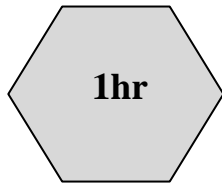


Rights Walk

Time



Purpose

To introduce the transition to action. This exercise enables participants to explore with their own awareness, the potential risks associated with standing up for change in a given context. It facilitates an understanding that people have different levels of comfort in taking action, and that context matters.

Preparation:

Prepare cards with 'rights' written on each. For example:

- Right to security
- Right to a fair trial and recognition before the law
- Right to freedom of movement
- Right to leave and return to own country
- Right to own property
- Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Right of assembly
- Right to vote
- Right to food
- Right to education
- Right to health
- Right to work
- Right to a family

Layout

Room with no chairs, people stand. Put cards on the floor spaced out haphazardly.

You will need to ask participants to line up against one wall in order to do this exercise, so clear out the chairs from one wall.

Process

1. Place cards spaced out on the floor with large writing. Ask people to walk around and chose a right that means most to them (make the part that rights are all equal in value); ask them to think about a personal experience that makes them feel so strongly about that right.
2. When they are grouped around the cards, ask them to briefly tell those around their card why that right is so important – how it relates to their lives. Explain that they will have to share their stories unless they want to.
3. Take a few stories in plenary after you have given them time enough to share with each other.
4. Line them up against a wall, and explain that you are going to ask them to take some steps, the first time they must take the steps, the second they can chose.
5. Each step is in response to a question, as follows:
 - Think about the right you stood by and now:
 - Would you state your right?
 - Would you be laughed at or mocked for that right?
 - Would you fight for that right (physically)?
 - Would you go to jail for that right?
 - Would you kill for that right?
 - Would you die for that right?
6. Each question, they take a step – ask people to do this silently and to think about what they are doing and their feelings.
7. Go back to the wall and do it again – this time they can step or not – it is their choice.

Close

Debrief the session by asking what it has taught people; how did they feel? What are they asking themselves? What do they notice about the risks of taking action? What do they notice about taking the step alone, or with others? Etc

Facilitator's Tips

1. This is quite a personal process. Use it with caution – try and get a sense for whether people would be comfortable with doing it.
2. Remind participants that CARE is not wanting CARE staff to be jailed, or die, or kill in their work. This exercise is to get people

exploring the risks involved with action; but it also enables participants to learn about themselves.