

Sample talking about conflict session

Time: 2 hours

Aims:

- to address and map areas of tension between the two groups from different parts of the divided community
- to enable young people to recognise the role that they can play in peace-making and commit to taking action.

Activity one: Introduction

Time: 15 minutes

Equipment: none

Method:

- Remind young people of the ground rules set in the previous session.
- Ask them to reflect on the two previous sessions (single-group work around tensions and the getting to know you session).
- Introduce the aims of the session, to talk about conflict in the local area. Are there any ground rules they would like to add?

Activity two: Mapping the conflict

Time: 50 minutes

Equipment: maps of the local area, flipchart paper, post-it notes and arts and crafts materials, (eg, felt-tip pens, coloured paper, different size boxes, glue).

Stage one (30 minutes)

Method:

- Divide participants into mixed-faith groups of four/five, give each group a piece of flipchart paper, arts and crafts materials and a map of the area.
- Ask participants to work together to build a three-dimensional representation of the area. They can use the maps for help but they should use as little writing as possible.

Stage two (20 minutes)

Method:

- Ask participants to look at their map and mark out the areas of 'peace' and 'conflict' on the maps: for example, an area of peace might be a shop that all communities use. An area of conflict might be a bus shelter that no one wants to walk past because they are afraid of the people that hang out there, or a badly lit underpass.
- Give the participants time to think about this, and then to walk round and look at the maps from each group.

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Activity three: Circle time discussion

Time: 25 minutes

Equipment: none

Method:

- Facilitate discussion time around conflict in the local area.
- Questions could include:
 - Was it hard to think of places that were 'peaceful' or associated with conflict?
 - Were the areas the same for both groups?
 - What do you think other community members might say, eg, how would younger children answer? What about older people?
 - How do you feel about this conflict? Would you like it to be more peaceful?
 - What can people do?

Hints for successful circle time

If you want to make sure everyone has a chance to speak there are a number of ways to do this:

- *Throw a ball around. You can only talk when you are holding the ball.*
- *Give everyone two or three tokens (eg, counters, beans, cotton buds). When you talk you have to concede one of these (if you want to be cunning, colour code them, gender, age etc. so you can have a picture of who is contributing... but try to be subtle!).*
- *Give everyone a sweet. When they have spoken they can eat the sweet.*
- *When one person has spoken, ask them to nominate the next speaker.*

Activity four: Action Planning

Time: 30 minutes

Equipment: copies of the question sheet below (enough for one between four), pens, sticker dots, Blu Tack, flipchart paper

Method:

- Recap on the most pertinent points from the previous discussion.
- What do the participants think can be done about problems they have identified? (Eg, if the problem is no opportunities to meet, can they start creating opportunities through youth clubs?)
- Divide the participants into groups of four and encourage them to discuss the issues and complete the grid attached.
- Ask the participants to stick their completed grids on the wall.
- Bring the group back together and give each a sticker dot.
- Ask them to place a dot next to the action that they think the group should take forward.
- Count the votes and agree a plan.

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DIVERSITY AND DIALOGUE.

17/02/2016 11:44

Do you think there should be more chances to meet people of other faiths?	
What would you like to see change?	
What can we as a group do?	
When should we do this?	
What help do we need?	
Who can help us?	
What are the next steps?	

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