

## **PBL problem statement**

When it comes to grappling with the difficult issue of death and dying, there's a great deal that's lacking in understanding in our culture. There's no question that religious, political, psychological, and who knows what other factors interfere with prioritizing death and dying as an important thinking/learning issue. As a result, rarely, if at all, is death and dying given priority as an educational issue. It remains one of those "taboo" aspects of life to stay away from, better left up to each person or family to cope with at the time in whatever ways they are able. Ultimately, such "ostrich" behavior on the part of our culture leads to more, not less problems, for people.

Can people be helped by a more open discussion of death and dying? Can they learn strategies to better prepare themselves and their families to become better problem solvers and decision-makers with respect to this inevitable part of the life cycle? What kinds of proactive roles can be taken by whom in preparing our citizens for addressing this key societal issue? For openers, just a few key questions that need to be asked.