



Why are you here?

Objectives: Participants will get a chance to meet other group members
Participants will share and reflect on where they come from, and what paths have brought them to where they are today.

Directions

- 1 Direct group into pairs, preferably with someone they don't know very well.
- 2 Each person introduces themselves (name, agency) and responds to the prompt: **"Why are you here today [at this meeting/training/event]?"**
- 3 When pairs have shared, redirect them into new groups of three. Within their groups of three each person introduces themselves and answers the following: **"Why are you here in [name of city you are in] (or in the city you live in...)"**
(Coach them with: 'What led you to this area?' or 'What happened in your life so that you wound up here?')
- 4 Once groups have shared, redirect them to larger groups (4 or 5 people). Each person introduces themselves and responds to the prompt: **"Why are you here in (name of state you are in)?"**
- 5 Groups are shuffled to even larger groups (6-8) and each person introduces themselves and responds to this prompt: **"Why are you here in this country?"** (Coaching here can be: 'Do you know what your background is,' OR 'How did your ancestors come over here? When did they get here and from where?')
- 6 Reshuffle the group one more time into just two groups (or the whole group in one circle if you like). The last question to answer is **"Why are you here on this planet?"**
(Coach them, encourage them to think through this question however they like. 'Why do you think you are here?' 'What forces of nature or destiny brought you here?' 'Do you feel like you know why you're on this planet—your mission or purpose?')
- 7 Everyone in the group has a chance to answer.

Debrief questions (in full group)

What did you hear? What did you find interesting?

What was this experience like for you?

Was it difficult?

Were there common threads, similarities in what pulled people or moved people?

Why is this process valuable?

What effect does this have on individual members of a group?

What effect does this process have on the group as a whole?

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