

## FAST FACTS



2+  
People



30  
Minutes



\$10 - \$30



Low –  
Medium  
Risk Level

## A Taste of Difference

Developed by the 2011-2012 RAs of Posada San Pedro Residence Hall

**Purpose of Activity:** This is an introductory level activity to help get participants thinking about what identities they and others hold.

### Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

- Help participants identify which identities are salient or not to them
- Explore the concept of social group identities
- Encourage participants to make connections with someone new

### Materials Needed:

- Markers and/or crayons
- Pictures of an ice cream sundae to color (sample provided, but feel free to create your own)
- Ice cream, sorbet, toppings for ice cream sundaes

### Ground Rules:

- Be fully present and participate at your own comfort level – challenge by choice.
  - Follow up - What does it mean to be “fully present”?
  - Follow up - What does “challenge by choice” mean?
- Push yourself outside of your comfort zone – the most learning happens when we are a little bit uncomfortable.
- Listen respectfully, share air time, and encourage others to participate.
- It’s ok for us all to be at different places with the things we discuss today.
- Show respect for one another’s beliefs, values, and experiences.
- Respect and maintain privacy.

### Disclaimer:

- If as facilitators you are not a member of the subordinated groups (LGBTQ, disabled, person of color, etc), focused on in this program, be sure to acknowledge that. Frame the conversation that you do not understand what it means to be from that specific identity from personal experience, nor are you an expert because this is the topic of the program. You are simply trying to be an ally to the each community by doing education on the topic.
- If someone DOES attend the program who is of the subordinated group, be sure not to single them out for the “identity perspective,” stare at them to judge their reaction, or basically put them on the spot. They should be treated like every other student, and invite everyone to share/participate as much as she/he/ze is comfortable.

## FAST FACTS



2+  
People



30  
Minutes



\$10 - \$30



Low –  
Medium  
Risk Level

### Facilitation Guide:

1. Hand out pictures of the ice cream sundae, and markers/crayons. Explain that this program is designed to allow participants to do some reflection on the identities that make them who they are, and to learn about one another.
2. It is a good idea to take a few minutes to set some guidelines for your activity, so participants feel safe to share. Below are some suggestions, but be sure to allow participants to add other guidelines that would make them feel safe.
  - a. Be fully present and participate at your own comfort level – challenge by choice.
    - i. Follow up - What does it mean to be “fully present”?
    - ii. Follow up - What does “challenge by choice” mean?
  - b. Push yourself outside of your comfort zone – the most learning happens when we are a little bit uncomfortable.
  - c. Listen respectfully, share air time, and encourage others to participate.
  - d. It’s ok for us all to be at different places with the things we discuss today.
  - e. Show respect for one another’s beliefs, values, and experiences.
  - f. Respect and maintain privacy.
3. Explain that as the facilitator, you will read which item on the picture participants are to color, and the corresponding color for each identity.
4. For your spoon color, please select the gender that you identify as
  - a. **Female**, please color your spoon in yellow
  - b. **Male**, please color your spoon red
  - c. **Transgendered**, please color your spoon orange
  - d. **Gender-Variant/Gender Queer**, please color your spoon blue
  - e. **Other-Gendered**, please color your spoon green
5. For your bowl color, please select the level of ability that you identify as
  - a. **Able-bodied**, please color your bowl yellow
  - b. **Physical Disability**, please color your bowl blue
  - c. **Emotional Disability**, please color your bowl green
  - d. **Developmental Disability**, please color your bowl red
6. For your ice cream color, please select the financial resources your family had while growing up
  - a. **More than enough**, please color your ice cream red
  - b. **Enough**, please color your ice cream blue
  - c. **Not enough**, please color your ice cream green
7. For your sauce color, please select the race that you identify as
  - a. **White**, please color your sauce red

## FAST FACTS



2+  
People



30  
Minutes



\$10 - \$30



Low –  
Medium  
Risk Level

- b. **Black or African American**, please color your sauce yellow
- c. **Latina, Latino, or Hispanic**, please color your sauce green
- d. **Asian/Pacific Islander**, please color your sauce blue
- e. **Native American**, please color your sauce purple
- f. **Middle Eastern**, please color your sauce pink
- g. **Multiracial**, please color your sauce orange

8. For your whip cream color, please select your family's structure
  - a. **Parents still together**, please color your whip cream blue
  - b. **Divorced**, please color your whip cream brown
  - c. **Single-Parent**, please color your whip cream red
  - d. **Adopted or Foster Care System**, please color your whip cream orange
  
9. For your cherry color, please select the sexual orientation that you identify yourself as
  - a. **Lesbian**, please color your cherry pink
  - b. **Gay**, please color your cherry red
  - c. **Bisexual**, please color your cherry orange
  - d. **Queer**, please color your cherry green
  - e. **Heterosexual**, please color your cherry blue
  - f. **Asexual**, please color your cherry purple
  - g. **Questioning**, please color your cherry brown
  - h. **None of the others fit me**, please color your cherry yellow
  
10. For your bowl stripe (please add to picture), please select the category that you identify yourself as
  - a. **Religious**, please color your stripe orange
  - b. **Spiritual**, please color your stripe blue
  - c. **Both spiritual and religious**, please color your stripe green
  - d. **Not religious or spiritual**, please color your stripe red
  
11. After participants have colored in their picture, ask them to pair up with someone they don't know, and share the picture they colored. They should share the identity for each category.
  
12. Once pairs have shared, they are invited to come up to the sundae bar to create an ice cream sundae before returning to process the activity with the group!
  - a. Tip: keep spoons to eat the sundaes with the facilitators back at the processing area, so participants stay for discussion!
  - b. Be sure to provide lactose-free options for the sundae bar (sorbet, popsicles, etc).

### Processing Questions:



## FAST FACTS



2+  
People



30  
Minutes



\$10 - \$30



Low –  
Medium  
Risk Level

The questions listed below are recommended, but feel free to create your own.

1. What was it like to color in the different identities on the sheet? Did doing so produce any emotions/thoughts for you?
2. Which identities do you think about most often? Why?
3. Which identities do you think about least often? Why?
4. Which identities would you like to learn more about?
5. Were there any identities that we did not include, that are important to you as a person?
6. Which identities have the strongest effect on how you see yourself as a person?
7. Why do you think we did this activity with you?

### **Possible facilitation issues:**

- Be sure you are aware of each of the definitions of the identities that are listed as part of the activity.
- Some participants may express frustration that only certain identity groups were included as part of the activity. Acknowledge their feelings, and the reality that if you included every possible identity, the activity would never end! The majority of identities included are called “social group identities,” as they are both socially constructed, and how they are defined and experienced happens both on a personal and social group level.
  - That is why one of the processing questions allows participants to share other identities they would have liked to seen included.



## FAST FACTS



2+  
People



30  
Minutes



\$10 - \$30



Low –  
Medium  
Risk Level

