

The Tale of Curl

SPECIFIC ISSUE/S: Discrimination

PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES: To explore the experience of being in a marginalised group

LENGTH: 30 - 60 minutes

GROUP SIZE: Any kind of group

GROUP CHARACTERISTICS: Best with dominant group members

FACILITATOR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NEEDED: low level of knowledge required; High level facilitation skills are required as one or more slides may act as triggers for participants who are, or have been in, marginalised groups

RESOURCES NEEDED: The Tale of Curl script; The Tale of Curl powerpoint presentation; The Tale of Curl worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Show the powerpoint and follow the script, including the pauses for questions.

At the end allow for discussion and say that if the presentation was successful they will have realised that it looks really different when you are in the marginalised group.

This presentation can be a graphic and upsetting for some; however, if any are not moved then they may need more groundwork in this area.

2. Give participants a copy of the handout. Each person reflects privately on experiences they have had (as a member of a marginalised group or a dominant group) and asks:
Have I experienced this? What happened? Was this true for the situation I'm thinking about? [e.g. you were an outsider] Yes or No.

Participants do not need to share their reflections.

FACILITATION TIPS: Watch for the impact it may have on some people: it can be an activity that triggers remembrance of upsetting experiences for some individuals

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Adapted from: Kanter, R. M. *The Tale of "O": On Being Different*. Goodmeasure, Inc., 1979.