

Project Number: 2019-1-PT01-KA203-060772

THE SOCIETAL LADDER

Link

Available at: https://rfslungdom.se/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/break the norm second-edition 2009.pdf

Group size: 5 to 20 people

Duration: 60 minutes

Objectives:

- The purpose of the Societal Ladder exercise is to discuss who is allowed positions of power and influence in society
- How the above is related to race, ethnicity and other forms of discrimination such as, sex, color, sexual orientation, disability and class.

Description:

- Make copies of pictures on pages 18-31
- Spread the pictures out on a large table or on the floor.
- Have the group arrange the pictures into a hierarchy placing those that you think have most power on the top and those with the least at the bottom.
- The group members may choose to discuss their train of thought or remain silent during the exercise.
- Specifically point out that the group should focus on the current state of your own society.

Debriefing - Evaluation:

- Discuss what it was in each picture that caused you to position the person higher or lower in the hierarchy. Write the group's reflections down and repeat them out loud.
- Next, change the focus from your society in general to other places and societies.
- How would these people place in the UN General Assembly? In a small village in the country? On the beach in the summer? In Parliament/government?
- As a second step, stick notes onto each picture. Have each group member write the monthly salary that they think each person earns in relation to a mean salary that you supply.
- Discuss how it is possible that you can determine from a picture how much a person earns in spite of the fact that we know nothing about the subjects! Also point out that an upperlevel position in the hierarchy does not necessarily imply a higher salary nor does a lower-level position imply a lower salary.