

HANDOUT 9

CULTURE AND BELIEVES



You will need a printed copy of a questionnaire for every participant. Time: 25-35 minutes or more, depending on the number of participants.

-Give the participants the questionnaires and ask them to fill them up for 5-10 minutes.

-Read the questions and ask people who have answered "true" to step on the left, and those who have answered "false" to step on the right.

-Be aware that everyone skips a question if he/she doesn't want to answer. Below are some of the example topics:

- How important is the culture?**
- How does culture influence our behaviour?**
- How can people from different cultures work together?**
- Is the culture connected to race?**

Basic concepts questionnaire (true or false):

- 1. Culture combines beliefs, values, customs and behaviour.**
- 2. Culture is inherited, not learnt.**
- 3. Ethnic groups are subgroups of society.**
- 4. Race is always determined by physical characteristics.**
- 5. People traditionally belong to the same cultural group.**

This activity is very useful for the participants to discover that stereotypes, prejudices and lack of knowledge can be an obstacle to effective and good cooperation. Encouraging dialogues can bring participants to state minds and prevent tension, resulting from the lack of cultural awareness.