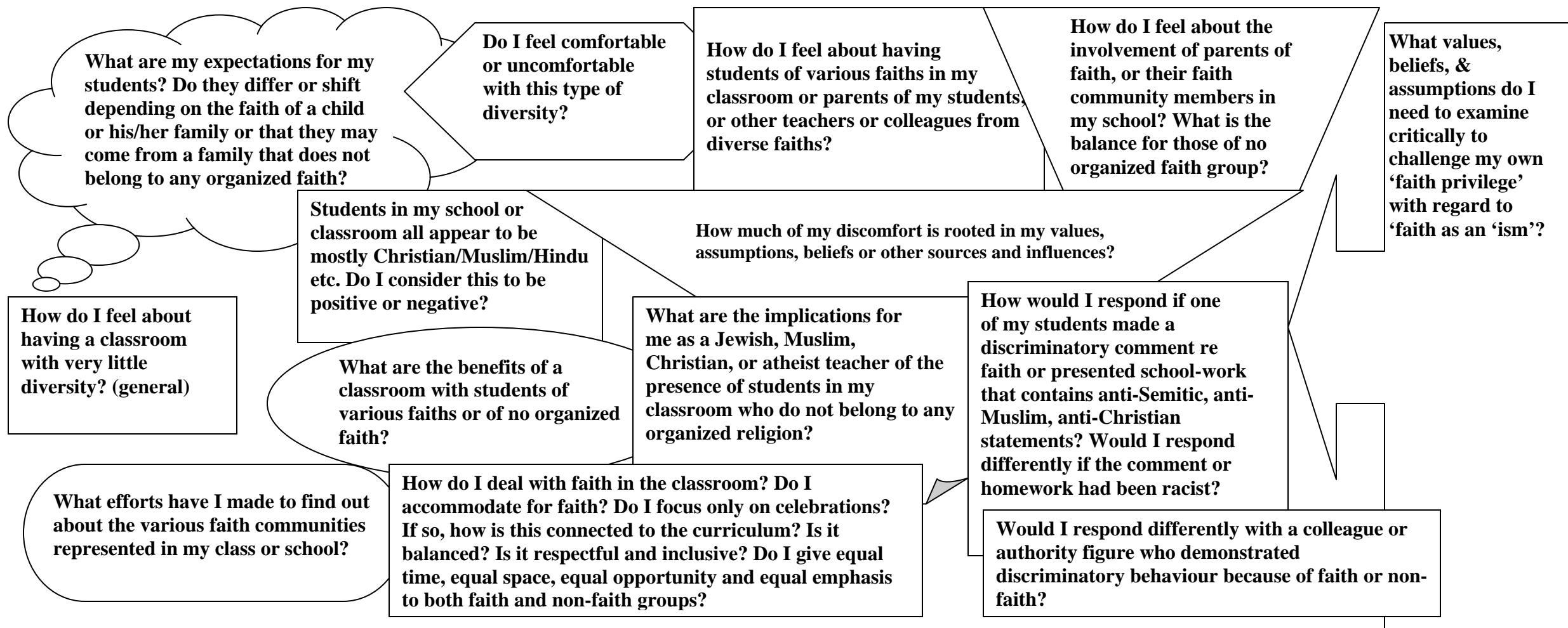


## FAITH as an 'ISM': What do I know, what do I feel about faith diversity in my school/class?

"For many students, religion is an important part of life, on the other hand, many children come from homes that do not adhere to any faith and may have little or no knowledge of spiritual matters. All students' backgrounds must be respected. Though it is not the role of teachers to promote specific religions or spiritual belief systems, they can help students respect religious diversity and appreciate and celebrate each other's individual identities, worldviews and customs." *Safe & Caring Schools for Students of All Faiths: A Guide for Teachers, The Alberta Teachers' Association*

Use the following questions to explore specific teaching challenges you may face related to faith as an 'ISM' and diversity.



Adapted by Meri Marja-terttu MacLeod, Human Rights Education Advisor Limestone District School Board, 613-5427369 x. 298

Sources- *Teaching for Diversity & Social Justice Part1:Examining Ourselves: An Exploratory Activity for Educators* adapted from *Creating Safer Schools for Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth: A Resource for Educators Concerned with Equity: Education Wife Assault. 1999;* & Zubeda Vahed, Retired Peel Board Equity Officer.

