



AN ELEPHANT OF A DIFFERENT COLOR

TYPE:

Energizer

GROUP SIZE:

Any

MATERIALS:

Personal articles donated by team members, Pieces of paper - numbered to correspond with team size.

INTRODUCTION:

This exercise will build fun and enthusiasm within the team while identifying what is important to individuals. It will also showcase the influence of power and greed.

DESCRIPTION:

Instruct team members to bring something to contribute to the team (book, garage sale item, t-shirt) wrapped in brown paper, newspaper, or wrapping paper. Instruct team members to draw numbers out of a hat. The team member with number 1 begins by selecting a gift to unwrap. The next team member may select a new gift or take the gift previously unwrapped. If a gift is taken from a team member, the process begins again. This continues until all gifts are unwrapped and all team members have a gift. Hold a discussion regarding the use of power and greed.

PROCESSING:

- What was the history/origin of the item you brought?
- How did you feel about the gift selection process?
- How did team members react to the opportunity to take a gift from another team member?
- What are the positive aspects of power?
- What are the negative aspects of power?
- How does power and greed impact a team?

VARIATIONS:

- Begin with the largest number instead of the smallest number.
- After all gifts are unwrapped, instruct team members to pass their gift one to the left.

OUTCOMES:

- Exercise to build fun and enthusiasm
- Discussion initiator
- Social setting for team members to get together

REMEMBER:

- Introduce the exercise
- Explain it thoroughly
- Process it completely