

DRAWING A HOUSE

OBJECTIVE

To demonstrate situational leader-follower patterns, situational relationship-task patterns, and report patterns of personal culture. Ultimately, to understand that cultural differences are displayed in situational patterns of behavior.

TIME

50 minutes

GROUP SIZE

Any

MATERIALS

Paper, pen/pencils for each participant.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Ask participants to select a partner who is culturally different from himself/herself.
2. Distribute one page of paper and one pencil/pen to every team of two persons.
3. Ask each two-person team to hold on to the same pen/pencil and, with both persons holding the same pen at the same time, to draw a house on the paper. Instruct the teams to not talk with one another while doing the task.
4. After 2 or 3 minutes ask participants to stop drawing. Each group will then share their drawing with the group and talk about their "home."
5. Process the activity.
 - ◆ Were there any challenges or surprises that came up during the task?
 - ◆ How are we conditioned to respond by emphasizing relationship (e.g., the agenda of our partners) or task (e.g., the drawing of a "good" house)?
 - ◆ How are we culturally conditioned to favor the role of the leader (who controlled the pencil) or follower (who facilitated the drawing)?
 - ◆ Focus on examples of how two cultures might not share the same culturally conditioned expectations in the same situation.
 - ◆ How can we apply what we've learned during this activity to how we interact with individuals of different backgrounds?