

IAMSR Conference 2017: Leadership, Spirituality, and Education
Professional Development Workshop
Educating for Moral Clarity and Character: Deepening Compassion by Understanding
World Views

Homework: Imagine a few situations from world views that are different than yours. What are the different interpretations of the same situation?

Additional Model and Exercise for Consideration:

Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity by Milton J. Bennett, Ph.D.

Stage 1: Denial of Difference “As long as we all speak the same language, there’s no problem”.

Stage 2: Defense Against Difference “When you go to other cultures, it makes you realize how much better our own culture is”. Defense/Reversal: Tendency to see another culture as superior while maligning one’s own.

Stage 3: Minimization of Difference “I have this intuitive sense of other people, no matter what their culture”.

Stage 4: Acceptance of Difference “I always try to study about a new culture before I go there”.

Stage 5: Adaptation to Difference “I can maintain my values and also behave in culturally appropriate ways”.

Stage 6: Integration of Difference “Whatever the situation, I usually look at it from a variety of cultural points of view”.

Pre-Class Homework:

Think of examples of a time when you were in each stage of this model. Write a short description of each example. If you cannot think of a personal example for a later stage in the model, imagine what it would be like to be in that stage and write down an imagined example.

Class Exercise: Talk with a partner about a time when you were in each stage. Take turns to describe to each other how you behaved when you were in stage 1. Next, each person tells how

Page 5 Understanding Our Own Worldview and the Worldviews of Others, Dorianne Cotter-Lockard, PhD

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they behaved when they were in stage 2. Move through the succession of stages in the same way. Include imagined examples of later stages and get your partner's feedback on their perceptions of those stages.

Debrief: Facilitate a discussion with the whole group to hear some of the examples and explore the learning about each stage in the model.

Additional Exercise:

Sharing Different Perspectives – Mini World Cafe

1. Have students sit in trios, have students identify person A, B, C
2. Provide an ethical dilemma case example for discussion
3. Instruct the students to take turns starting with person A, 1 minute each, to explain their perspective to their group
4. Ask person B to stand up and move to another group
5. Repeat step 3
6. Ask person B to stand up and move to another group
7. Repeat step 3
8. Debrief with the whole group:
 - Did your perspective change after you heard the other two people in your group express their perspectives in the first round?
 - How did the introduction of a new group member change the energy of the group?
 - How did the introduction of a new group member change your perspective?
 - Did your perspective change in rounds 2 or 3?
 - What did you learn from this process?

References

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