



The traffic lights 30-60 min

EXPLORING FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF

QUIZ

PLENARY EXERCISE

About the exercise

TARGET AUDIENCE

Any audience. Works well with small to very large, auditorium-sized groups and in formal or informal settings. Suitable for all levels of knowledge.

PURPOSE

To help participants explore their attitudes towards, and/or understanding of, the right to freedom of religion or belief (FORB).

DESCRIPTION

A twist on the classic ‘agree-disagree’ style exercise. This exercise can be used as an interactive way to provide knowledge input or reflect on attitudes. Depending on the statements chosen it can be used for groups with little or no previous knowledge of FORB, or with groups that already have a strong understanding of the right, for example to explore how it intersects with other rights such as freedom of expression or women’s rights.



Instructions

RESOURCES

- Post-it sized squares of yellow, green and red paper (the traffic lights) for each participant.
- One or two roving microphones for large groups.
- Statements to read out.

Find a list of [sample statements](#) to read out on page 216 or at <http://www.forb-learning.org/exercises/traffic-lights-statements>.

ADVANCE PREPARATION

- Choose statements to use from the list available. When choosing statements, think about your context and target audience. What potential misunderstandings, knowledge gaps or problematic attitudes could be approached through the statements you choose? Allow 5-15 minutes per question depending on the degree of controversy or complexity involved.
- Prepare one or more brief points or reflections to make in response to participants’ reflections on each statement. Many of the statements connect to the FORB Learning Platform’s eight short [explainer films](#) on FORB. Watching these may help you prepare your responses. Find the films at www.forb-learning.org/films/films-on-forb.



OPTIONAL EXTRA: BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE

It can be challenging to facilitate this and other ‘agree-disagree’ style exercises with statements, especially if you choose statements to help explore attitudes. Build your confidence as a facilitator by reviewing our [‘Tips for facilitators’](#) section on page 282 and [‘Responding to tricky questions’](#) on page 286.

HOW TO INTRODUCE THE EXERCISE 2 MIN

Give each participant a square of yellow, green and red paper. (For large groups, save time by placing these on each seat before participants enter the room.)

Explain that you are going to read out a series of statements. After hearing each statement, participants should hold up one of their pieces of paper – green if they agree with the statement, red if they disagree, and yellow if they are undecided or conflicted (for example, if they agree on the one hand but disagree on the other.)

HOW TO RUN THE EXERCISE 23-53 MIN

- Read out a statement and ask all participants to hold up one of their pieces of paper – green, red or yellow.
- Ask three participants who are holding up different colours to explain why they agreed or disagreed with the statement or are undecided/conflicted.
- Sum up the different opinions shared and reflect upon them briefly, sharing relevant information about what FORB actually means according to international human rights law. (Use this as an opportunity to hold an interactive input based on participants attitudes, knowledge levels and questions.)
- Repeat with as many statements as you have time for, allowing plenty of time for more complex or controversial statements. Remember to invite different participants to share their opinions each time.

HOW TO CONCLUDE THE EXERCISE 5 MIN

Thank the participants for expressing their honest opinions and for being open and willing to reflect on and learn about the right to FORB. Ask if there are any outstanding questions, and either address them or explain when they will be covered in the training.

Source

SMC Faith in Development, <https://www.smc.global/en/>