

What's Your Problem?



Session Objectives

Participants will:

- ♦ Identify problems currently facing your community.
- ♦ Rank and select problems on the basis of importance as individuals and as a group.
- ♦ Identify causes and effects of problems.
- ♦ Understand the interconnectedness of problems.



Community Problems

- ♦ Education
- ♦ Public Safety/Crime
- ♦ Health
- ♦ Environment
- ♦ Economy
- ♦ Other Social Problems



Forced-Choice

- ◆ Please move to the area of the room that corresponds to the problem you think is most important in the community.



Why is it so important?



- ◆ With your group, develop three arguments explaining why your issue is the most urgent community problem.
- ◆ Be prepared to present your arguments to the rest of the group.
- ◆ You have 10 minutes to prepare your arguments.

What's the most urgent community problem?

- ◆ After hearing the arguments, do you think your problem is still the most urgent?
- ◆ Did another group convince you that their problem is more urgent?
- ◆ Please move to the area of the room that corresponds with the community issue you think is most important.



Causes and Effects

PROBLEM = CRIME

Causes:

1. Drugs
2. Alcohol
3. Mental Illness

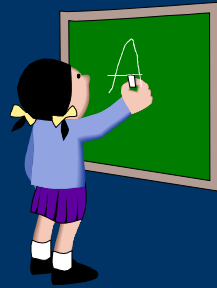
Effects:

1. Injury
2. Death
3. Increased Insurance Rates



Chart the Problem!

- ♦ Brainstorm the causes on one side of the chart paper.
- ♦ Brainstorm the effects on the other side.
- ♦ You have 20 minutes to complete this task.



Gallery Walk

- ♦ Each group should choose a reporter.
- ♦ Reporters should stand next to their chart.
- ♦ Groups join their reporter.
- ♦ On my signal, groups should rotate to the right, reporters should stay with their chart.
- ♦ Reporters should explain their chart to visiting groups.



What's OUR Problem?

- ◆ Now that you have heard about all the problems, its time for us to pick one problem together.



Anything to Add?

- ◆ Are there any additional causes and effects of this problem?



Refining the Problem

- ◆ Brainstorm a list of sub-problems for our issue.
- ◆ For each sub-problem, list the causes and effects.

Problem = Crime

Sub-problem = Juvenile Crime

Causes: Lack of supervision, lack of positive role models.

Effects: More high school drop-outs, social alienation.



Reflection

- ◆ During the forced-choice activity, which of the arguments you heard were the most convincing and why?
- ◆ Is it more important to address a CAUSE or EFFECT of a problem? Defend your position.
- ◆ Ask others which problem they think is the most important to work on and why.



THANK YOU!



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