



Forum Theatre Resource Pack

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Who is it for?

This resource is suited for experienced facilitators but will be useful for those newer to facilitation who wish to develop an experimental approach. It is strongly advised to seek opportunities to observe the method in action as is working alongside those with experience of it. The approach is best for those who want to 'use a creative and empowering approach' to explore:

- working within a complex environment
- achieving depth of awareness about personal and organisational responsibility and power
- involving diverse groups of people to explore perceptions and beliefs
- useful practical strategies and changes to help improve practice and policy.

What does it include?

It includes information about forum theatre, a structure for running a session and scripts based on working within social work and social services environments.

Where has it come from?

This resource has been developed from work between the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and partners exploring creative approaches to support depth of learning. The project has supported various social policy initiatives including self-directed support (SDS) and the Palliative and End of Life Care Framework, as well as work exploring systems and Continuous Professional Development for newly qualified social workers. Much of the resource has been written or adapted from a report delivered by Diversity Matters who co designed and delivered materials and sessions. Partnership work with Loretto Care and Health and Social Care partnerships in Angus, Falkirk and East Ayrshire has also been influential.

About Forum Theatre

Forum Theatre was created by Augusto Boal, a Brazilian radical, as a method for teaching people how to change their world.. This involves audience members being able to stop a performance, often a short scene in which a character is being oppressed in some way, and replacing an actor(s) on stage in an attempt to change the outcome. The scenario can be re run numerous times with audience members taking part at the points they wish to test out a different approach. Forum Theatre works well when the scripts reflect real life situations that have been developed from stories of those with the experiences.

How Forum Theatre supports integrated working

Forum Theatre offers an empowering, awareness raising learning experience when a broad range of people involved in a system come together to participate. The method does the following:

