LEADERSHIP INSPIRATIONS

I'd Rather

Finish a silly sentence and get to know one another

TIME
10 minutes

MATERIALS
None

TEAM STAGE
Forming, Norming

SUMMARY

Participants learn a little about each other while completing silly sentences.

SET UP

- Have the group gather in a circle.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Have everyone finish this sentence in their minds: I'd rather _____, than _____. They should fill in the blanks with two things – one that they'd rather do than the other. Remind the group that these should be appropriate things that they will share aloud. Examples:
  - *I'd rather nap, than take a test;*
  - *I'd rather pet a dog, than feed a crocodile;*
  - *I'd rather walk, than run; etc.*
- Once everyone has their sentence, everyone will go around the circle and share.
- The first person says *only* their, "I'd rather…." and the person to their right finishes the sentence with *only* their, "…than….."
- Using the examples above, the activity would go something like this:
  - ***Person 1**: "I'd rather nap…"*
  - ***Person 2**: "…than feed a crocodile"*
  - ***Person 3**: "I'd rather walk…"*
  - ***Person 4**: "…than..."*
- Continue around the circle in this way until everyone has shared. This can be pretty funny and participants will learn things about each other too.
- To play a second round, go the opposite direction around the circle and everyone has a chance to say the other half of their sentence that they haven't shared yet. So, if they said their, "I'd rather…" in the first round, they should be saying their "…than…" statement in this round.

VARIATIONS

- Provide the first half of the sentence or the second half for the group and have everyone answer the other half so that the statement is true for them. No repeat answers are allowed.

Online: To facilitate this activity virtually, post an order of names in the chat. This will be the order in which participants share their half of the sentence. ***[click here for video]***

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VARIATIONS *(continued)*

Asynchronous: To facilitate this activity asynchronously, create a shared document where participants can add statements about activities or traits. Have all participants add statements to the list and then read through the statements and write their name next to any that are true for them.

- For similar activities, try Have You Ever or What If I Told You?.

DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

- In what ways did this activity teach you about others in this group?
- How easy/hard was it for you to come up with your sentences? Why do you think that is?
- Think about a I'd Rather...Than...statement about this class or your role. How does that affect your motivation to get the "than" part done?

***Facilitator Note*:** As a general note, icebreakers are used for the purpose of breaking the ice and getting a group warmed up to participate in lessons and activities that will include debrief questions. Typically an icebreaker does not need to be debriefed, however, when done intentionally, inserting a mini debrief or thought provoking question after an icebreaker can help to set up the rest of the lesson and tie the entire experience together in a more seamless fashion. These are some sample questions that can be used or modified to connect to the lesson that will follow.

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