



Power, Peace, Poetry Women's Perspectives on Society's Divisions

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This session was facilitated in adult education

Activity title	A step forward
Objectives	This workshop aims to raise awareness on the unequal distribution of opportunities in societies, and on the possible personal consequences of belonging to certain social or cultural groups; role-playing game, individual reflection, group debriefing and discussion
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Large and quiet place - papers with description of characters (one per participant) - one paper with the statements (for the facilitator) - (if desired) one paper raw or other material that can be easily broken (see "tips for trainers")
Time	1h30 hours
Group size	10-20 people
Instructions for trainers	<p>Create a calm and reflexing environment.</p> <p>Explain that this will be a role game and that they will have some time to get in their character. Distribute the papers with the description of the characters and invite the participants to read it and get into the character.</p> <p>Ask the participants to stand on a line, all looking at you, and being able to move forwards and backwards.</p> <p>Explain that you will read some statements. For each statement, participants will have to take a step forward if the statement is true for one's character, or a step backward if the statement is false. If they are not sure of the answer, they should make an effort and imagine how it could be for their character. It is entirely up to their judgment.</p> <p>You can invite participants to close their eyes to concentrate more. Read all the statements out loud. Give some time after each sentence to the participants to move, and be aware that everybody hears and understands the sentence.</p> <p>After reading all the sentences, invite all the participants to look at the final disposition, resulting from the exercise</p>
Debriefing and evaluation	<p>You can debrief while keeping in the same distribution in the space.</p> <p>How do you feel now?</p> <p>What happened, why are you distributed like that?</p> <p>How was it to take steps forward or backward? Was it easy to imagine where to go? Why? Why not?</p> <p>How did you feel moving and observing the others moving?</p> <p>What are we talking about with this activity?</p>
Tips for trainers	<p>Feel free to adapt questions and characters to the issues you would like to discuss about</p> <p>You can also add a wire: choose a paper wire or other material that can easily break. After the participants are in the first line, ask the first one to hold it with one hand, continue with the second in the</p>

	line, then the third and so on. While taking the first steps the raw will get broken or be abandoned. This will be also an opportunity for debriefing (how did you deal with the raw? How did you feel when it was going to get broken?)
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STATEMENTS

- You can invite friends for dinner at home
- Your family has a health insurance
- You can buy new clothes at least once every three months.
- You can fall in love with the person of your choice
- You felt at ease at school, because you felt your mates were like yourself
- You don't have any visible or invisible disabilities or illnesses
- You never had to pass over an employment position because of your gender, sexual orientation, ethnic appearance or religion
- You were raised in a safe area, far from prostitution, drug and violence
- You could choose your studies
- You started working when you wished to do it
- You feel good about the way medias portray the culture or religion you identify with
- You feel good about the way institutions portray the culture or religion you identify with
- In your daily life, you don't fear being made uncomfortable by jokes related to your appearance, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities or religion
- In your daily life, you don't fear being victim or threatened by physical or verbal violence
- Your parents were born in the country you live
- You feel free to choose where to live
- The idea of leaving your job and looking for another one doesn't threaten you
- You can express your opinion without fear of your government or social surrounding
- You come from a supportive family
- You can pay your rent and bills regularly
- You can go to cinema, concerts and other entertainment activities at least once a week
- You don't usually feel unsafe going alone by night
- You don't usually fear being stopped by the police
- You have never been afraid not to have a roof on your head
- You don't fear having to skip a meal because you cannot afford it
- Your passport allows you to travel to the destinations you wish
- You don't usually fear being sexually harrassed in the street
- You don't usually fear to be victim of abuse of authority at your job or in your daily life
- You feel that your opinion on social and political issues matters. Your views are listened to
- Other people consult you about different issues
- You know where to turn for advice and help if you need it
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CHARACTERS

<p>You are an unemployed 38 years old single mother</p>	<p>You are a 30 years old refugee from Somalia</p>	<p>You are a disabled young man who can only move in a wheelchair</p>	<p>You are an Arab Muslim girl living with your parents who are devoutly religious people who migrated to Europe before you were born.</p>
<p>You are a HIV positive middle-aged prostitute</p>	<p>You are a university student. Your father is the director of a well-known local enterprise.</p>	<p>You are a Chinese immigrant working in the restaurant of your parents and studying at university</p>	<p>Born in the body of a man, you are now a 45 years old woman and you work in a supermarket</p>
<p>You are a middle-aged homeless man</p>	<p>You are a 25 years old illegal immigrant from Mali.</p>	<p>You are a 20 years old fashion model from Nigeria</p>	<p>You are 60 years old farmer in a remote village in the mountains</p>
<p>You are the director of a local bank. You recently divorced</p>	<p>You are a university graduate looking for your first job</p>	<p>You are a lesbian youth worker of Spanish origin who recently moved to Germany</p>	<p>You are 38 years old woman. You recently have been diagnosed with an invisible illness</p>
<p>You are a middle class man married with your husband since 5 years. You had to move to another country in order to freely marry and live with him</p>	<p>You are a political activist hiding from your government and continuing your fight from abroad</p>	<p>You are a 17-year-old Roma (Gypsy) girl who never finished primary school.</p>	<p>You are a 40 years old father of three sons. You migrated with all your family 5 years ago. You need the help your sons for reading formal documents in the language of the country where you are living</p>