

U4L2A1 | Egalitarianism

overview

This lesson will help students to reconsider how society determines value and compare this with their own value system.

learning goal

- Students will understand the concept of egalitarianism.
- Students will consider the value of their wants versus their needs.
- Students will examine how society determines value and compare it to their own beliefs.

success criteria

- Students will develop an understanding of what they value most and if these values are equally shared by society.

Inquiry question

- What do I value most and is this value equally shared by society?

instructions

Step one: Individual and group tasks with class take-up

1. Using the PowerPoint on egalitarianism, have students examine the following scenario and discuss the enclosed questions...

Scenario: Your home town has been hit by a natural disaster. Extreme flooding has ravaged the landscape leaving it in ruins. The commercial sector is shut down. All banks and store have been shuttered tight. You have lost everything except the clothes on your back and your backpack.

Your Task:

- a Take an inventory of your items and calculate your net worth.
- b Consider the following questions:
 - i. What necessities do you have?
 - ii. What are you missing?
 - iii. Do you have anything to sell or barter?
 - iv. What would be the new currency?
 - v. How long do you think you can survive?
- c Share your findings in a class discussion. Then as a class decide: Overall, how did the class fare? Who would survive the longest?

2. In your own words define egalitarianism.

U4L2A1 | Egalitarianism

3. Do you think the world will ever achieve 100 per cent egalitarianism? Why or why not?

Reflect on the scenario

4. What were the items that were most valued?

5. How would value and power changed in this scenario?

6. Is the society in this scenario experiencing egalitarianism? Why or why not?

U4L2A1 | Egalitarianism

7. In this scenario, what do you truly need to be sustainable?

8. How do these needs differ from those we have in today's society?
