

IV.9. TRADITIONAL GAMES – IDENTITY AND SPORT

An exercise exploring differences in culture, ethics and human rights through sporting and life experience

THEMES	Culture and Diversity, Human Rights
Group Size	15 to 25
Complexity	1
Age Range	16 to 30 years
Time	90 minutes

OVERVIEW

This exercise will allow the participants to communicate about cultural, ethical and human rights from their own perspectives. It will explore influences on people and how they have impacted on their decision making and experiences.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the connections between culture and sport.
- To better understand ourselves and our identity.
- To understand the intercultural aspects of sport.

MATERIALS

- Access to an area in order to carry out the activity – approx. 7m x 7m
- Laptop, projector, screen/wall, Flipchart paper, Paper and Pens, Large Envelope, Chairs, PowerPoint
- Shrek onion Clip

PREPARATION

Set up the laptop and the projector and test the video to make sure it works

Prepare the flipchart papers for the onion exercise

Have the questions in 3 envelopes for each group

Have a slide show (power point) on hopscotch the game and instructions in case participants have never played it

INSTRUCTIONS

Play the Shrek Onion Video to the participants

Reflection: Just like an onion, each person has multiple things that make up who they are, things which are always influencers in their lives, what determines how they make decisions. Participants will be given 15 minutes to reflect personally about themselves using the onion metaphor.

Transition Question: What is your first memory of sport or physical activity and why has it stuck?

IDENTITY

HOP SCOTCH IN AMERICA

In groups of 4, share either your variation of hopscotch or a similar traditional game played as a child in your country. Come pick up envelope with next step. Once you have shared reflect and provide responses on the following questions in the envelope

- What is the effect of sport on culture?
- What is the effect of culture on sport?
- What are some of the intercultural aspects of sport?

As a large group extend the discussion to look at cultural opinions debate on the following for the debrief

DEBRIEF AND EVALUATION

- Do you think that politicians in your country use sport, or sporting events, to distract and divert people from political and economic issues?
- Is sex testing of athletes necessary to ensure fair competition or is it too great an infringement of people's human dignity and right to privacy?
- Do you think professional sportsmen and women should have similar rights to those of other workers, for instance, the right to form trades unions and the right not to be unfairly dismissed?
- China has a poor human rights record. Should they have been chosen to host the Olympic Games in 2008?
- Athletes at the international level have to agree a code of conduct. Those who then breach the code, for instance, by using a sporting event to make a political statement are penalised. Is this a denial of a person's right to free expression?

