

Intercultural Communicative Competence Training Programme_Module 1

Exercises to Improve Intercultural Communication Skills

EXERCISE 7 – Values, Morals and Emotions



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| Key objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To get to know each other better • To deal with personal values, feelings and emotions concerning gender, sex, love, relationships, insults and taboos • To discover and to understand own emotions and values and comparing them with others • To explore differences and similarities among people's values, morals and emotions |
| Time | 90 minutes |
| Materials | Session grid for each participant, pens, flipchart paper, markers, masking tape |

Background rationale

This activity is useful as a way of exploring individual values, morals and emotions, cultural taboos, group-building, and borders of personal space.

Procedure

1. Embarrassing object: participants working in small groups should agree on an object which would be embarrassing for them if somebody else would find it in their home. They should prepare a living statue – static or moving - in order to present this object to their public in order for them to guess what it is.
Timing: 20 min.
2. Every participant fills in a table with questions related to cultural norms and taboos. Questions should be chosen on a case to case basis according to the target group's profile. Some sample questions:



- In your opinion, what is the “right/appropriate” age to be married?
- What is the “right/appropriate” age to be married in your culture?
- What topic would be a taboo for you when talking to someone you don’t know

well? Timing: 10 min.

3. Once participants answer the individual questions, they should find other people with a maximum number of the same answers. Timing: 15 min.
4. Participants should identify and present an object which expresses their own values. Once everybody has found one, the whole group is asked to build something together from the different artefacts. This is an open-end task; it should finish once the group puts the objects together.

Debriefing and evaluation

Start with a short summary of the session and general questions on how the activity went. Was it enjoyable? Why yes/no? Then proceed to a discussion on learning outcomes:

- Was the group diverse or homogenous? How? Why?
- How does it feel to be in a culturally diverse or homogenous group?
- Is it the same or different? Why?
- What makes us so diverse?

