

Newcomer Empathy

Exercise

The first part of the exercise is to complete this short questionnaire, Take no more than five minutes.

Which activities do you do frequently and/or regularly?

Which of these activities have you NEVER done?

Do not go on to/ read o Part 2 until you have completed Part 1.

Your name:

This exercise was originally developed by consultants Morton Smyth as part of their ground-breaking action research "Not For the Likes of You"

Activities	Regular	Never tried	Activities	Regular	Never
Alternative comedy event			Jazz gig		
Amateur dramatic society			Knitting event		
Amusement Arcade (slot machines)			Large museum		
Arts festival			Night Club, but not where have been before		
Auction room			Line dancing class		
Betting shop/placing a bet			Live arts event		
Bingo			Local bar, but not where have been before		
Bollywood film in a cinema			Massage		
Bunji-jump			Nail parlour for manicure		
Carnival			New-Age workshop on angels		
Casino			Party plan event - hosted or attended		
Children's theatre show			Performance in a language/ culture not yours		
Church service (not your own church)			Photographic exhibition		
Classical concert			Reiki/ alternative therapy session		
Comedy club			Rock concert		
Contemporary art exhibition			Seminar/lecture on a subject unrelated to arts		
Cosplay event			Show-jumping (horse trials)		
Country house			Slimming Club		
Creative writing class			Specialist archive or library		
Dance performance			Sponsored run (or swim etc)		
Dog racing			Stock Car racing		
Fairground			Superbike racing		
Fishing trip or competition			Synagogue service		
Floatation tank			Theatre		
Football match			Traditional Circus		
Gaming convention			Volunteering at a food bank or similar		
Golf club/ course			Walking or "Rambler" Group event		
Gym			World music event		
Historical re-enactment participation			Yoga class		

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Exercise continued

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As facilitator, make sure everyone has put their name on their questionnaire. Ask everyone to tell the group which things they do most often and then which they have never tried. Now ask for the forms to be handed in.

Once handed in, ask everyone to select ONE of the activities they have never tried and commit to doing it within a timescale you set.

Select a time to come back together and discuss:

- How easy was it to find out about?
- How did you feel when you arrived?
- High spots and low spots?
- How do you feel about it now?
- Would you go back?
- What did you learn?

As a group, list how the experiences of “new-comers” differ from “experts”
How should this affect your work with/ for the target group?