

TEAM LEADERSHIP PROBLEM

19. IT'S ME, NOT YOU

Theme: Conflict Resolution

Estimated Time: 25-30 minutes

Resources Required: Deck of cards (minus the jokers)

Activity Description and Step-by-Step Instructions:

Sometimes groups don't like newcomers and they form cliques. This exercise reveals that cliques can develop, and it shows how to resolve the conflicts that such cliques may bring.

Thoroughly shuffle the deck of cards and allow every participant to select one. Have everyone holding a red card to go to one side of the room and everyone holding a black card to go to the opposite side. Anyone holding a face card (ace, king, queen or jack) meets in the middle of the room.

Instruct the students not to reveal their cards to anyone until instructed to do so. Ask someone holding a two card from both ends to pick someone from the middle to join their side. The face card person shows the two card person his or her card. If the color is the same, then the person stays. Otherwise, the person goes back to the middle.

Now ask someone holding a three card from both ends to pick someone from the middle to join their side. The face card person shows the three card person his or her card. If the color is the same, then the person stays. Otherwise, the person goes back to the middle.

Continue with someone holding a four card, five card, etc., until all face cards are with their corresponding group.

Discussion Questions:

What were some methods used that worked or did not work?

What were some ways to make the team work more efficiently?

What were some concepts learned from this exercise?

How can these concepts be applied outside this activity?