

EXAMINING YOUTH-ADULT RELATIONSHIPS

Purpose: To explore the dynamics of youth and adult relationships and approaches to positive interactions.

Materials: Role-play scenarios

Time: 30 minutes

Procedure:

Explain to participants that you will need volunteers to help conduct role-plays. These role-plays are designed to show youth and adult interactions in both a negative and a positive way.

Ask for volunteers to do the first role-play you have chosen for this group. First ask them to handle the situation in a negative way.

Discussion Questions:

1. (Ask the volunteers) What was it like to do this role play?
2. Describe how you feel about the roles you just acted out.
3. What did you see or hear in this role-play?
4. What are other experiences that you've had that are similar?
5. What does this say about our work with adults?

“Before we think through how we might do this differently, let's give the volunteers a chance to think through this same role-play and show us an approach that is positive.”

Leader's Notes

Give the participants time to think through what they will do and then have them do the role-play.

Let the volunteers think and then do the role-play.

Discussion Questions:

1. (Ask the volunteers) What was it like to do it this time?
2. How was this one different?
3. Which is most like you in real life?
4. What can we learn from this about our working with adults?
5. What are some of the elements in this last example that are necessary for partnership with adults? (Write these on newsprint.)

Thank the volunteers for being bold and taking a risk at the beginning of the workshop. Ask for another pair of volunteers and have them conduct a different scenario.

Discussion Questions:

1. (Ask volunteers) How did that feel?
2. What did you see that was similar or different from the last one?
3. Where in your life does this fit?
4. How do you deal with it?

Have this pair of volunteers now do the positive role-play.

Discussion Questions:

1. (Ask volunteers) Did this one make you feel different? How?
2. What is a key phrase or expression you remember from this role-play?
3. What are some words to describe the overall feeling between these two people?

Leader's Notes

Give prizes for people who volunteer: candy, toys, etc.

Once again, make sure that they have time to think and prepare before they have to present.

Workshop: *Youth*

4. What were major characteristics of the adult? Of the youth?
5. What can we add to our list about how to work in partnership?

“We have been talking about both the benefits and challenges that youth and adults bring to trying to work in partnership. Let us explore what these are a little more specifically.”

Leader’s Notes

Determine how much time you have and how many role-plays can really be accomplished. Is there new learning each time about working with adults and will that learning help to set the stage for talking about youth-adult partnerships?

Role-Play

Teacher/Student

The teacher won't admit that he/she graded a test incorrectly after you prove it to them with your text. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

The teacher won't admit that he/she graded a test incorrectly after you prove it to them with your text. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

You missed practice because of a family emergency. Your coach won't let you play in the big game. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You missed practice because of a family emergency. Your coach won't let you play in the big game. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Parent/Teen Daughter/Son

You are 17 years old and your parents insist that you come home at midnight after the Prom. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You are 17 years old and your parents insist that you come home at midnight after the Prom. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

4-H Agent/4-H Member

You have an idea to start an activity at your school. The 4-H Agent continually says that it would be a waste of time. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You have an idea to start an activity at your school. The 4-H Agent continually says that it would be a waste of time. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Youth/Employer

Your employer asks you to work every weekend. When you ask to have the weekend off to attend a family reunion, you get fired. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

Your employer asks you to work every weekend. When you ask to have the weekend off to attend a family reunion, you get fired. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Student/Guidance Counselor

You want to apply for a lot of scholarships that your counselor must sign. He/She won't sign them promptly; therefore, you miss several opportunities. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You want to apply for a lot of scholarships that your counselor must sign. He/She won't sign them promptly; therefore, you miss several opportunities. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Student/Principal

You found a stolen book bag in the bathroom and turned it in to your principal. You were accused of stealing it. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You found a stolen book bag in the bathroom and turned it in to your principal. You were accused of stealing it. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Student/Librarian

You returned a library book that was in poor condition when you checked it out. The librarian wants you to pay for the replacement of the book. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You returned a library book that was in poor condition when you checked it out. The librarian wants you to pay for the replacement of the book. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Doctor/Youth

You have to receive shots for school. You are not eighteen and it requires your parents' permission. Your parents can't attend, so they sign a note. You are accused of forging their signature. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

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Role-Play

Youth/Girlfriend/Boyfriend's Parents

Your boyfriend/girlfriend's parents have been receiving hang-up calls in the middle of the night. They accuse you of making the calls. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

Your boyfriend/girlfriend's parents have been receiving hang-up calls in the middle of the night. They accuse you of making the calls. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Youth/Police Officer

An officer pulls you over, only because you drive a red sports car. You had done nothing wrong. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

An officer pulls you over, only because you drive a red sports car. You had done nothing wrong. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!

Role-Play

Youth/Local Store Owner

You are accused of stealing a candy bar. You often shop in this small store, but some of your friends have been caught stealing. Handle the situation in a negative role-play!

You are accused of stealing a candy bar. You often shop in this small store, but some of your friends have been caught stealing. Handle the situation in a positive role-play!