

In the middle of society (Privilege Walk)

Sources	http://www.youngcaritas.de/arm/informiert/bildungsarmut http://www.baustein.dgb-bwt.de/PDF/B3-ImRichtigenLeben.pdf
Diversity competencies to develop	Dealing with perceptions
Significance of the exercise	This exercise aims to raise awareness of life situations of certain social groups by students using role cards to take up positions that either marginalize them or put them in the center of society.
Targets	To highlight the unequal distribution of rights and opportunities - according to gender, ethnic and social origin, skin color, appearance, age, health, etc. - and their effects in everyday (student) life. Reflection on the role and possibilities of different groups in society.
Time needed	45 minutes
Participants	8~ people
Spatial requirements	Large room or outdoors
Preparation, tools	Role cards and questions (pp. 2 & 3, can be rephrased depending on the context).
Special notes	When assigning the role cards, please make sure that they do not reproduce any (obvious) disadvantages for the respective persons.
Exercise description	The students first stand next to each other in the room (or outdoors). Role cards are distributed and students have approx. 1-2 minutes time to get into the role. From now on, they are not allowed to talk anymore. The questions are then read out aloud. Those who think they can answer the question with "yes", according to their role, take a step forward; everyone else remains in their position. This is repeated until all questions have been read out or one person has reached the end of the room.
Evaluation questions	Note: The evaluation round is best started by the extreme positions, i.e., those students who either stand at the very front or at the very back. Each student reads out aloud his or her role card and briefly describes his or her impressions and feelings during the exercise. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it feel to be able to answer "yes" to almost every question? • How does it feel to have to answer "no" to almost every question? • Which role attribution(s) was critical to the response(s)? • What does looking at the others - to the front, to the side, to the back - trigger? • What surprised the students, what didn't?

Role cards

Carla, 38, teacher from the Philippines, works and lives in a German family as a domestic aid, has neither residence nor work permit	Erika, 39, resettler from Kazakhstan, semi-skilled metal worker, studied psychology, single mother (one child)
Georges, a 26-year-old engineer from Ghana, has applied for asylum and is living in a collective accommodation	Rose, a 28-year-old engineer from Ghana, has applied for asylum and is living in a collective accommodation.
Susanne, 30, married, housewife with two small children	Claudia, 42, married, alternative practitioner, blind since an accident in her youth
Klaus, 54, married, lawyer with two adult sons	Florian, 45, senior corporate lawyer in the energy industry, lives with his partner
Bernd, 45, master electrician, single, wheelchair-bound due to a progressive neurological disease, works as a porter	Juliane, 45, actress, single mother of a 7-year-old son, currently has an engagement at the municipal theater
Christoph, 24-year-old law student, suffers from anxiety and depression, lives with his parents	Hatice, 50, professed Muslim (female), married, two children, works in the public sector
Bettina, 43, executive at an accounting firm, in a relationship with Carola, 47, partner at a large law office	Yussuf, 21-year-old political student, born in Germany, son of a Moroccan father and a German mother
Stefan, 38, freelance science journalist and translator, single father of a 3-year-old daughter	Elisabeth, 58, trained medical assistant, was a housewife for a long time, recently divorced, looking for a job
Marek, 27-year-old sports student, first in his family to study, receives BAföG, also works as a student assistant	Meltem, 27-year-old sports student, first in her family to study, receives BAföG, also works as a student assistant

Questions

Can you...

- ⇒ attend a family festival in your hometown without any problems?
- ⇒ plan 5 years in advance?
- ⇒ spontaneously join a trip to Switzerland with your friends?
- ⇒ vote in the next local election?
- ⇒ be relatively sure that you will obtain entry by the bouncers of a disco?
- ⇒ feel safe alone on public transportation at night?
- ⇒ find an apartment relatively easily?
- ⇒ get a bank loan to start a business without any problems?
- ⇒ be relatively sure that you will not be checked by border guards on the train from Duisburg to Amsterdam?
- ⇒ expect fair treatment from the police when trying to report a theft?
- ⇒ accept a job offered to you relatively easily?
- ⇒ adopt a child?
- ⇒ ask your landlord/landlady for help if your neighbors are constantly making noise at night?
- ⇒ get dental treatment when necessary?
- ⇒ enroll in a gym without any problems?
- ⇒ visit a public swimming pool without any problems?
- ⇒ assume that you will be invited for an interview if you are one hundred percent qualified for the advertised position?
- ⇒ spontaneously go to the theater?
- ⇒ live your religion openly and without problems?
- ⇒ take up (and complete) studies without any problems?

Translated by



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