

Session name	Bridging gaps – “Everything starts with a dot”
Theme	Youth Inclusion Preventing Radicalization
Complexity	Level 2
Group size	10-20
Time	60 minutes
Overview	We have more commonalities than differences once we stop putting people in boxes. In this activity the participants will be able to see and experience what is like to have similarities irrelevant of ethnicity, religion, race, sex, disability, sexual orientation.
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ To show respect and understand that people have different values, emphasizing the distance between us ✓ To understand personal belonging + identity of each person upbringing + personal experience ✓ To show that despite the differences in personal identity + experiences we can find common ground, and empathize ones makeup ✓ Observe + recognize that we all belong to a subgroup within a wider group in society
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role cards ○ Open space ○ Line ○ Circle ○ Tape ○ Pot ○ Chairs
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energizer ▪ Prepare the role cards + questions, write up-cut them ▪ Review the roles + tailor them to the participants ▪ Participants choose a role from pot at random

INSTRUCTIONS

Task 1 – Promoting inclusion energizer

Energizer: Musical chairs

- Music will be played. A circle will be made with chairs facing outward. When the music stops you should find a seat to sit. Then one chair will be taken away. The music begins again and you must find a seat when the music stops. If you don't find

a seat you must sit on someone who is already on a chair. The activity is repeated many times. A chair will always be eliminated and all people will always need to be seated on others or standing on a chair somehow. This process is repeated until there are 2 chairs left and everybody is sitting/standing/leaning on other people and their chair.

Simulation activity 1 (line)

- First you will choose a role from the pot at random
- Look at your role by yourself (whilst listening to background music)
- When you are ready open your eyes + take a position on the line
- Then you will be asked behavioral questions. If you agree with these questions you will make a step forward. If you do not agree with these questions you stay where you are.
- Please take a look around once all questions have been asked and stay in position.
- A picture to capture the difference in distance will be taken.
- We will now move on to simulation 2.

Simulation activity 2 (circle)

- You need to arrange yourself around the circle with your existing roles.
- You will then be asked identity questions and you need to move into the circle if you fit the role/profile
- Meanwhile do look around and notice others in + out of the circle
- You exit the circle before the next question
- This will continue until all questions have been asked
- Please notice your position each time
- Reveal your roles to the group
- Debriefing will follow

DEBRIEFING

- Begin by asking the participants about what happened? How did they feel? About the activities + go on to discuss them.
- How it felt when the participants moved forward? Were you interested in those who didn't? Did you silently judge them?
- How it felt when the participants didn't move forward? Did you second guess yourself/ your beliefs?
- Did anyone at any point feel they could not identify or relate to the task/role?
- Why do so many people who believe their opinion is always "right" don't act like it according to social norms and the law
- If identity + belonging is personal why do we spend so much time picking at others beliefs – for which purpose?
- If we are all the same, granted that we are born + we will die, why do we threaten others and feel threatened by the way others live their lives?
- Did this activity affect your understanding of different groups in society?
- What might be some consequences of treating individuals or entire groups negatively based on their social membership?
- Did you feel disrespected /unequally treated / offended in this exercise?
- How could we begin to address such conflicting beliefs in order to co-exist in peace?
- Did you learn anything from this?
- How can you better yourself through the experience?
- If it happens to you – what will you do?

Simulation activity 1

The one who...

Dislikes Muslim

Is very religious

Is against homosexuality

Feels happy

Wouldn't live next to Roma person

Hurt others verbally/physical

Was hurt by others

Has thought about committing suicide

Has thought to kill another

Believes love can solve problems

Believes ignorance is good

Believes their opinion matters

Doesn't have a car

Doesn't drink alcohol

Doesn't eat pork

Is a vegan

Went for a run this week

...make a step forward

Simulation activity 2

Who has a friend who died?

Who has brothers + sisters?

Who has divorced parents?

Who finished university?

Who was troublemaker at school?

Who knows someone with disability?

Who has lived abroad?

Who has a job?

Who has a disability?

Who has been hurt?

Who has felt lonely/ excluded?

Who has fallen in love?

Who is a parent?

Who has felt downgraded?

Who has been a drug user?

Role cards

You are an Arab Muslim girl living with your parents who are faithful followers of your religion. You want to study medicine. You hate the situation you live in.

You are a 22 years old Roma (gypsy) girl who never finished primary school. You are a girlfriend of a young artist and you love him very much. You like to do exercise every day.

You are a homosexual and you were bullied at school. You are an HIV positive. You are a prostitute and a single parent.

You studied economics at university and you can't find a job. You live in poor conditions. You are homeless.

* Add more roles according to your group and the topic of the activity.