

I'm on a Boat!

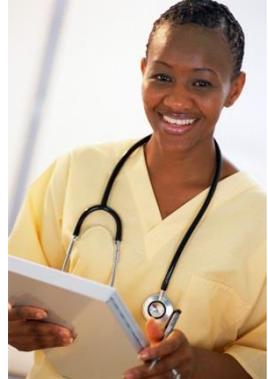
This is a program about values and ethics. The residents are put in a difficult situation, having to choose who lives and who dies in an apocalyptic flood. Read the paragraph below and follow the directions.

The Scenario:

“Thirty minutes ago, there was a catastrophic earthquake below the Pacific Ocean. It was felt by everyone on earth and measured 9.8 on the Richter scale. News reporters are saying that the shock wave from the earthquake has caused giant tidal waves that will make landfall in 5 minutes and will wipe out all human life as we know it. You have a yacht (with a special anti-tidal wave force field) that you can stay safe in and survive the wave. Alas, it can only hold yourself and 6 other people. You must choose 7 of the fourteen people to come with you on your boat while the other 7 people will surely perish. Please take into consideration that you may have to repopulate the earth since everyone else dies in the flood.”

Directions:

After reading the above scenario, pass out the first sheet of paper which only has the age, gender, and occupation of the individuals. Allow students some time to decide which 7 people they want to survive individually, there are no right or wrong answers. After the appropriate amount of time has passed, go around the room and explain why they chose the people that they chose. Once everyone has spoken, have the group come together and collaborate to decide which 7 people are to survive. Once the 7 have been chosen, pass out the second sheet of paper which includes additional information about the individuals. See if the group changes their answers. Have a debriefing session after the activity.



28 year old female, Doctor

27 year old female, Prostitute

14 year old male, Piano Prodigy

35 year old male, Electrician

32 year old female, English professor

60 year old male, Businessman

41 year old female, Mathematician

26 year old male, Priest

29 year old male, Construction Worker

19 year old female, Student

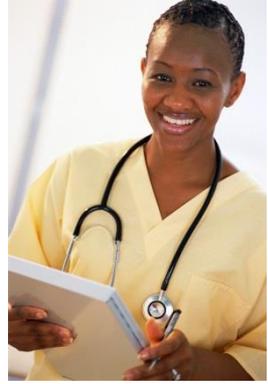
30 year old female, Lawyer

26 year old male, Police Officer

26 year old female, Florist

42 year old male, Astronaut





28 year old female, Doctor- Racist

27 year old female, Prostitute- Pregnant (infant does not count as one of the seven)

14 year old male, Piano Prodigy- Blind

35 year old male, Electrician- Transgender

32 year old female, English professor- Sterile

60 year old male, Businessman- Alcoholic

41 year old female, Mathematician- Lesbian

26 year old male, Priest- Celibate

29 year old male, Construction Worker- AIDS

19 year old female, Student- Deaf

30 year old female, Lawyer- Disabled (no legs)

26 year old male, Police Officer- Anger Management (but also has a gun)

26 year old female, Florist- Drug Addict

42 year old male, Astronaut- Suffers from Depression



Debriefing questions:

1. Were there any strategies used by other people in the group that you did not consider? What were they? (Some pick at random, some consider what the individual can contribute to the group based on their occupation, some base it off of reproduction aspects, etc.)
2. Did the pictures affect your decision making in any way? What can be said about assuming certain pictures went with certain individuals?
3. Did you change your answer once you found out more information about the individuals? How does this relate to secrets you keep which people don't immediately see about you? What could you contribute if you were part of this scenario?
4. Were there any aspects of diversity that surprised you?
 1. There are many different aspects of diversity you can discuss, here are some suggestions:
 1. Talk about racism and how it is not just seen in black and white, but could be toward Hispanic, Asian, or other ethnicities.
 2. Discuss the elements of transgender and how the biological male who identifies as a woman could potentially mate with the lesbian.
 3. Talk about drug/alcohol addictions and how the individuals would cope without these substances.
 4. Consider the roles the individuals would have with each other, would the priest provide a moral boost during this crisis event and help the individual with depression? What potential socioeconomic differences could be present? Would this cause a problem?
 5. What does depression mean and is it the same thing as suicidal?
 6. What additional elements could the occupations provide that aren't immediately seen (is the florist also a botanist, does the astronaut have survival training to help save everyone, is the prostitute trying to save up money for her doctorate program?)
 7. Which roles in society have a greater impact to the participants? (education, law, faith, construction, the arts?)
5. How does this activity relate to judging others? How can the students relate this activity to their role as a friend, professional, etc.?