

# MTN-003D Stage 2 FGD Role Play Activity

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Thola Bennie

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation

University of Cape Town

Cape Town, South Africa





# Activity: FGD Role Plays

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Give individuals cards stating various roles to play.  
Team will take turns playing role of the Facilitator

The following participant types will be present in the FGD:

- Dominates the discussion
- Is silent the whole time
- Starts conversation with someone next to her
- Refuses to answer a question and says she is uncomfortable answering
- Answers a question that has not been asked yet
- Gets up to leave



# Difficult FGD Situations/Scenarios

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*Let's identify some of the challenging situations we came across:*

- Someone is dominating the discussion
- No one responds to a question
- Group starts talking about things that are not relevant to the research
- People start having side conversations
- One of the participants skips ahead and provides an answer to a question I was still going to cover
- A participant says she is uncomfortable answering a certain question
- People begin leaving

# Handling the Challenging Situations

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*Tips to maximise participation:*

- ❑ **Someone dominates the discussion:** You can say:
  - *“We have had an interesting discussion but let’s explore other ideas or points of view”*
  - *“Has anyone had a different experience they wish to share?”*
  - *“Thank you so much for that but I’m also interested in what others think of this matter?”*
- ❑ You can also use body language – turning away, break eye contact
- ❑ Or you can ask the participant to summarise her key points
- ❑ Or even ask her to write down her key points



# Handling the Challenging Situations

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*Tips to maximise participation:*

- ❑ **Someone is not participating:** Address questions directly to individuals who are reluctant to talk,
- ❑ Give non-verbal cues (look the person in the eye)
- ❑ Use body language – lean towards, move closer
- ❑ If participant says she does not want to answer a question, RESPECT that and move on. Say “thank you” and that you acknowledge and appreciate their honesty. Then, ask them if it would be okay to move on to the next question.

# Handling the Challenging Situations

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*Tips to maximise participation:*

- ❑ **Group starts talking about things that are not relevant to the topic:** Intervene, politely remind them of the limited time, then re-focus the discussion.
- ❑ **No one responds to a question:** Re-phrase the question, maybe no one understood the question; If you suspect it's a political question, move on and try coming back later. **Can anyone identify any such questions from the guide**
- ❑ **Someone starts having a side conversation:** Respectfully remind them of the ground rules

# Questions / Comments:

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- Any questions?
  
- What are some of the advantages of a FGD?
- What are some of the qualities of a good F?
- List 3 things that the NT is responsible for?
- What are probes? Give an example of a probe.
- Explain how you would handle a situation where FG participants start going off topic
- A participant looks at her watch, gathers up her stuff and gets up to leave. How do you handle this?