

Press Release

For Immediate Release

World Vision Việt Nam and Orion Food Vina Joined Hands to Promote Increased Cooperation between Families and Schools to End School Violence

Hà Nội, 24 April 2022 – Following the success of the online events series in 2021, today, World Vision Việt Nam held the talk show "Hope in Class – The extraordinary Trio." The event belongs to the Orion Food Vina-funded "Hope in Class" Project, implemented by World Vision Việt Nam in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) since 2020.

Participants in the talk show:

- Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Hồng Thuận, Specialist in Child Psychology - Physiology | Director of the Center for Psychology and Education Research, Việt Nam Academy of Educational Sciences.
- Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Duy Nhiên, Life skills education expert | Dean of Faculty of Philosophy, Hà Nội National University of Education | Deputy Director of the Institute of Social Security and Community Development.
- Ms. Đào Thị Thuỳ Dương, Vice Principal of Lạc Viên Secondary School, Ngô Quyền District, Hải Phòng City.
- YouTuber Lê Xuân Đức (Channel "Bố Con Sâu").
- The program is hosted by MC. Minh Trang.



Figure 1: The overview of the talkshow.

To end violence against children at school, the Project offers practical solutions to contribute to a safe, friendly, and cooperative classroom environment, thereby creating a space for children to nurture positive values and behaviors.

Besides, the Project also engages teachers and parents in helping children develop the essential values of love and respect towards each other. With this criterion, the "Hope in Class – The Extraordinary Trio" event gathered multi-dimensional perspectives on children's psychology when facing school violence. Additionally, it also suggested a cooperative mechanism between teachers and parents/caregivers, so they can become children's close companions throughout adulthood and most effectively protect them against any risk of violence in school.

Part 1 - Causes and Consequences of School Violence

At the talk show, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Duy Nhiên, Life Skills Education Expert, shared: *"Unlike adults, children are more heavily influenced by the surrounding environment: family, community, and school. The reason is due to the immaturity of the children's life experience, which requires a lot of support, orientation, and correction from parents and teachers."*

To explain more about this standpoint, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Hồng Thuận, Child Psycho-Physiology Specialist, analyzed the leading causes of school violence: subjective reasons include incompleteness; lack of personality stability, which makes it difficult for children to control their emotions; inadequate awareness of children about situations and circumstances that occur due to lack of knowledge and life experience; and the need to prove and assert themselves. In addition, the objective causes are from the family and school environments, which did not equip children with the necessary life skills and values to face violent situations most actively and effectively.

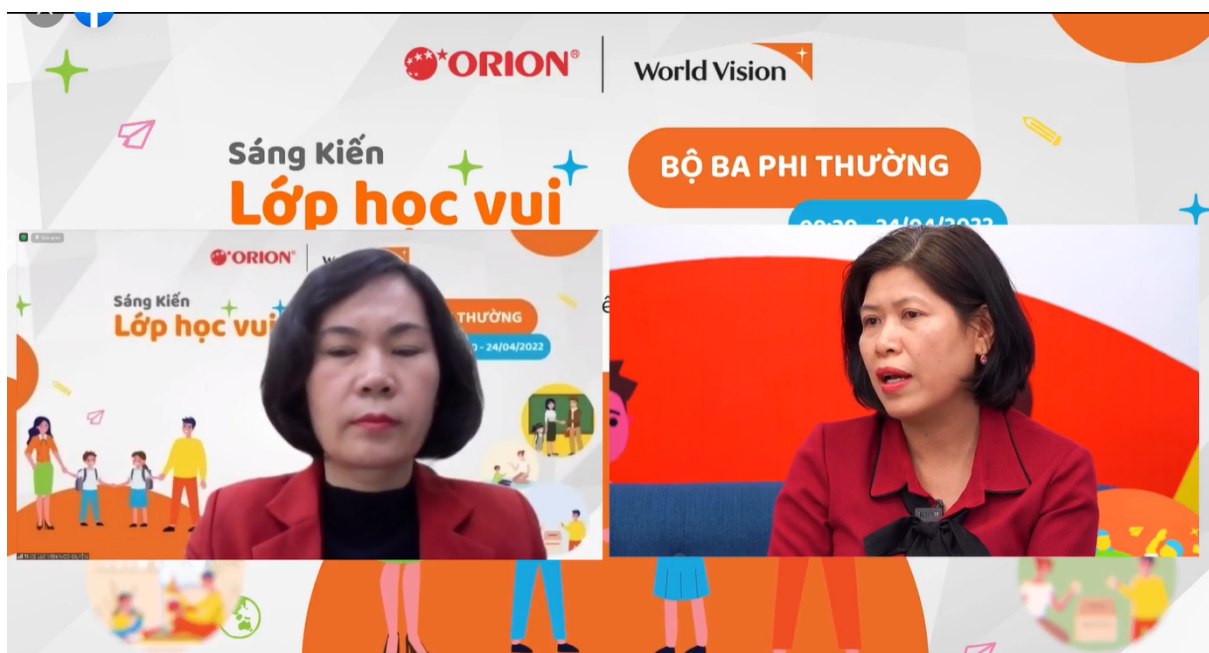


Figure 2: The speakers passionately shared their experiences and insights at the event.

"Lacking necessary knowledge and life skills, children will always be limited by two common attitude extremes when experiencing school violence: feeling afraid, weak, and helpless, or having fierce resistance and lack of control. These are both passive behaviors, causing prolonged school violence, leaving serious psychological damage on children's lives," Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Duy Nhiên added.

When recalling past experiences, Lê Xuân Đức also emphasized the negative and long-term impact of being bullied in school on children's development: making children feel stuck, insecure, constantly in fear, which reduces the quality of learning and seriously affects their mental and physical health.

Part 2 – The Necessary Cooperation of Families and Schools in Supporting Children to Solve Problems and Risks related to School Violence

Partnering with Orion Food Vina, the "Hope in Class" Project has supported **40** target schools to carry out annual events, aiming to equip students, parents, and teachers with the necessary information and skills to prevent violence at school. With a budget of **USD 212,766**, after the first two years of implementation in Thanh Hoá Province and Hải Phòng City, **19,655** children have participated in and benefited from this Project.

"The intimate, trusting bond between parents and children is crucial from an early age. When being children's companions in the first years of life, parents can understand and provide timely support and orientation to their children. The goal is to offer them the right view and stimulate the right attitude in different situations, including those involving violence. Furthermore, the closeness between parents and children will allow children to open up and trust their parents in all situations and stages of adulthood, even in the most difficult and sensitive situations," YouTuber Lê Xuân Đức shared.

In addition, Ms. Đào Thị Thuỳ Dương, Vice Principal of Lạc Viên Secondary School (Ngô Quyền District, Hải Phòng City), also emphasized the importance for teachers and parents to handle information related to school violence with delicacy and ingenuity.

"Schools need to establish a reporting mechanism that prioritizes privacy and security for students, not to put them in awkward situations, affect their safety or their learning and life in general. Information technology platforms and social networks actively support this process, helping teachers and parents work together to intervene and support children in the shortest time," Ms. Thuỳ Dương developed.

"In addition, the application of positive discipline methods and positive language in families and schools is a premise for the two parties to effectively cooperate, helping to create consistency and unity in children's living and learning environment," added YouTuber Lê Xuân Đức.

"School violence has become increasingly common and gradually a social problem. Therefore, the daily cooperation and exchange mechanism between parents and teachers are increasingly necessary and important. However, when assisting children in dealing with violent situations, keeping a "cool head" and a neutral spirit to analyze the problem objectively will guide parents' behavior, helping to solve the problem most positively and appropriately," Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Duy Nhiên emphasized.

Part 3 – "Hope in Class" Project and World Vision Việt Nam's efforts to End all Forms of School Violence against Children

Facing the development of school violence in Vietnam, the "Hope in Class" Project has actively connected families and schools in its activities so that schools are no longer a playground for children alone. Still, they are also filled with parents' presence and supervision. The beneficiaries of the Project are not only children but also parents/caregivers and teachers. Specifically, when participating in the "Hope in Class" Project, parents/caregivers and teachers are equipped with knowledge and skills to accompany children more effectively. The active participation and close connection based on understanding and empathy between families and schools will contribute to nurturing young minds, providing them with a safe and loving living environment, helping them develop their full potential, and becoming active members of society in the future.



Figure 3: The talkshow's speakers in Hà Nội.

To do this, Ms. Đào Thị Thuỳ Dương commented that schools need to implement psychological counseling activities for students and, at the same time, make most of the available communication platforms - social networks. The purpose is to maintain regular connections and help teachers and

parents coordinate more effectively so that children always receive maximum attention and support throughout their development.

"It is never too late for parents and teachers to be friends with children. We can always approach children based on their experiences and needs at the time. For example, children need advice on learning methods or answers to questions about gender, profession, or relationships," Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nguyễn Duy Nhiên suggested.

"One of the ways to prevent violence in schools is to give children other humanistic focuses besides learning. Examples include music, painting, and sports. Additionally, equipping children with self-protection skills (for example, martial arts) also actively contributes to reducing the risk of violence against children in schools," YouTuber Lê Xuân Đức shared from his parenting experiences.

The "Hope in Class – The Extraordinary Trio" talk show is organized in response to the five-year campaign on "Ending Violence against Children at Home and School" that World Vision Việt Nam launched in 2017. The campaign aims to raise awareness and call on each member of society to contribute to a healthy, safe, and secure living environment for children, especially the most vulnerable children.

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About World Vision Việt Nam:

World Vision is a Christian relief and development humanitarian organization, working to improve the quality of life of people, especially children, who are marginalized and living in poverty. World Vision helps all who are in need regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender. World Vision started working in Việt Nam in 1988. Since then, World Vision has implemented many relief and development programs, partnering with the Vietnamese government, other NGOs, and communities. World Vision's long-term development programs are currently operated in 18 cities and provinces throughout Việt Nam.

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