



Small Groups

Topics

1. Discipline and obedience
2. Moderation
3. Self esteem
4. The fantasy years
5. tantrums

Small group aims -

- to develop friendships
- an opportunity to think and reflect

Purpose to learn:

- to digest technical notes or some criteria
- to involve group members in discussion (the situation being more secure for them than in the large group)
- teaching the ability to work in groups, ie team work, co-operation in common projects.
- to help people get acquainted and communicate with each other
- to discover new motivations to learn
- to show that group thinking is superior to individual when well led.

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The small group depends on the chairperson for its effectiveness.

The team leader is expected to lead the group in the following ways:

- the team leader is not there to give their ideas, they are facilitators
- facilitate discussion and create the conditions for the members to participate
- get to know the group and form friendships that will help people put into practice what they are learning.

How?

- make sure the task is clear
- by putting questions to the group to stimulate discussion which focuses on some predetermined objectives.
- know the topic very well by reading the notes and case study
- know the time limit and organise time accordingly. Leave time for summing up at the end.
- try to include everyone without letting someone dominate
- don't let people talk too much about their own children.
- avoid unnecessary digressions. This can be done by refocusing the group's attention back on the question and using questions like:
 - "What does everyone else think?"
 - "Does everyone agree?"
 - "What about.....?" or "Do you think....?"
- the personal dealing with the individual couples and
- informal meetings which can start during the course and continue afterwards.

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