



What is Violence?

Aim:

that young people explore how violence, which arises from conflict, occurs on many different levels.

Time:

30 minutes

Age:

10 years and older

Materials:

Four large sheets of paper, cards or post-its for statements (prepared in advance), markers

What to do:

On each of the posters, write one of the following - VERY VIOLENT, VIOLENT, ROUGH and PEACEFUL. Stick the posters around the room. Write out the list of statements, one per card, and divide them up between the participants (at least one per participant). If necessary, add statements to the list. Ask the participants to stick the cards on whichever poster they think is appropriate. When all the cards are placed, ask the large group if they agree with the placements. Move the statements if the group agrees.

Now form small groups. Ask each group to choose four of the statements that they have strong feelings about. What impacts do these actions have on the victims and others? What can be done to protect people from these actions? Who (or what groups) should protect people from these actions?

Statements

Bullying

People who drink and drive

Playing really loud music

Slapping children

Joining the armed forces

Joining in when friends insult Travellers

War

Terrorism

Vandalism

Writing a letter of protest

Selling drugs

Landmines

Writing threatening slogans on a wall

Shouting at people in the street

Using animals in experiments

Cutting off the water supply to a city e.g. Baghdad

Blocking a road

The death penalty for convicted murderers

Being racist

Shouting at your parents when they don't let you do something

Pushing someone out of the way of a car

Joy riding

Allowing your ports and airports to be used for war

Hitting your friend or family member

Marching for free speech

Dropping a nuclear bomb

Physically attacking a group of racists

