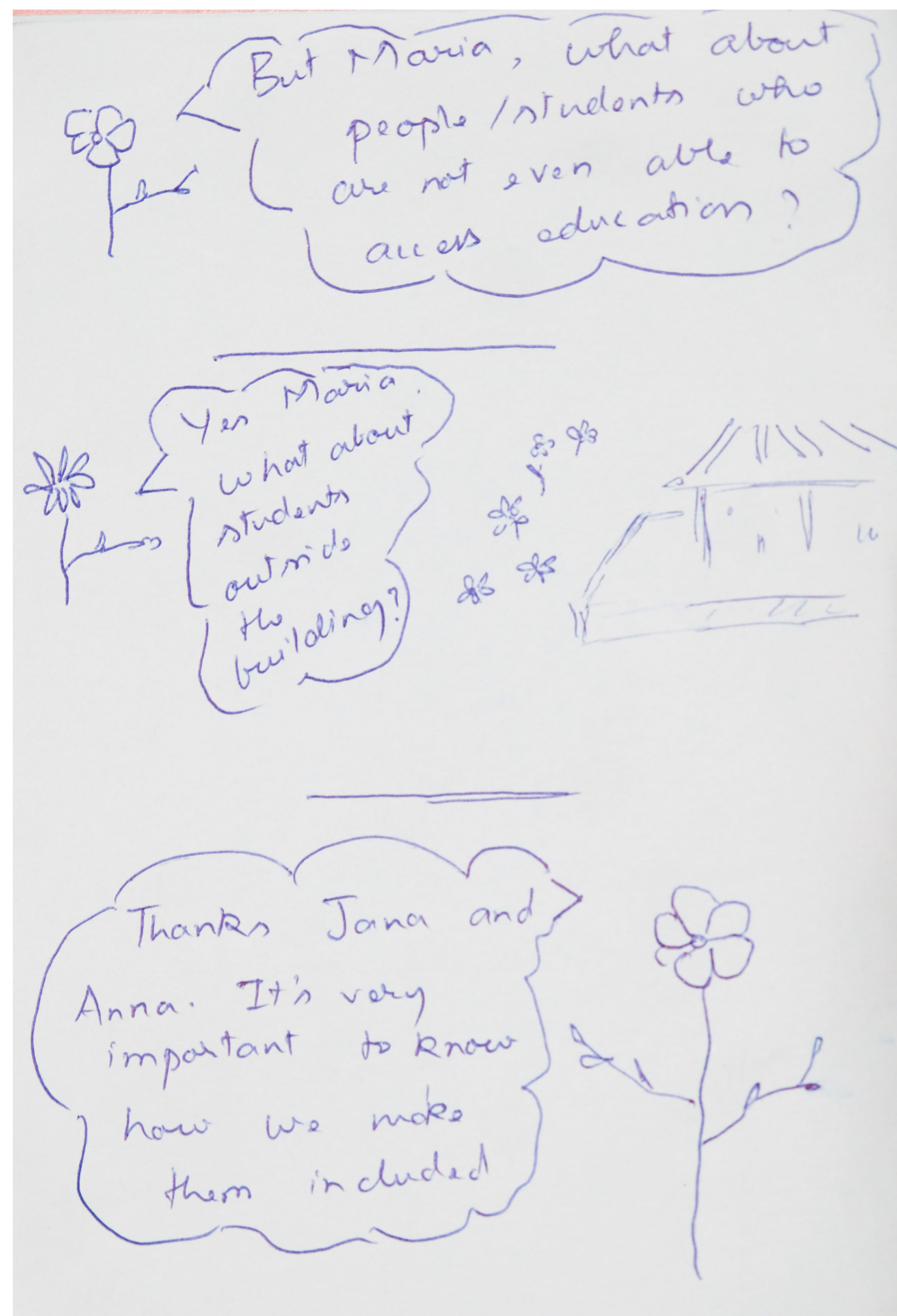


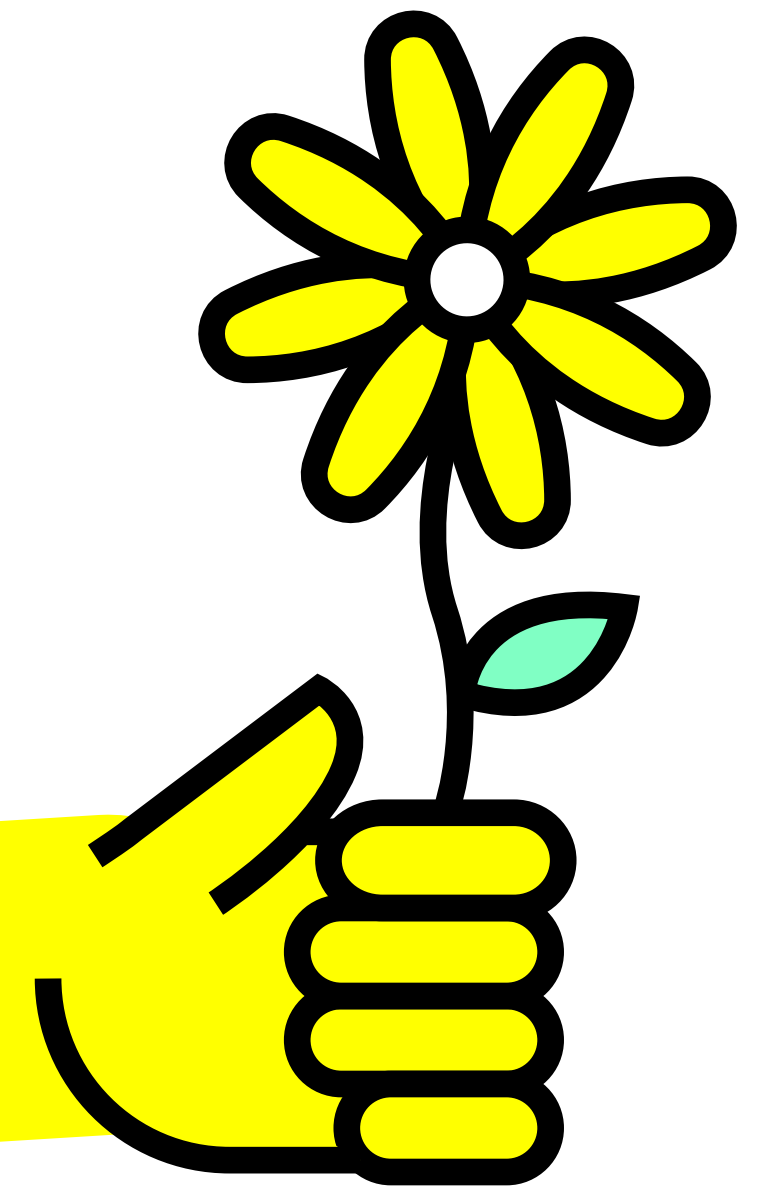
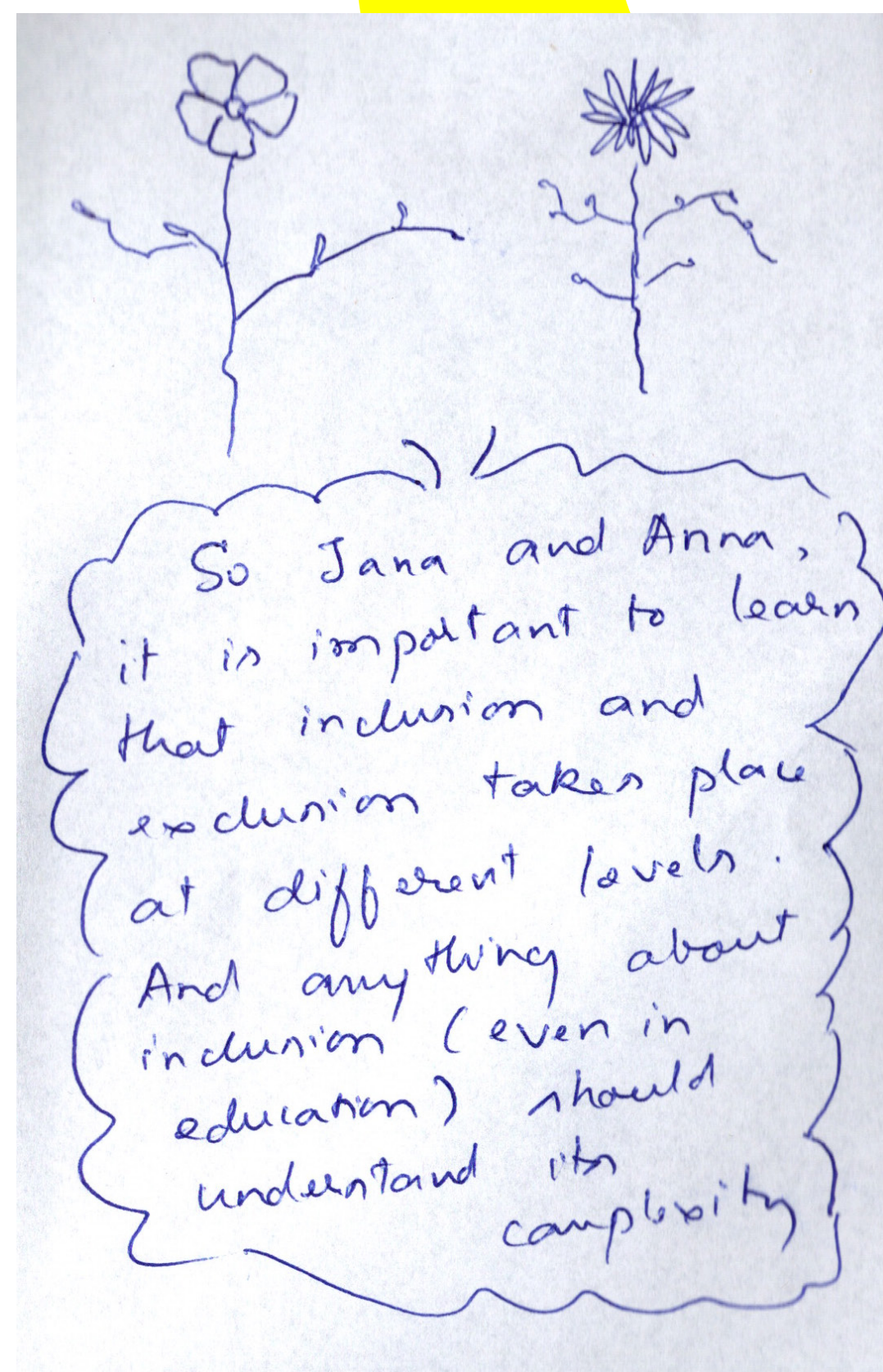
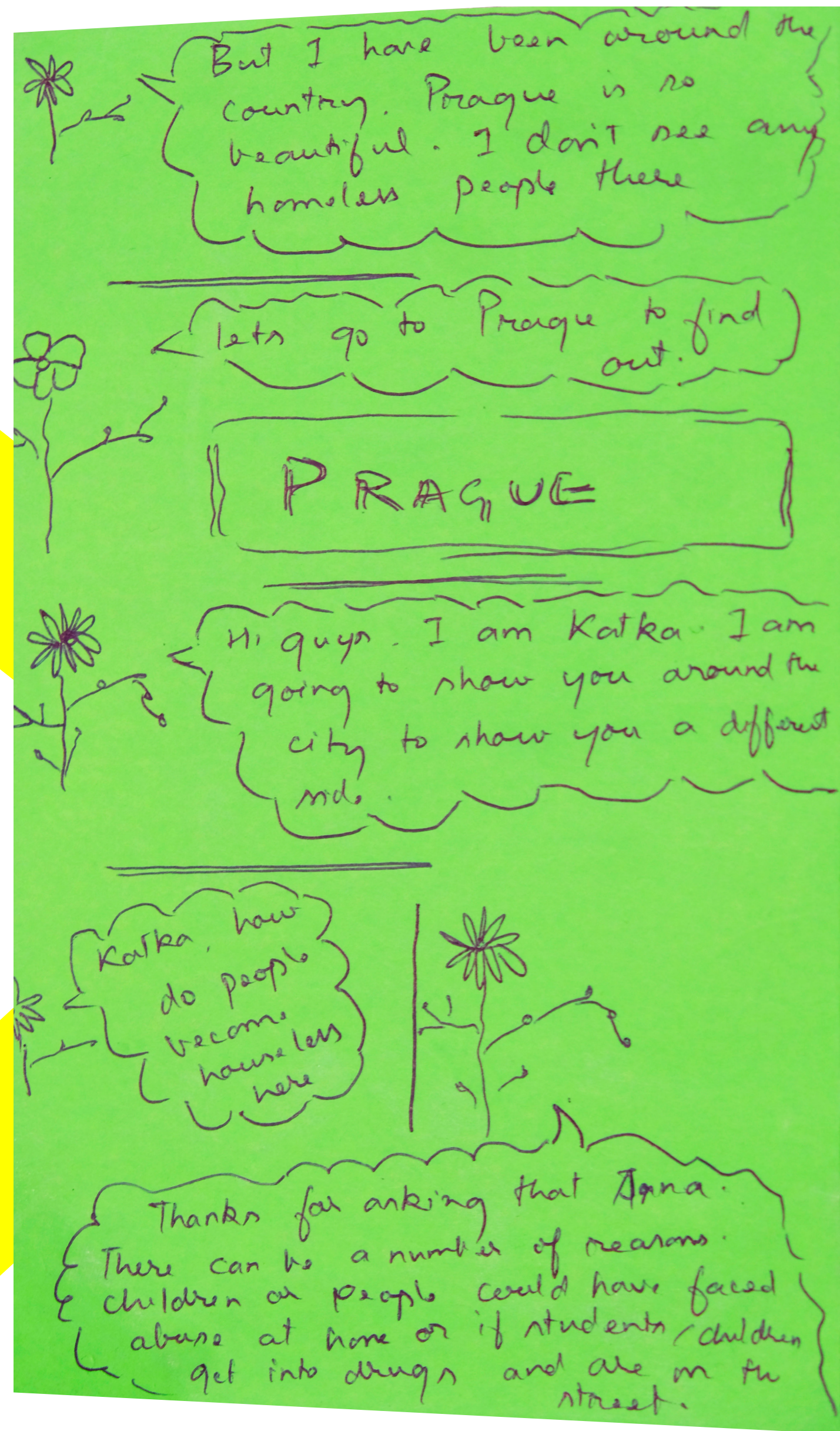


UNDERSTANDING  
INCLUSION &  
EXCLUSION 101



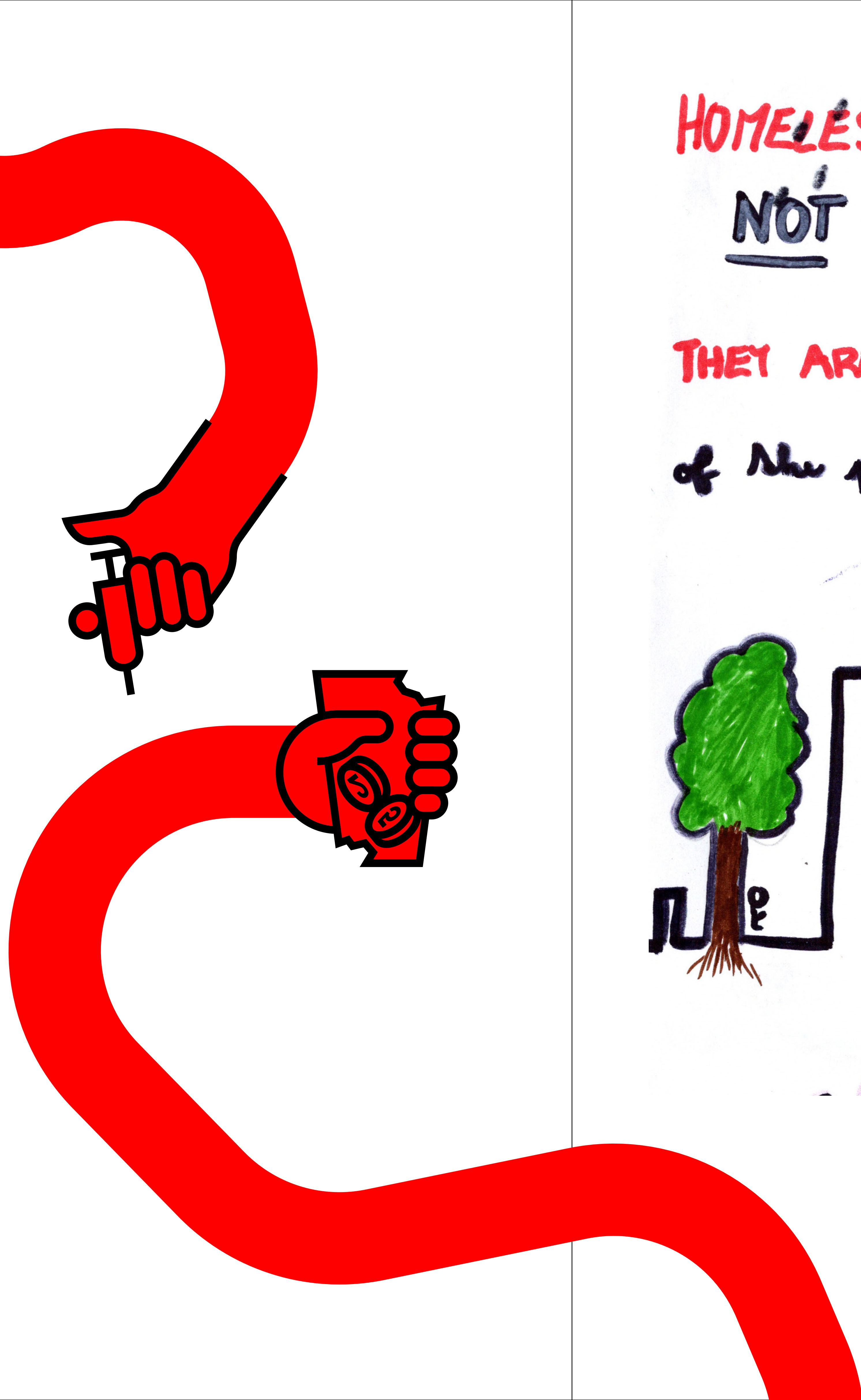






HOMELESS PEOPLE are  
NOT the problem.

THEY ARE THE RESULT  
of the problem.



# A TRIP TO PRAGUE

As part of a one-day trip from Pilsen to Prague, students had the opportunity to see the Czech capital city not just from its attractive the tourist side. One of the guide from Pragulic\* showed them Prague through the eyes of the people without a home.

- \* Pragulic is a social enterprise that challenge the stereotypes associated with homelessness by enabling people to experience the world from a homeless perspective.



**„NEJSME  
HOSPODA  
JSME  
PŘÍBĚH“**

**“WE ARE NOT  
A PUB  
WE ARE  
A STORY”**





**I BELIEVE THAT  
INCLUSIVITY  
IS DEFINED  
THROUGH  
THE EYES OF  
THE BEHOLDER  
BUT IT MAKES  
OUR WORK  
TOWARDS  
ACHIEVING  
GREATER  
INCLUSIVITY  
SO COMPLEX**

**AS WE TOIL  
WITH WHAT IS  
AND  
WHAT IS NOT  
THE CORRECT  
METHOD**

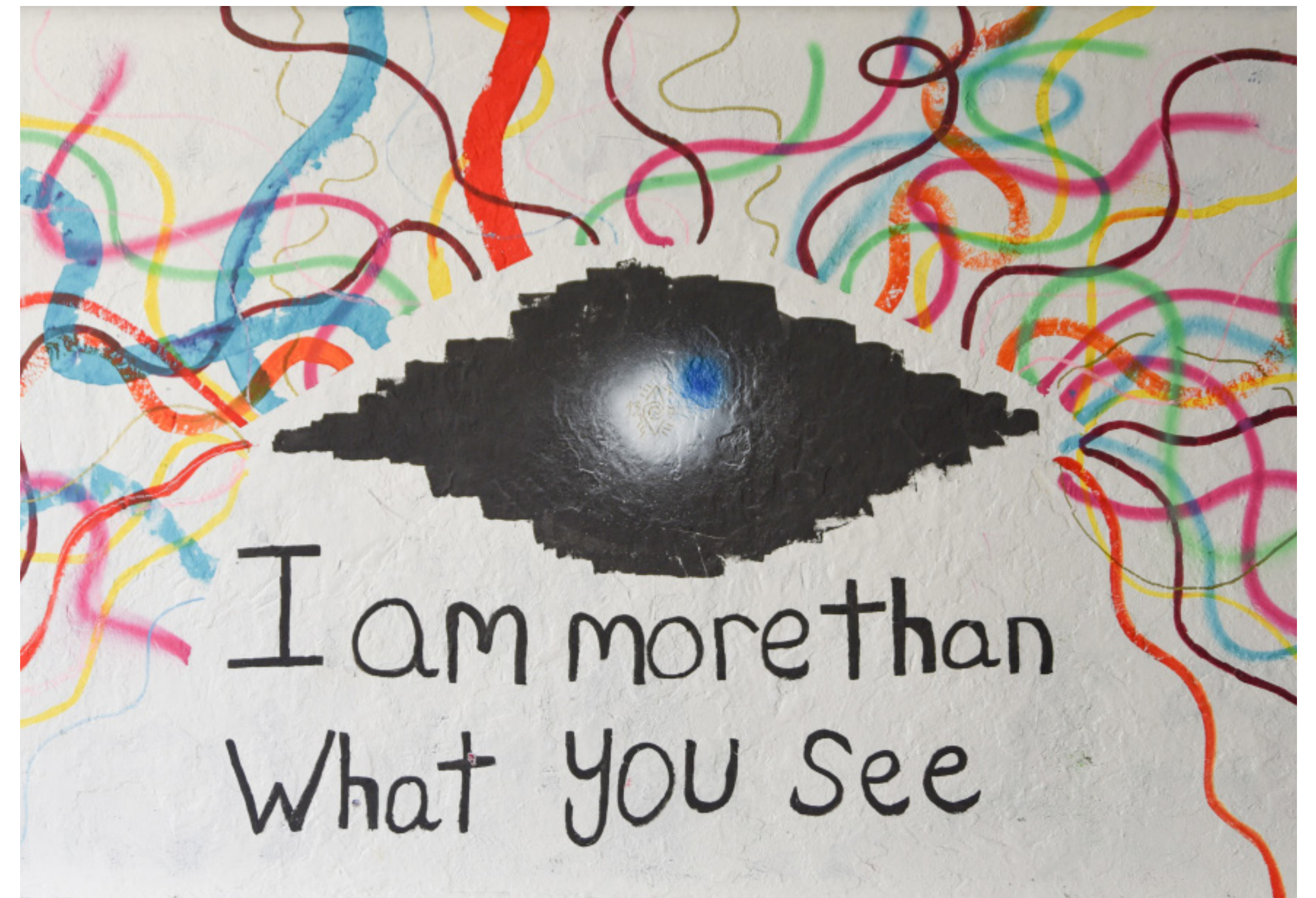
# LET THE WALL SPEAK



The one day workshop for participating students and the public took place at the so called Fresh Air Gallery. Every group of participants presented their ideas concerning the topic of inclusion, storytelling and the project.

The F.A.G. Gallery is official zone for art projects in the (semi) public space in Pilsen. Street art is quite a specific way of expression and the space where it is „presented“ is more or less living its own life — it changes as the people change and use the public space, it develops as the city grows and its facades always alternate. Street art is part of the city, it is around us and is very flexible, street art is ready for interaction with the one who want to interact with it. Walls are prepared to share a story.





# INCLUSIVE

As part of the Fresh Air Gallery workshop, one of the participating students tried to show the type of people and topics that are often considered as different by society and their inclusion might be therefore difficult. We try to make people aware that anyone should be included in any society.



**MEETING  
DIFFERENT  
PEOPLE FROM  
DIFFERENT  
BACKGROUNDS**

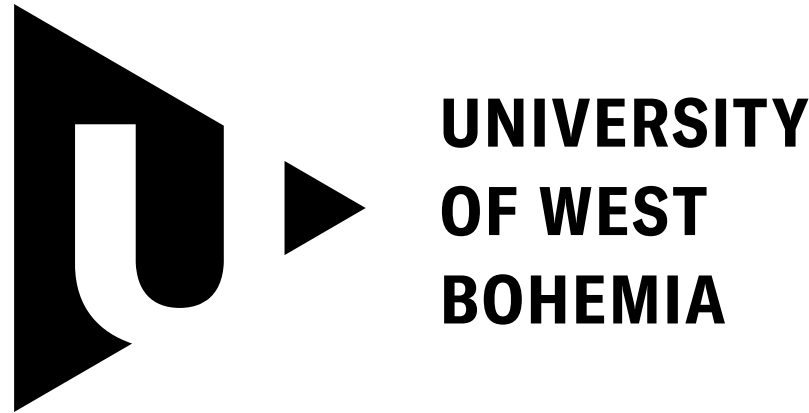
**AND BEING  
ABLE TO LEARN  
FROM THEM  
WAS THE MOST  
IMPORTANT  
POINT OF THIS  
INCLUSIVE  
JOURNEY**





Haag

THE HAGUE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
APPLIED SCIENCES



Pilsen

Nitra



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