

# **PERSON ORIENTED OR TASK ORIENTED?**

## **In Your Dealings With Others What Are You?**

### **A Jigsaw Group Exercise**

#### **Intent of this exercise**

- ✓ To discover whether we are person-oriented or task-oriented persons
- ✓ To realize that without the help of others, all of us are incomplete and unable to accomplish any task.
- ✓ To find out how much concerned the group members are for each other.

#### **Arrangements and Requirements:**

- ✓ Divide the participants into small groups of 4
- ✓ Each group of four will sit together close to one another, ideally around a small table
- ✓ Secure four pictures from some illustrated magazines for each group. (*Better if those pages are printed on both sides*)  
For each group of four, cut the four pictures into irregular bits, mix them and keep an equal number of bits in four envelopes.
- ✓ Give one envelope to each participant of a group.

#### **Instructions to the Participants**

*Give the following directions to the participants*

- ✓ Each one of you – individually - is supposed to reconstruct a complete picture out of the bits given to your group.
- ✓ The work is to be done in strict silence.
- ✓ You are allowed to give any pieces in your possession which are of no use to complete your picture, to any member of your group who may need them to complete his picture.
- ✓ You are not allowed to ask anyone for any pieces, in possession of others, that you need to complete your picture, much less, of course, to grab them from them..
- ✓ Those who complete their pictures first will be the winners.

#### **Note for the moderator:**

When the pictures are complete or the time allotted for the work is over, the analysis of the game will start.

#### **Personal Work: Instructions to the participants.**

1. Reply in writing to the following questions.
2. Could you or not, complete your picture? Why?
3. How much help did you receive from the members of your group?
4. How much help have you offered them?

5. Were you more concerned with finishing your picture than helping others?
6. Did you purposely block the work of the others by not giving them the bits they needed?  
What were your feelings towards your partners while doing the job assigned?
7. Impatience, anger, annoyance, etc.. Why?  
Can you find any application of this game of the jigsaw puzzle to real life?  
Explain.
8. Did this game teach you any lesson about your attitudes towards the needs of others? Explain.
9. What have you learned from this game on how to make our camp, seminar or workshop. a success?
10. Have you any remarks to make to your partners? Write a note for them on what you observed about them and on how you felt during the exercise.

**General Group Work:**

- Sharing of their replies.  
Discuss the most important points.
- Would you like to have any feedback from the group members? If so, ask them
- Applications of the game to real life situations and to our camp situation.

**Input: By any of the moderators.**

- Elaborate on the findings of the group
- There are two basic attitudes while we belong to a group; person oriented and task oriented...
- Anyone has to be "person-oriented" to build up a group and contribute to its welfare, be a family, sports team, and school or college activity, whatever. .
- A person oriented attitude is a "must" to enter into personal relationships".
- Task oriented persons may, even unawares, tend to use and misuse people!
- They may even, manipulate others to have their tasks done.
- Only "person-oriented" people can help others grow.
- Persons will always take priority over or institutions, people over tasks
- Explain the following sentences
  - No individual should be sacrificed to an institution
  - Structures tend to cannibalize on people
  - People can never means to accomplish a task.

**Prayer Session:**

- End the session in prayer.
- Get all the participants to co-operate.
- The same groups of 4 that build the jigsaw pictures could build up the prayer session. Each group will take a different part.