



Expectations of boys and girls

Theme Gender equality

Age group 12-16

Group size 10 – 20

Time 60 minutes

Overview

This workshop is designed to discuss gender roles in a challenging format. It features discussion of gender roles as they are and how they have changed over time, to show that they are socially constructed.

Objective

- To reflect on gender and gender inequality in the participants' daily life and in their groups

Material and room

- Flipchart paper
- Markers
- Old and new magazine images (search online for old magazine images)
- Scissors
- Glue

Preparation

Search for old and new magazines with pictures of women and men in them, showing gender stereotypes at different times.

Instructions

1. Split the group into groups of 5. Half the groups make mind-maps of 'what is expected of boys'; the other groups of 'what is expected of girls'. They come back together and present their ideas to the others. The group can discuss if they agree with what has been said.
2. Introduce the term 'stereotype'. Ask what is expected of girls or boys because of stereotypes.
3. Gather some images from old and new magazines.
Make large posters which have 'I agree with' and 'I disagree with' on them. Ask the participants to find images from the magazine articles or pictures they agree or disagree with in regard to how men and women are shown. Ask the participants to cut them out and stick them on the posters.
4. Debrief with the group. The following questions may help to guide the group:
 - Why did you choose the images you chose?
 - How have images of women and men changed over time?
 - Do you think any of the images are accurate?
 - Where do these images come from?
 - Is gender something that is simply in our genes?
 - How does society affect our gender?