

Activity: "The Lunchroom"

Supplies:

- Deck of Playing Cards – divided into sets for each group you plan to have. Make sure each pile has a variety of cards, low/high numbers, face cards, etc. Having an ace, a joker, and a blank card in each group is a good idea. (for blank card: take a mid-range number card and spray paint white)

Set up:

- **Before** handing out cards, explain: attendees are not to look at their card or tell anyone else what their card is.
- Hand a playing card to each attendee face down.

Facilitate the following:

- Without looking at their card, everyone should place card face-out on their forehead (*DO NOT* look at own card!).
- Instruct attendees to mingle with each other, treating everyone based on the "face value" of their card.
- Allow attendees to mingle for several minutes treating each other based on face value.
- Call for their attention and then have attendees divide into groups based on how they feel they have been treated. (For example: "if you think you have a card with a low number card go to front left corner of room, mid-range cards back right corner, face cards in front right corner, and unknowns back left corner, etc.).
- Without looking at their cards, ask one or two people from each group to explain why they thought/felt like they belonged in that group. What were their clues?
- Discuss how it doesn't take very long to figure out what "group" you belong to based on how people treat you. Lead into a discussion about the "Golden Rule" and how people tend to expect to be treated like royalty, but don't often in-turn treat others like royalty.
- Have students take the cards off their foreheads and check to see if they are correct in guessing which level card they have.

(Sometimes interesting how "Jokers", "Aces" and "2s" are treated depending on different card playing experience)