

2. Getting Your Voice Heard

Aim: To consider the importance of having a voice on issues of concern

Time: 20 minutes

What you need:

Coloured card – several different colours.

Plan:

Play a game where someone gets left out.

Either:

- Seat the group in a circle
- Give everyone in turn the name of a fruit; apple, orange, banana, pear
- Call a fruit and everyone of that name must change places
- While they are dashing about remove one chair or more, so that people are left at the side and can no longer play

Or:

Give the different colour cards to each participant – e.g. one third of the group gets a blue card, one third a red card and the rest a green card. Any one who has a red card is ignored by the facilitator in the discussion. Ask the group a question to provoke a debate, e.g. "should voting be compulsory?"

Go round the group and ignore the people with the red card. Do a second round and only listen to people with a green card etc.

- Who might the red cards represent? The green cards?
- Who gets left out in society?
- Who isn't listened to? Who is?

Choose one of these two activities, then at the end of the game, discuss:

- How did it feel to be ignored/left out?
- Who has the power in the game?