

Crossroads of the World Small Group Discussion Questions

Distribute the following instructions and questions to small group facilitators for discussion. Also provide each facilitator with a copy of the flowchart for the country about which they will be leading a discussion.

Zimbabwe

Take some time prior to the activity to read through all of the situations that the young person from Zimbabwe faced. The flowchart may be helpful to you in understanding the activity more clearly.

Each participant most likely took a unique path through the activity. For this reason, you may need to help the participants realize that they did not all have a common experience, even though they were working within the same country. Ask participants to share the path they took.

This activity was designed from the real-life stories and situations that were described to and witnessed by the writers of this activity, and by Catholic Relief Services staff who work in these countries. Specific names of organizations are real, although the young people are not real. If young people have questions about the activity, invite them to do some of their own research about the issues and situations that are described in this activity.

Discussion Questions

1. How did you end the activity? (Each participant's experience may be unique.)
2. Were you surprised by the situations you found yourself in? Why?
3. What was the hardest thing for you to "get used to" as you were playing the role of Catherine?
4. What effect did AIDS have on Catherine's life?
5. How much freedom did Catherine really have? How does it compare to your own freedom?
6. Was there anything that made you mad?
7. At the end of the activity, did you feel hopeful or hopeless?

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The Holy Land

Take some time prior to the activity to read through all of the situations that the young person from the Holy Land faced. The flowchart may be helpful to you in understanding the activity more clearly.

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Discussion Questions

1. How did you end the activity? (Each participant's experience may be unique.)
2. Were you surprised by the situations you found yourself in? Why?
3. What was the hardest thing for you to "get used to" as you were playing the role of Riham?
4. What effect did being Palestinian have on Riham's life?
5. How much freedom did Riham really have? How does it compare to your own freedom?
6. Was there anything that made you mad?
7. At the end of the activity, did you feel hopeful or hopeless?

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India

Take some time prior to the activity to read through all of the situations that the young person from India faced. The flowchart may be helpful to you in understanding the activity more clearly.

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Discussion Questions

1. How did you end the activity? (Each participant's experience may be unique.)
2. Were you surprised by the situations you found yourself in? Why?
3. What was the hardest thing for you to "get used to" as you were playing the role of Ramaija?
4. What effect did education have on Ramaija's life?
5. How much freedom did Ramaija really have? How does it compare to your own freedom?
6. Was there anything that made you mad?
7. At the end of the activity, did you feel hopeful or hopeless?

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Haiti

Take some time prior to the activity to read through all of the situations that the young person from Haiti faced. The flowchart may be helpful to you in understanding the activity more clearly.

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Discussion Questions

1. How did you end the activity? (Each participant's experience may be unique.)
2. Were you surprised by the situations you found yourself in? Why?
3. What was the hardest thing for you to "get used to" as you were playing the role of Reggie?
4. What effect did poverty have on Reggie's life?
5. How much freedom did Reggie really have? How does it compare to your own freedom?
6. Was there anything that made you mad?
7. At the end of the activity, did you feel hopeful or hopeless?