



## THE SISTERS OF COMPASSION

### INTRODUCTION

- In this assessment I will be talking about four factors I choose on how they developed the sisters of compassion to be greater. The factors I choose were Influenza pandemic, Suzanne Auberts early life, social welfare and healthcare and Suzannes death. The sisters of compassion helped many people during the tough times like the Influenza pandemic. They have done many good in the world.

## WHO ARE THEY?

The sisters of compassion is a group, that Suzanne Aubert founded in Jerusalem on the Wanganui river in 1892. Suzanne also founded the sisters of compassion. Suzanne found her passion in helping others. Preferably those who are unable to get access to hospitals, food/water, shelter, and education. The sisters of compassion set up four camps for those people:

- Island Bay, St Joseph's Home of compassion rest home.
- Wellington city, city's soup kitchen.
- The sisters of compassion also set up a home of compassion in Fiji for the elderly and people with disabilities.

They made these camps because they care so much for people in need.

Beliefs the sisters shared:

- God is the creator – God made one Earth. God is the creator of all living things.
- God Loves us unconditionally – No matter how many times us as people mess up, God will keep loving us no matter what.

Values the sisters shared:

- Action with the poor – Supporting the less fortunate people in the world, giving them shelter, food and water.
- Simplicity - Working together. Is always open to hear everyone's ideas and thoughts and showing respect to those people.



## INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

Factor 1:

What was the influenza pandemic?

In 1918 the Influenza pandemic of "black November" spread all over New Zealand. It was a deadly virus which led to people catching it and passing away in such little time. This started when soldiers from WW1 came back home after it ended.

What happened?

The influenza pandemic led to 9,000 New Zealanders passing away because of this virus, and over 50 million worldwide.

Symptoms you could get included chills, fever, runny nose, coughs, sore throat and body ache. Everyone was so shocked on how fast this virus managed to kill so many people so fast.

Why did it help The sisters of compassion develop?

It helped because after the virus happened there were far

more men than woman and many of them were unemployed, poor and having a hard time in life. The sisters of compassion knew they had to do something, so they opened a Home of compassion in Island bay. The sisters of compassion also gave out soup to 80 men each day in the kitchen at St. Joesph's home for incurables.

They also set up the first Crèche.

The sisters responded to volunteers. They helped nurse the sick in Island Bay and tried their best to help as many adults as possible and children that were affected by the virus. Many sisters risked their lives helping other people with the influenza and many died.

# SUZANNE AUBERTS EARLY LIFE

## Factor 2:

Suzanne Aubert was Born in a French village of St. Symphorien-de-Laye, near Lyons. Her mother was diagnosed with cancer, Suzannes family carried her to her room and a miracle happened and she was cured, they thought this was God's work. Suzanne was amazed after this miracle, she wanted to move further into Jesus's life and learn more about his stories.

At the age of 2 she injured herself horribly wrong. She fell into a frozen pond. She was left nearly blind and crippled for serval years. Her family prayed for her, and she attended many therapies. Throughout the years her eyesight and the use of her limbs got better. On Suzannes eighteenth birthday she asked for permission if she could enter a convent, but they said no. After she studied nursing with the sisters of charity in Paris, she even got to nurse victims of the Crimean War in south of France. She helped nurse a professor in return, he arranged her to attend his Botany lectures since woman were not allowed to attend university.

This helped because every time she would fail, she would keep trying, she never gave up. Because of this positive attitude she was able to help many people and encourage other people in her community to join in with her work. Suzanne was able to nurse the sick and help the poor by giving them shelter, food and clothing. She was able to do these things by setting up charity's that would go towards people in need.

After her death her work continued to grow, many people carried on her work of kindness in honor of her.



# SOCIAL WELFARE & HEALTHCARE

## Factor 3:

Woman who were mothers without any family support had to pick from very risky options one of them being illegal abortion or killing their child after the first year of living (infanticide). The safer option were to either pay for privet care or giving up their child to the state.

Luckly the sisters of compassion set up a childcare center which woman with kids were able to leave their children with the sisters between 6am to 7am with a pay with a bit of milk. After the sisters of compassion opened an Our Ladys of compassion in island Bay in April 1907, which were mostly for care for children and babies. 1910 mother Auberts work was bigger and opened a a St. Vincent home of compassion for "foundlings" which were parentless children. This was a place for children who had no parents, they would feed, clothe and educate the children.

Why did it help the sisters of compassion develop?

It helped the sisters of compassion develop because they were able to get many people to join in and help these vulnerable kids. What was even better was that the sister's services were free and opened to any age, race, sex, religion. Their Services grew bigger and were able to fundraise for clothes for the children and food.

Suzanne was kind enough to train people to nurse and many were helping in the Ladys of compassion, she added rooms and even a surgical room.



## SUZANNE AUBERT'S DEATH

Suzanne's death was a big event in New Zealand "New Zealand's great loss". Many creed, colour and the whole generation payed respect for her death at the St Mary's church of angels. Mayors, generals also went to her funeral to pay her respect. Suzanne wished that no one would give her flowers, but Suzannes death received a lot of flowers. People just loved the work she did for her community and people. People knew Suzanne as a good person who never gave up on her dreams to make others happy. Suzanne loved others as Jesus did. Suzanne was able to get help from Jew, pakeha and Māori.

Suzannes death and reputation attracted more people to the sisters of compassion. More fundings were made, more nuns would have joined and higher respect for Suzannes work. This helped the sisters of compassion develop because more people were noticing her work and respected it more. More charities and more volunteers.



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