

Perspective sharing

- A. Participants: Describe an incident when someone you know experienced discrimination at work. If you cannot recall an incident, use your imagination to describe an incident that may occur to a minority employee different from yourself either based on gender, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or age (see some examples below). Write this essay from the third-person point of view. Address the following questions in your essay of 150 words or more (note: do not reveal the name of the company or department and do not reveal if the person is you). Your essay will remain anonymous throughout this session. Use the following question prompts to help you write your incident.
 - Are you describing an actual or fictional incident?
 - If this is an actual incident, what is the industry and what is the size of the organization?
 - What are the details of the incident?
 - What was the basis for discrimination (i.e. race, sex, body size, age, sexual orientation)?
 - Did the main character report it? Why or why not?
 - If he or she reported it, was anything done to address the incident after it happened?

(Facilitator: collect essays and re-distribute randomly)

- B. Participants: Read the essay you were given. Based on the essay you now have:
- Describe at least one organizational action or structure that if implemented may have prevented this dilemma from occurring.
- Describe a policy that should be implemented to punish this behavior.

(Facilitator: Ask participants to share the essays they have and start a discussion about: 1. why these situations happened, 2. what could have been done to prevent it and how should it be addressed, 3. what are activities that can help codify a new culture of equity and inclusion.)

Note: Facilitators may also randomly redistribute essays to groups of participants. Depending on your audience and time allotted this may be a better alternative to increase engagement and allow everyone an opportunity to participate. In lieu of writing a short essay, facilitators may ask participants to simply list examples of discrimination or exclusion that someone might experience at work or as a customer based on their traditionally underrepresented identity group membership.



Fictitious Employee Examples
a Black woman?
a person using a wheelchair?
a transgender man?
a Latinx or Hispanic man?
a Muslim woman wearing hijab?
a White woman?
an out gay man?
a woman over 65?
a Native American
a White man at a Black-owned marketing firm
a Hispanic woman
a multi-racial man of Black and Middle Eastern ancestry

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