

17 DESIGN AN INCLUSIVE YOUTH CLUB

Aim

To consider the ways in which a club or organisation can exclude people and to encourage reflection on what is necessary to make a club inclusive.

Time

25 minutes

Materials

Flipchart, pens

Part 1

- Divide participants into 2 groups, group A and group B. Ask each group to come up with a list of rules which would exclude people from joining their youth club. Collect the lists.
- Ask a volunteer from group A to mime the first of group B's rules. Group A have two minutes to guess what the rule is. Then, ask a volunteer from group B to mime one of the rules from group A's list.
- Repeat until everyone has had a chance to mime. Keep the score giving each group a point for any rules they guess within the two minutes.

The Ready, Steady, Draw Alternative

Instead of miming the rules, a volunteer can be given 2 minutes to communicate a rule to his or her group by drawing it.

Part 2

Write up the rules suggested below on a flipchart and discuss the points below.

- Who would be prevented from joining the club if these rules were enforced?
- Do any of barriers like these exist in your youth club?
- How could you remove these barriers?
- Are there other ways of making your youth club more inclusive?

Part 3

Develop a charter for your youth group to promote the rights and inclusion of young people from a wide variety of backgrounds

SUGGESTED RULES OR BARRIERS

- Members must pay €15 each week
- Nobody with blond hair can be a member
- If you want to say anything it has to be in French
- Meets at 11.30am on a Tuesday
- You have to be able to do cart wheels to be a member
- Half of the meetings will be spent learning to type
- You have to be able to drive to be a member
- The only toilet at the youth club is on the sixth floor of the building and there is no lift
- Black coffee and ham sandwiches will be served but no other drink or food is allowed
- All decisions are made by the members who have been there the longest
- Only people from a certain area can attend
- Everyone has to wear a skirt to meetings