



Stories at the Heart Of Community
Engagement



Working with communities, business and government to create safe, inclusive spaces for people to share and listen to their stories and explore their creativity.

*‘When we weave our
experience into stories, we
find meaning in what we have
undergone.’*

Jo Salas, Improvising Real Life.

Warm Up

- Purpose/Theme
- Move from Rational to Creative
- Create safe, inclusive environment
- Fun
- Awake and relaxed
- Lower resistance
- Explore sociometry of group

Connection

- Continue explore group sociometry
- Playful Collaboration
- Sharing
- Self Display

Tell and Enact Stories

- Trust OK to share feelings and stories
- Respect
- Listening
- Appreciation

Learning from Story

- I am not alone
- Your story is like mine
- I didn't know that
- I know more about you

Leading to

- Increased understanding of differences
- Social Inclusion
- Reduced stigma and discrimination
- Focus on similarities
- New skills and awareness
- Increased playfulness

Working with stigma/prejudice

Direct contact with marginalised people e.g people with mental illness, disability etc is THE most effective means of shifting people's attitudes, providing this contact occurs in a situation where:

- † there is equal status
- † The opportunity for individuals to get to know each other
- † Information provided challenges negative stereotypes
- † Active co-operation
- † Pursuit of a mutual goal.

Case Consulting 2008

Reflection

- What is the Red Thread (connecting themes in this group)
- What might this group/team need to pay attention to

Other learning...

- Listening skills
- Leadership
- Confidence and interpersonal skills
- Improvisation and Spontaneity
- Increased Self awareness
- Creativity
- Team work

We Offer..

- Community Engagement
- Participation and Consultation Forums
- Skill Development and Training e.g. dealing with stress, improving dialogue
- Improvisation and Playback Workshops
- Team Development
- Debrief stressful times and key events
- Evaluation through Story
- Health and Well Being Retreats