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| OBJECTIVE | To develop a greater understanding of the needs within your group |
| EQUIPMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small pieces of paper all the same size and colour (very important).• Pens for each person, again all must be identical.• A hat or cap.• A sheet of flip chart paper and three different coloured marker pens. |
| TIME | 30 minutes |
| METHOD | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write out 10 questions or statements (examples below) relevant to the young people you are working with.• Copy the questions out on to the bottom of the flip chart paper and put numbers up the left hand side, according to the number in the group. You will now have an outline of a bar chart, which will be filled out during the session.• Hand out 10 pieces of the pre-cut paper to each person in the group.• Ask the young people to put a tick or a cross on the paper using a pen depending on their answer to the question or statement. Then ask them to fold the paper and put it in the hat on the table, shake the hat, count up the ticks and crosses and mark the results into the chart.• When you have asked all of the questions, complete the chart and reveal the answers.• Remember it is important to consider the questions to which you want to know the answers to make this relevant to your group. |

TOP TIP...

Be aware of the questions you ask.

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

- 'Do you get a bevy with your mates every weekend?'
- 'Do you know someone who carries a knife/weapon?'
- 'Do you get a buzz from taking risks?'
- 'Have you ever been involved in a (gang) fight?'
- 'Would you like to have a good job/earn lots of money?'

WARNING

Be aware in asking certain questions, you may get answers which you are not expecting. Before starting, go over confidentiality with the group.

It is important to be aware that you might be opening up difficult situations the young people have experienced in the past. Too many knives/violence related questions may turn young people off. Add in some aspirational questions to explore young people's goals and wants.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

From the results, you have first hand anonymous information from your group. It is now possible to discuss the young people's experiences and tailor the content to meet the young person's needs.

Informal information gathering - There are many opportunities for informal information gathering with young people. Whilst activities can help with learning it can often be a one to one chat, group chat among peers, travelling in the minibus where young people will share information with you.

TOP TIP...

Be aware of the questions you ask.