



June and July 2016

PSCORE Newsletter

People for Successful COrean REunification

Street Campaign at National Assembly Station

Our interns once again took the streets for our campaigns. Earlier, our interns placed some posters with information on human rights abuses in North Korea in Itaewon, Seoul. The campaign was well received by the public: many people approached our interns and asked questions about the series of posters. Due to that great past experience, PSCORE decided to have a street campaign again on June to continue with the street campaign promotion information about human rights violations. This time we campaigned at a different location in the National Assembly subway station. This was a key location for our campaign due to the proximity to a broadcasting station, so we could reach a greater audience. This campaign was also a success, attracting people from different communities and getting them interested to read the posters and learn a little bit more about what is happening with the people living in North Korea.



Our intern Yoon Jin talking to a reporter from KBS

Polling the participants of our education program

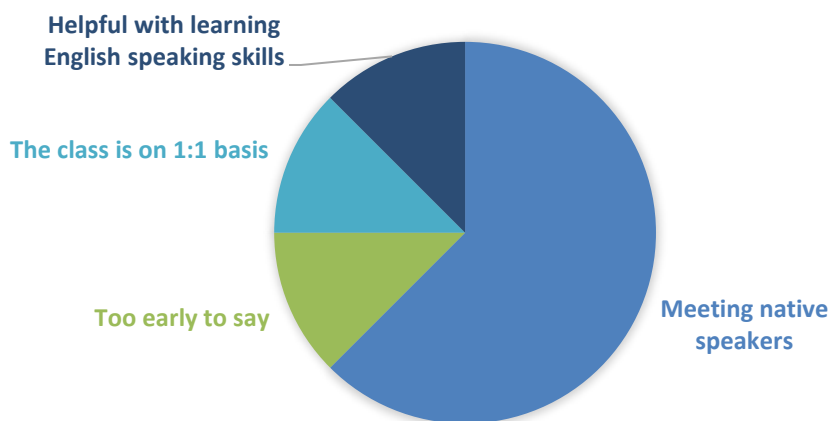
In June, we have decided to take a closer look at the results of our education program in order to find out which areas we have to improve on. For that aim, we have asked our North Korean students and their tutors several questions related to their experience in the PSCORE education program. For example, we asked our students whether they have met their objectives, or what they like most about the program.



North Korean defector students and their tutor at Wednesday English class

We have decided to display some of the results below, in addition to quotes by our English language tutors who have done such a great job supporting the North Korean defectors.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST?



"I have a big heart for the people of North Korea and know how it can be for refugees to adjust to South Korean lifestyle. I just wanted to help in any way I could as well participate in such a unique opportunity to interact with the refugees" Joshua St. Clair

According to the graph above, 67% of defectors who answered the question “Have you met your objectives?” answered positively. 33% believe they have not met their objectives yet. There is definitely more than enough opportunity and enthusiasm to improve, and we are always looking for new English tutors for our Wednesday classes.



Our intern Angela talking to her North Korean defector student

Our students have indicated that they enjoy the fact that the classes are taught on a 1:1 basis, and they would like to see the same teacher again as much as possible.

If you are available for a longer, continuous term and would like to help our North Korean students improve their English language ability, please get in touch.



Our volunteers and a North Korean defector student

In addition to the student survey, this month PSCORE decided to have a survey for the professors of the education program, asking their opinion about the classes, one and one tutoring sessions, and the different subjects they are interested in teaching. We wanted to know how they felt about the tutoring program and were happy to receive suggestions on how to improve it and how to shape the program to be more effective.

We received very helpful feedback which will be implemented in our program to make it even better. PSCORE is always trying its best to help improve our educational program, therefore the feedback of every teacher was taken very serious.

Speech Event: The Faceless Ones

July was a very exciting month for PSCORE due to several events that PSCORE hosted that gathered a domestic and international community interested in human rights. At the beginning of this month we had the pleasure to host a speech event called *the Faceless Ones*. The event was held on July 19th, at Korea University. The audience was very thrilled to participate in this speech event because they had the opportunity to listen to and interact with a Q&A session with a North Korean defector.

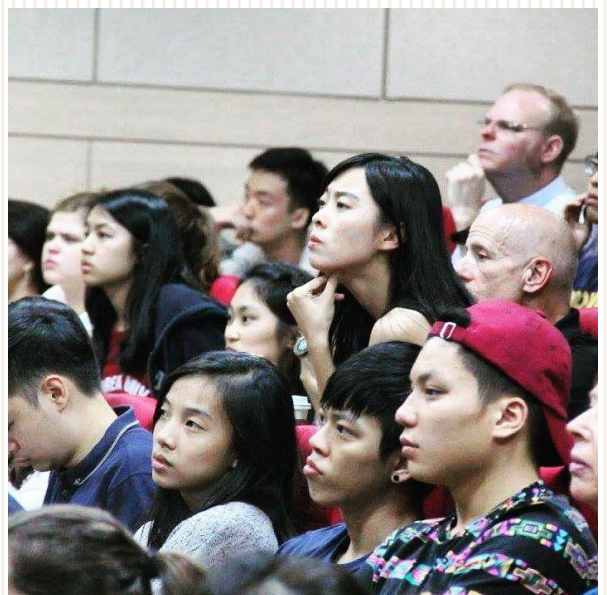


Our intern Lee interpreting for our speaker Miss Shin

Miss Shin, our speaker, defected North Korea in 2013 and she bravely decided to share her story as a nursery teacher while she lived in North Korea. Her story is in the book *The Faceless Ones* from PSCORE as well. It is available in our online shop. During this event she also shared some very emotional anecdotes that more than once brought tears to the eyes of audience members. The stories consisted of the things she saw during her time as a nursery teacher, the children education system and the malnutrition problems, which is one of the main issues that North Korean children are facing right now.

Additionally, she discussed the difficult journey she undertook when defecting from North Korea.

The speech event was a great success, completely filling the auditorium at Korea University. After the speech there was a Q&A session where the audience interacted with our speaker and could satisfy their inquiries. There were two PSCORE translators who helped with the English translation during the event.



Audience members focused on the speech

This was very helpful for the international community, as they could be more engaged in the event, and were able to ask more questions to Ms. Shin. The responses to the event were really positive: below you can find some reactions of students who were present at the speech event.

*“Listening to the stories shared during the talk was really heartbreaking and enlightening. It is difficult to imagine a society where education is propaganda and the syllabus is purely based on your teacher’s discretion and experience”
– Student from Korea University*

*“The speech was courageous and broke my heart”
- Audience Member*

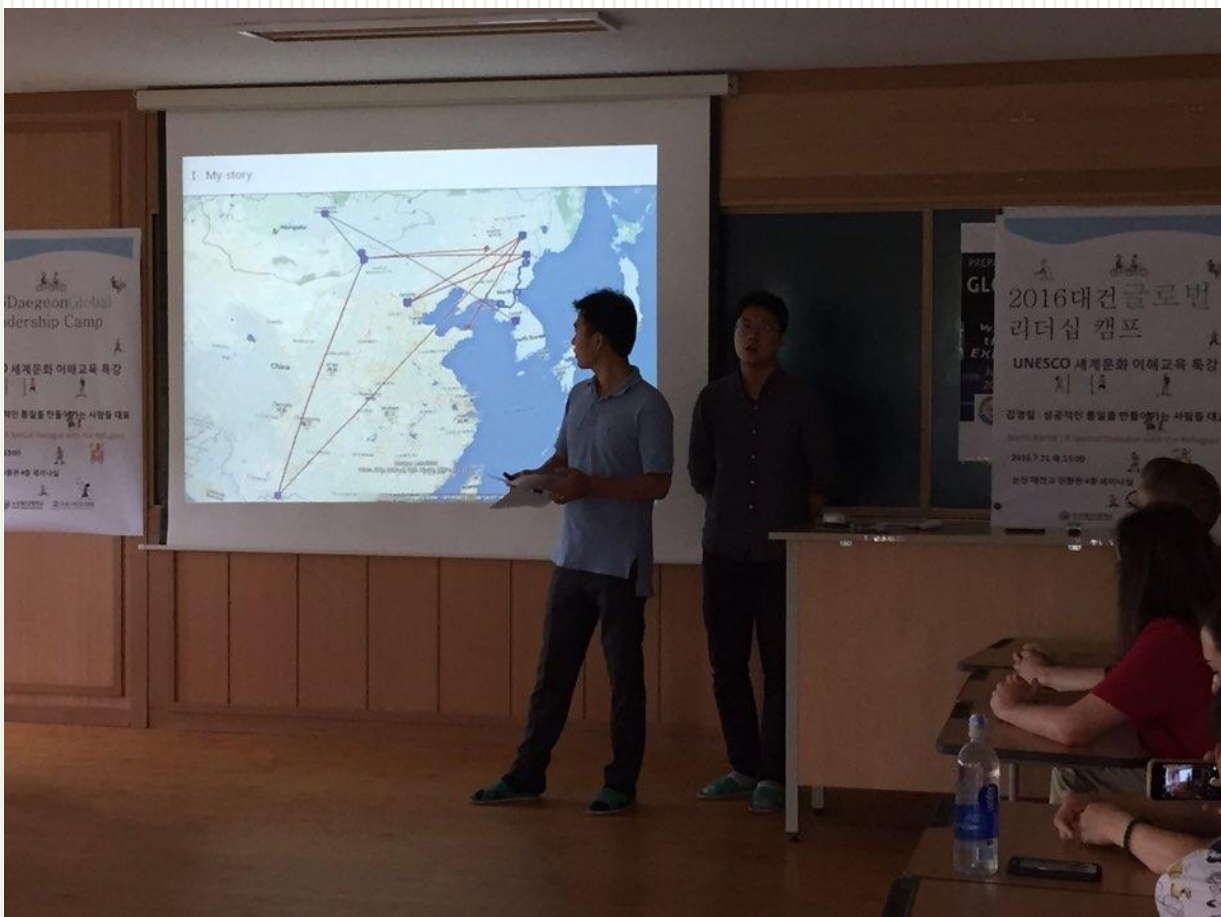
“While reunification of the two Koreas in the future may seem quite improbable, I believe that the majority of the people from both sides are looking forward to that day. In the meantime, it is important to give a listening ear to these defectors; to show them that the rest of the world cares and want to understand their pain” – Audience Member

“I would like to see Korea reunified” – Student from Korea University

The speech event will be available on our YouTube channel “PSCORE Seoul”
<https://www.youtube.com/user/PSCORE911>

Speeching to students at the University of Georgia

On July 21th, our founder Kim Young Il was invited to Nonsan Daegeon high school to speech to students at the University of Georgia. The event was supported by two of our interns who provided English translation throughout the presentation. Kim Young Il started the event with a question for the audience: what was the first thing to come to their minds when someone says North Korea? The answers which were given were 'nuclear weapons' and 'isolation', the usual answers influenced by the news or the media. Then, he talked about something people do not know that much about, the human rights issues that are facing North Koreans in real life. He also talked about his personal experience in North Korea. About how he escaped, his live while living in China and other amazing anecdotes concerning what he had to do in order to survive until he finally arrived in South Korea. Our founder mentioned the creation of our organization and how something which is just a dream becomes a reality.



PSCORE Founder Kim Young-II and
PSCORE intern Yoon Jin

PSCORE Rock Out Concert 12th Edition

On July 30th we hosted our annual Rock Out concert at the FreeBird night club. PSCORE hosts this fundraising event each year for its educational program which provides English classes and one and one tutoring sessions for North Korean defectors. The rock concert gathered amazing local rock bands featuring: Sons of Tigers, Wasted Johnny's, A'Z bus, and Rock n' Roll Radio.



Amazing lead singer from
Wasted Johnny's



Rock'n Roll Radio lead singer

These bands gave an amazing performance that night which made the audience scream and dance to the lyrics of their songs and having a great fun night. Additionally to the great music there was a raffle, and we gave away prizes such as reunification bracelets, PSCORE t-shirt and a CD.

Please check out our online shop if you are interested in buying items after the event. The more serious aspect of this event was the information provided about human rights violations by the PSCORE interns throughout the entire concert. The event not only attracted a domestic audience but also an international one that enjoyed rock music and that wanted to promote human rights.



Our intern MC's
Yoon Jin and Monica in a raffle ticket session

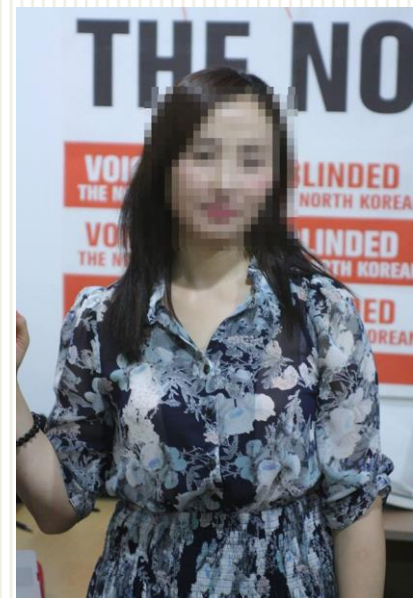


AZ Bus lead singer

This was a memorable night for everyone. Thank you for everyone that came and supported our show and also thank you to all the bands for an amazing show.

Why do we raise funds?

Because of our education program we were able to help many students, including our North Korean defector student Lee who achieved her dream to be accepted to a respectable university in South Korea. Thanks to the generous provision of funds by our donors, we have been able to use some of those funds to supply her with everything she might need to start her degree in Business Administration. The story of Lee is just one success story of our fund raising, as the money we receive is spend on various worthwhile causes. If you would like to help us reach our next success story, make a donation at <http://pscore.org/donation/>.



Congratulations to Lee, for getting into college!