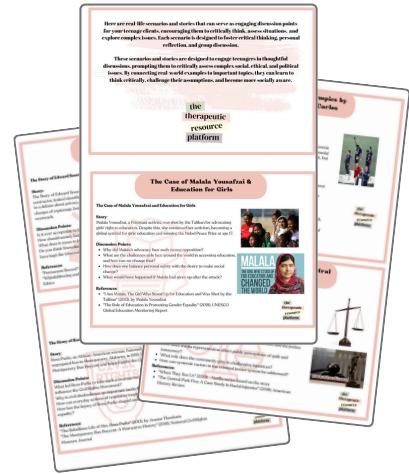


Critical Thinking - Dialogue For Change: Real Life Social Senerios (US Based)

Instruction page



1

Activity Type

Age: 10-18+

Participation Style:
Group activity
1-1 activity

Theme:
Critical thinking, reflective, group discussion

2

General Activity Info

Here are real-life scenarios and stories designed to spark meaningful discussions among participants. These scenarios encourage critical thinking and thoughtful assessment of complex topics, such as race, inequality, and gender issues. Each example aims to promote personal reflection, engage diverse perspectives, and foster group conversations.

These scenarios and stories are designed to engage teenagers in thoughtful discussions, prompting them to critically assess complex social, ethical, and political issues. By connecting real-world examples to important topics, they can learn to think critically, challenge their assumptions, and become more socially aware.

3

Materials Needed

- A printed and laminated copy of the resource for extended use.
- paper and pens for note taking.

4

Step by Step Instructions

Preparation (10 minutes):

1. Select and print scenarios or stories that highlight themes such as race, inequality, gender issues, and other relevant social topics.
2. Arrange chairs in a circle or set up tables for small group discussions.
3. Provide discussion prompts and guiding questions for each scenario.

Introduction (5 minutes):

1. Briefly explain the purpose of the activity: to engage in meaningful discussions and think critically about social, ethical, and political issues. Emphasize the importance of respecting diverse opinions and creating a safe space for open dialogue.

Group Assignment (5 minutes):

1. Divide participants into small groups (3-5 people per group).
2. Assign each group a scenario or allow them to select one.
3. Ask participants to read the assigned scenario together. Encourage each participant to take a minute to reflect on their initial thoughts.

Group Discussion (15-20 minutes):

1. Use guiding questions to spark discussion.

Example prompts:

- *"How would you respond in this situation?"*
- *"What social or cultural issues are highlighted here?"*
- *"What assumptions might people make in this scenario?"*

2. Encourage participants to share different perspectives and challenge assumptions respectfully.

Whole Group Sharing, reflection and takeaway (10 minutes):

1. Bring all groups together to share key insights from their discussions. Highlight any recurring themes, lessons learned, or surprising revelations. Ask participants to share one key takeaway or action point they learned from the discussion. Encourage participants to think about how they can apply these insights in their daily lives.

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Here are real-life scenarios and stories that can serve as engaging discussion points for your teenage clients, encouraging them to critically think, assess situations, and explore complex issues. Each scenario is designed to foster critical thinking, personal reflection, and group discussion.

These scenarios and stories are designed to engage teenagers in thoughtful discussions, prompting them to critically assess complex social, ethical, and political issues. By connecting real-world examples to important topics, they can learn to think critically, challenge their assumptions, and become more socially aware.

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The Case of Malala Yousafzai & Education for Girls

The Case of Malala Yousafzai and Education for Girls

Story:

Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani activist, was shot by the Taliban for advocating girls' right to education. Despite this, she continued her activism, becoming a global symbol for girls' education and winning the Nobel Peace Prize at age 17.

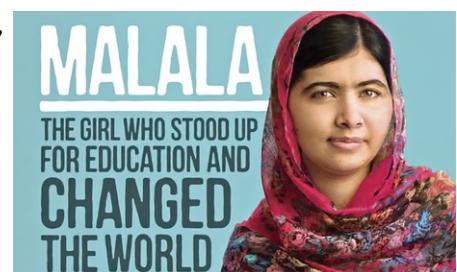


Discussion Points:

- Why did Malala's advocacy face such strong opposition?
- What are the challenges girls face around the world in accessing education, and how can we change that?
- How does one balance personal safety with the desire to make social change?
- What would have happened if Malala had given up after the attack?

References:

- "I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban" (2013), by Malala Yousafzai
- "The Role of Education in Promoting Gender Equality" (2019), UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report



The Protest In 1968 Olympics by Tommie Smith and John Carlos

The Protest In 1968 Olympics by Tommie Smith and John Carlos

Story:

During the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City, African-American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists in a Black Power salute during the medal ceremony to protest racial inequality in the United States. They faced backlash, but their actions became an iconic symbol of civil rights.



Discussion Points:

- Why is protesting during significant events like the Olympics impactful?
- What are the consequences of standing up for social justice, even at great personal cost?
- What role does sports play in raising awareness for social and political issues?
- How does the relationship between athletes and activism influence society?

References:

- "Protest and Power: Tommie Smith and John Carlos' Olympic Stand" (2020), The New York Times
- "The Olympic Boycott: Social Movements and Global Politics" (2019), Journal of Sport and Social Issues

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The Unjust Conviction of the Central Park Five

The Unjust Conviction of the Central Park Five

Story:

In 1989, five young Black and Latino men were wrongfully convicted of the assault and rape of a white woman in New York City's Central Park. They were later exonerated after serving years in prison, following the confession of the real perpetrator.

Discussion Points:

- What does the Central Park Five case reveal about racial bias and the justice system?
- How does media representation affect public perceptions of guilt and innocence?
- What role does the community play in challenging injustices?
- How can systemic racism in the criminal justice system be addressed?



References:

- "When They See Us" (2019) - Netflix series based on the story
- "The Central Park Five: A Case Study in Racial Injustice" (2018), American History Review

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The Story of Edward Snowden and Whistleblowing

1. The Story of Edward Snowden and Whistleblowing

Story:

Edward Snowden, a former NSA contractor, leaked classified information about global surveillance programs, leading to a debate about privacy, national security, and whistleblowing. Snowden faced charges of espionage, but some view him as a hero for exposing government overreach.

Discussion Points:

- Is it ever acceptable to break the law to expose wrongdoing?
- How should society balance national security with individual rights to privacy?
- What does it mean to be a "whistleblower," and what are the personal consequences?
- Do you think Snowden was right to expose the surveillance programs, or should he have kept the information confidential?

References:

- "Permanent Record" (2019) by Edward Snowden
- "Whistleblowing and the Ethical Implications of Dissent" (2018), Journal of Business Ethics

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The Story of Rosa Parks and the Civil Rights Movement

The Story of Rosa Parks and the Civil Rights Movement

Story:

Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, famously refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955. Her arrest sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped ignite the Civil Rights Movement.

Discussion Points:

- What led Rosa Parks to take such a courageous stand, and how did her actions influence the Civil Rights Movement?
- Why is civil disobedience an important tactic for achieving social change?
- How can everyday actions of resistance inspire large-scale movements?
- How has the legacy of Rosa Parks shaped modern-day discussions on race and equality?



References:

- "The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks" (2013), by Jeanne Theoharis
- "The Montgomery Bus Boycott: A Moment in History" (2018), National Civil Rights Museum Journal

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The Case of Trayvon Martin and Racial Profiling

The Case of Trayvon Martin and Racial Profiling

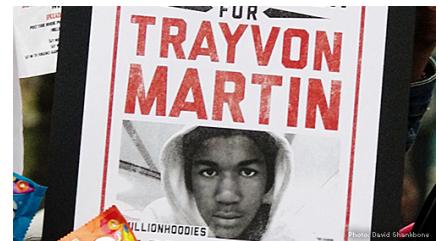
Story:

Trayvon Martin, an unarmed 17-year-old African-American, was shot and killed by George Zimmerman in Sanford, Florida, in 2012. Zimmerman was acquitted of second-degree murder, but the case sparked widespread protests against racial profiling and gun violence.



Discussion Points:

- How does racial profiling affect young people of color in society?
- What are the potential consequences of "stand your ground" laws in the United States?
- How can communities address racial injustice without resorting to violence?
- What role does social media play in bringing attention to incidents of injustice?



References:

- "The Trayvon Martin Story: Racial Profiling and Justice" (2018), Race and Justice Journal
- "Trayvon Martin's Legacy: The Fight Against Racial Profiling" (2020), American Civil Liberties Union

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The #MeToo Movement and Gender Equality

The #MeToo Movement and Gender Equality

Story:

The #MeToo movement gained widespread attention after numerous women came forward with accusations of sexual harassment and assault by powerful men in entertainment, politics, and business. It highlighted the pervasive culture of sexual misconduct and sparked a global conversation about gender equality.



Discussion Points:

- Why has it taken so long for sexual harassment and assault to be addressed openly?
- How does the #MeToo movement challenge traditional power structures?
- What role does the media play in shaping public attitudes toward women's rights and gender equality?
- How can we support and empower survivors of harassment and assault?
-



References:

- "The #MeToo Movement: A Conversation About Empowerment and Accountability" (2020), Feminist Studies
- "Gender Equality and Social Change: The #MeToo Movement" (2021), Gender and Society Journal

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The Impact of Climate Change: The Case of Greta Thunberg

The Impact of Climate Change: The Case of Greta Thunberg

Story:

Greta Thunberg, a Swedish environmental activist, started the "Fridays for Future" movement by skipping school to protest outside the Swedish parliament, demanding action on climate change. Her actions inspired millions of young people around the world.



Discussion Points:

- Why do you think Greta's actions caused both admiration and criticism?
- How should young people respond to issues like climate change that may feel overwhelming?
- Should the younger generation have a greater voice in political decisions that affect their future?
- What are the consequences of inaction on climate change, both for current and future generations?



References:

- "Greta Thunberg's Climate Change Movement: A Case Study" (2020), Global Environmental Change Journal
- "Climate Change: A Youth-Led Movement for Global Action" (2019), The Guardian

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The Story of Steve Jobs and Innovation

The Story of Steve Jobs and Innovation

Story:

Steve Jobs co-founded Apple Inc. and revolutionised the tech industry with products like the iPhone and MacBook. Despite being ousted from the company he founded, Jobs returned and turned Apple into one of the most valuable companies in the world.



Discussion Points:

- What does Steve Jobs' story teach us about failure and perseverance in the face of adversity?
- How important is creativity and innovation in the modern economy?
- What are the ethical considerations in business practices when it comes to innovation and competition?
- How can we apply the principles of innovation and leadership in our own lives?



References:

- "Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different" (2011), by Karen Blumenthal
- "Innovation and Leadership: The Steve Jobs Legacy" (2020), Harvard Business Review

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