

Discussion Role-Plays

Seven discussion topics are suggested on this resource: four are listed with participant roles in complete scenarios, and three more are listed separately at the end of the resource. Choose the topics you think will generate good discussion within a small group of your participants. You can replace any of the topics on this resource with ones that you think will be more timely or interesting to your participants. Make sure the topics you choose are likely to invite differences of opinion.

Scenario 1

Discussion topic. Should high school uniforms be mandatory?

Leader. Let the group know you are the leader. Guide the group through the discussion, incorporating the facilitating tips we just discussed.

Observer. Participate in the discussion, but focus on how the leader is facilitating it. You will be asked to give the leader and the group feedback at the end of the role-play. Do not disclose your role until the end of the role-play.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

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Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Very quiet participant. Do not speak unless you are invited to do so by the leader.

Very passionate participant. Speak as frequently as you can, to try to convince others of your point of view. Follow any directions the leader gives you.



Scenario 2

Discussion topic. Should dances sponsored by Catholic schools or parishes ban music that does not promote Catholic values?

Leader. Let the group know you are the leader. Guide the group through the discussion, incorporating the facilitating tips we just discussed.

Observer. Participate in the discussion, but focus on how the leader is facilitating it. You will be asked to give the leader and the group feedback at the end of the role-play. Do not disclose your role until the end of the role-play.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

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Angry participant. Express your point of view with anger. Follow any directions the leader gives you.

Uninterested participant. Show your lack of interest in the topic through your body language. Follow any directions the leader gives you.



Scenario 3

Discussion topic. What can the Church do to attract young people to Mass?

Leader. Let the group know you are the leader. Guide the group through the discussion, incorporating the facilitating tips we just discussed.

Observer. Participate in the discussion, but focus on how the leader is facilitating it. You will be asked to give the leader and the group feedback at the end of the role-play. Do not disclose your role until the end of the role-play.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Very quiet participant. Do not speak unless you are invited to do so by the leader.

Uninterested participant. Show your lack of interest in the topic through your body language. Follow any directions the leader gives you.



Scenario 4

Discussion topic. Why are reality television shows popular?

Leader. Let the group know you are the leader. Guide the group through the discussion, incorporating the facilitating tips we just discussed.

Observer. Participate in the discussion, but focus on how the leader is facilitating it. You will be asked to give the leader and the group feedback at the end of the role-play. Do not disclose your role until the end of the role-play.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Yourself. Participate in the discussion as you would normally.

Always-talking participant. Speak your mind as often as you can. Follow any directions the leader gives you.

Argumentative participant. As often as you can, counter what people are saying by arguing the other point of view. Follow any directions the leader gives you.

Uninterested participant. Show your lack of interest in the topic through your body language. Follow any directions the leader gives you.

Other Discussion Topics

Discussion topic. Should pirating music over the Internet be legalized?

Discussion topic. Who is the best music artist of all time?

Discussion topic. Should all states prohibit capital punishment?