

## Summary of Turning the Tide November 26<sup>th</sup> Workshop Playing with Power 2 – Changing the System

November learning goals

- Develop an understanding of how change happens
- .. and how to make the most of strategic thinking, analysis and observation of the ebb and flow of social dynamics

**Opening** - we were asked to pass round a (beautiful) book and tell the rest of the group what we would call “our” book

**Images of Social Change movements** - we were asked to draw an image of a social change movement which has inspired us, and then asked to consider the floor space as a “village green” and walk around ( or sit on a “park bench” and allow others to come up to us) and share the meaning of our drawings with each other . Drawings were then hung in “the gallery” for participants to look at throughout the day

### Discussion re forthcoming residential

This will take place at Westwood Christian Centre from 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February. There is floor space and there are futons to sleep on, but also some apartments with proper beds available (for which there may be an extra charge?) Denise will email us shortly to confirm details.

### Paper Game

In this game, which reminded me of the children’s game “Twister”, sheets of A4 paper were put on the floor and the objective was to ensure that we were standing on the paper not the floor. This was fine when there was plenty of paper to go round, but, as sheets of paper were removed it became harder and harder! Whilst most people who still had sheets of paper were willing to share – I seem to remember that one or two weren’t!

Various points came out in the reflection on this game

- Injustice
- Being creative
- Challenging the rules

- Must not give in
- Why follow the rules – is there a good reason?
- Ask why?

### **Noticings**

I noticed that ..... and I am wondering .....

We practised asking good illicit questions using the following format

- Ask question
- Listen
- Say “Thank You” and “Good bye”

Meaningful questions - How a question is framed, body language and manner all affect the question

### **Final session – Parallel lines**

We stood/sat opposite a partner – one of us playing the role of, firstly a boss or CEO, and secondly, a friend of the person opposite. The other person played themselves, and had to persuade the boss, or their friend, of something they felt passionately about. We swapped roles so that we each had a turn at all the roles.

Personally, I found this the hardest part of the day! As expected, the friend was easier to talk to – but how to get through to the CEO / boss, whose priorities are totally different?!

**Closing session** – Sitting/standing in a circle, Hannah led us as we created a rainstorm using our hands and feet – starting quietly, getting louder and quietening down again until it ceased.

A fitting end to a thought provoking day. Thank you!