

## Learning About Values

### Purpose:

To show that values are things we make judgments about every day

**Materials:** Marker pens and flip chart paper, *Experiential Learning Cycle* and *Learning Styles* handouts

**Time required for session:** 30 minutes

### Activity

Give out the *Identifying Values* handout.

Read out the handout or check that everyone has understood the instructions.

Ask each participant to complete the task of deciding upon their preferred charity.

After this, they should rank the remaining good causes in order of priority.

The participants should then discuss with their neighbour to see if they have chosen the same 'good cause'.

If they have not, they should agree on *one* good cause between them. If time permits they can begin to compare their rankings.

Now the pair should join with another pair of participants and again, discuss and agree on *one* good cause. If time permits they can begin to compare their rankings.

(NB Depending on the class, these groups may comprise anything between 3 and 6.)

At the end of this exercise, ask each group to reveal their chosen charity.

### Discussion

Ask participants if anybody found it difficult to select the charity. Why was this? Was there a charity that shouldn't have been on the list? Does everyone agree with this?

*The aim of the exercise, of course, was not to identify whether one cause was more worthy than another but it was to provide a clear example of how we make value judgements.*

*The real value of the exercise is not in the final selection but in the process of arguing developing a rationale to justify our choices.*

*Remember how we demonstrated our connections in Session One? If we are going to make good use of this understanding (and draw boundaries around where we do and do not engage with 'external' issues), we need to be able to recognise and then clarify our value judgements. Being able to state our values and put them into action makes us a more value-able organisation!*