



Activity, Sport and Play for the Inclusion of Refugees in Europe



Playing field 4

Perception and communication



Duration

40 minutes



Material

Three different pictures, paper, pens



Group Size

2+, however the number of participants must be even and for the sake of a more intense discussion the participation of at least 4 persons is recommendable



Aim

To raise awareness of differences in perception and to teach how to improve communication



Age

8+



Source

Qualification measure "Fit for Diversity" of "Integration through Sport programme"/DOSB www.integration.dosb.de

Reflective exercise "Man and mouse"

1. Information

This exercise shows in a clear way that we view our surroundings through our own cultural glasses. Most of the time we are influenced by different imprints of culture that have been there from the beginning of our lives. Only through an open, tolerant dialogue we can widen our own perspective and accept a different point of view.

2. Description

The group should be divided into two smaller, equal groups. The most important rule is that there should be no verbal communication between participants.

The facilitator shows separately the first picture (of a man) to the first group and the second picture (of a mouse) to the second group. The participants are asked to remember the paintings including all the details. After that the facilitator discretely hides both paintings and then shows the third mixed picture (combination of a man and a mouse) to the entire group simultaneously, saying that this was the original and that it is shown as reminder to everyone. He or she should then hide this picture too. Without speaking, participants must then form mixed pairs. (One person from the first group, who saw the picture of a man, the second from the second group, who saw the picture of a mouse). These pairs must then paint the picture they saw, using one sheet of paper and both holding one pen.

By performing this exercise, participants will develop different kinds of communication as they try to paint the picture most similar to one they saw before. However, one person will try to paint a man and the second the mouse. Participants have ten minutes to finish and must then present their common paintings.



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4. Evaluation / Debriefing

The facilitator shows the mixed picture and discusses with participants what they recognise in the image. Ideally, the different groups will see different pictures – a result of their imprint from the very beginning (being shown the original images). After some minutes of discussion, the secret can be revealed. Both groups get to see all three pictures. Then the subsequent reflective discussion can be started.

Herby, the key points to highlight include:

- The link between previous visual imprints and own feelings, if these imprints vary
- Translation of the exercise situation to the intercultural context, where people with different origin are influenced by different cultural imprints.



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