



New methods

You don't ask us, but we answer anyway!

Description of the method

The whole group practices together the rhythm of the song and then sings it with new lyrics. A new text is used for a well-known melody (We will rock you - Queen, 1977)

Target group

Young people, school classes, youth centers

Number of participants

Doesn't matter, also works well with very large groups

Environment

One room according the size of the participants, all of them should be able to stand in a circle

Time needed

Takes approx. 15 min. when the text is already ready, if the young people still work and brainstorm for the text, calculate more time.

Materials

Flipchart, markers, tape to hang up the text

Objective/aim of the method

Well suited for communicating engaging statements/concerns.

Step by step instructions

Step 1:

Practice the rhythm: with feet "stomp stomp" and hands "clap".

Step 2:

Introduce the new lyrics: many different lyrics can be found to this simple and short melody. The extremely powerful rhythm supports the transportation of very engaged statements/concerns.

Text example:

We are, we are angry

We need, we need a change

You are you are responsible

You need, you need our help.

(lyrics: M. Taubert-Witz, Sophia Witz)

Step 3:

Divide the group into two subgroups: one that performs the rhythm (could also be the audience, if there is one) and one sings.

It is recommended to let the visitors stomp and clap the rhythm first and then sing/speak the messages into this rhythm.

Example of political art - music

The following song is an example of how music can be political, when lyrics are well thought. It can be a motivation in the creating of your own lyrics.

Give peace a chance

J. Lennon 1975

Two, one-two-three-four!

Ev'rybody's talking 'bout

Bagism, Shagism, Dragism, Madism, Ragism, Tagism

This-ism, that-ism, is-m, is-m, is-m

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

Hit it

C'mon, ev'rybody's talking about

Ministers, sinisters, banisters and canisters

Bishops and Fishops and Rabbis and Popeyes and bye-bye, bye-byes

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

Let me tell you now

Ev'rybody's talking 'bout

Revolution, evolution, masturbation, flagellation, regulation, integrations

Meditations, United Nations, congratulations

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance

Ev'rybody's talking 'bout

John and Yoko, Timmy Leary, Rosemary, Tommy Smothers, Bobby Dylan, Tommy Cooper

Derek Taylor, Norman Mailer, Alan Ginsberg, Hare Krishna, Hare, Hare Krishna

All we are saying is give peace a chance

All we are saying is give peace a chance