CIVIC REFLECTION

Achieving Greater Member Impact Through Context and Discussion
Four Things:

1) Jump into a model discussion
2) Break down the structure of a CR discussion.
3) Just Do It!
4) Debrief & Making it Happen!
Hopes and Expectations

- Everyone should have a turn to speak, please use each other’s names!
- If you are aware of the source of the object, please keep that to yourself for now.
- This may be a challenging piece, please keep an open mind!
- This is a space for discussion, not conclusion.

https://beta.prx.org/stories/75952
Debrief
PROPER REFLECTIVE STRUCTURE

- Introduction / Hopes and Expectations
- Opening
- Experiencing the Object & Why We Use an Object
- The Discussion
- The 3 Types of Questions:
  - Clarification: What is going on here?
  - Interpretation: What do you think of what is going on here?
  - Implication: How does what you think of what's going on here connect to your work, community or values?
- Body language
- Closing (not Closure)!
“Sometimes, even the choir needs singing lessons too.”
Relieve  Improve  Reform

Engage
CIVIC REFLECTION
PART 2:
Making it Happen
History
Activity!
Debrief
Making it Happen: Some tips to getting started

- Photo objects are a good start!
- Talk about service first!
- Members are great facilitators!
  - Expanding skill sets
  - Building rapport between cohorts
- Program design is key to success
  - Total staff buy-in
  - Flexible scheduling, providing ample time for sessions

"We do not learn from experience ... we learn from reflecting on experience."

John Dewey
What do members have to say?

- “I like the debating the best because we all interacted with each other based on the quotes and topics.”
- “It reminds me of a counseling session because it allows people to discuss their opinions in a safe and respectful environment. I would never have thought about these issues if we didn’t discuss them.”
- “I don’t like to talk much, kind of quiet just doing what I need to do, but the reflection sessions allowed me to get to know people better and their opinions. I am learning to respect other people’s opinions.”
If you are interested in a Civic Reflection training at your site, or just learning more, please feel free to contact Matt Clerico at YouthBuild USA: mclerico@youthbuild.org

https://youthbuild.org/my/americorps/civic-reflection-library

www.civicreflection.org
**Discussion Questions**

- What is going on in this picture?
- Do you have a sense of where and when this took place?
- Where in history can you think of a time when an act of violence took place? In your lifetime?
- Do you believe that an act of violence should be responded to with another act of violence? Why or why not?
- How does violence play a role in your community? What about your life? How do people become violent?

Photo credit: *1992 Rodney King Riots*, Los Angeles Times
Discussion Questions

• Who or what is this a painting of?

• What is the status quo or type of change the artist is referring to here? Does it need to be changed? How do we know?

• Who should be responsible for (this) change?

• How does any of this apply to your work or personal experience with change?

• Do you feel empowered to make a change you want to see?

Photo Credit: I Want Change, Banksy (via Meek)
Discussion Questions

1. What do you notice first in this image?
2. What does it mean to help or serve someone?
3. How do we know when to ask for help? How do we know when to offer it?
4. In your own work, how can you help the people you work with? In what ways can you not help them?

Photo Credit: Kabul Heroin Addict, Paula Bronstein