

At 14, Joseph got involved in another fight in the playground. The teacher went to find his mother and said, "That's enough! He's expelled for good! Don't bother turning up for the end of year exams. In any case he'll never pass!"



His mother said again,
"No! You are smart!
You are going to work hard
and succeed!"

She filled out the forms so
that he could take the exams.
He passed! He would be able
to become an apprentice! *





This difficult childhood
built Joseph's
character and he
didn't stop there.

He fought for
peace and
friendship around
the world. With
the help of
others, he
created the
International
Movement ATD



Fourth World and Tapori for the children.
That was 50 years ago. Today Tapori is you!
YOU are the champions of happiness.
Together, you can change the world!




Notes:
Altar boy - Children
who help the priest
when he says mass

Coal - Used to
heat houses

Apprentice - School
for learning a trade

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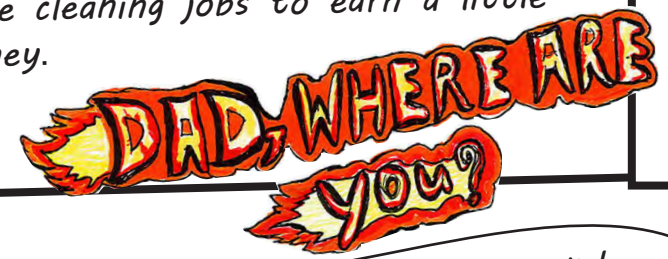
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Here is the true story of a boy
named Joseph.
He was born
in France 100 years ago in 1917.



When Joseph was born, his parents
had a difficult life. His father, who
was Polish, could not find a job in
France and had to go to find work
abroad leaving behind his wife and
four children. She fought hard and
was ready to do anything to give the
children a decent life. She took on
some cleaning jobs to earn a little
money.

The house is cold and dark.
Their father comes and goes.
The children are often hungry.
Joseph knows and sees his mother's
despair.



"Your father is Polish.
You can tell by his name:
Wladislaw Wresinski.
We met when he was in Spain."

"Mum, is Lucrezia a
Polish name too?"



"Not at all!
I'm Spanish. We fell in
love and we got married.
The first World War
started! We went to
France and they put us
in a camp. After the war
we moved to Angers.
When you were born
your dad couldn't find any
work so he left to find
work abroad."

When Joseph was only four he wanted to help his mother. Some Catholic Sisters in the neighbourhood asked him to come every morning to be an altar boy* in exchange for a bowl of milk, some bread and a few coins.

Whatever the weather he went every morning.

4 years old

HUNGER



On the way home he passes an old factory. He knows there is pile of coal there* and he sorts a few pieces to take back to his mother.

Joseph gets older. He is now six years old. On the way to school with his brother and sister the other kids make fun of them, Here come the Kikis! Hey, the "Kikis!" Their name, Wresinski, was too difficult to say so... Wresinski... Kiki... was easier to say.

6 years old



This made him angry. Especially without a father to defend them. Joseph calms his anger and clenches his fists. It is not the first time! He is a fighter and more than anything he can't bear injustice.

**FIGHT
INJUSTICE**

One day in the school playground he sees a big kid punching and kicking a smaller kid.



Often in the evening, sometimes even on Sundays, his mum puts a pile of cigarette papers and small cardboard boxes on a table. Then she calls the children,

"Come on, all of you, there is work to do!"

Louis, the oldest, starts counting the papers. They have to put a hundred of them in each box.

Joseph helps. He yawns. He was up early in the morning.

Joseph gets involved and hits the older kid. He doesn't know the smaller kid but he defends him without hesitation. The teacher stops the fight.



**DEFEND
others**

Joseph was expelled from school. At first his mother was angry with him. In the evening she calmed down

and hugged him, saying, "Our family is our wealth, the wealth of the poor." He will always remember that.

