

Role Play Scenarios for Spring Break Immersion Participants

Scenario A:

You and Jeff have really connected during the immersion prep process. You two met in a class in the Winter Quarter when you sat next to each other, and you have gotten closer through the immersion process especially after a long chat after a recent meeting. You seemed to always find yourself sitting next to him at meetings and even happened to have the seat next to him on the plane ride. You think you're starting to develop feelings for him and you think he might be feeling the same. What do you do?

Key points

- wait til after the trip.
- Friendships and relationships from an immersion trip are a natural part of it and something we strive for as a program as we build our small community here.
- We also work hard to avoid exclusive relationships - we want the group to connect as a whole. If folks connect too much, romantically or not, it divides the group.
- We want to be conscious of spending time with everyone in the group

Scenario B:

It's the last day on your worksite and you have had a great experience. The homeowner has stopped by a few days and you have had a good experience in the short conversations you have had with him. You were really nervous about connecting with folks since this was something way out of your norm and comfort zone, but you have connect with the group and are really happy with the experience. In your brief conversations with the homeowner, you found that soccer was a great connection, as you have played for a number of years, are on an IM team at SCU, and even have helped coach your younger sisters team a bit. As you are getting ready to leave you overhear the homeowner mention how they never have any soccer balls at his son's school despite how much everyone loves to play. You think about the soccer ball your immersion group brought with you, and also the bag of extra balls you know sit in a storage shed at your sister's high school. What do you do?

Key points

- We do not give gifts to individuals - it hurts our relationships in the community and can cause harm for future groups setting unfair expectations
 - We can make donations through our host organization so ask them about the best way to go about it
- We want to be wary of promises we make to communities: "I will send you a bunch of soccer balls I have" or "I promise I will send you a copy of this photo I took". The reality is you will get busy and might not be able to, and now we have a broken promise
- You can STILL make arrangements to send the soccer balls, or send a photo, but don't promise it.

Scenario C:

It's the third day on the immersion trip and you have been having a very good experience thus far. You feel the group has connected pretty well and you are learning a lot. The leader reminds the group we will be attending a Catholic mass in the community the next day. You notice the rest of the group seems either indifferent to this or are really excited to go to mass. You are very hesitant. You've only been to one Catholic service before and you were very young and it was uncomfortable. You enjoy reflection and appreciate discussing faith and spirituality, but you have no religious affiliation and don't consider it a major aspect of your life. What are things you can do to address the situation and/or how can you approach the experience of attending mass?

Key Points

- Regardless of religious affiliation, participating in religious services is an opportunity for engaging the community and learning
- group needs to remember people have different experiences, so don't assume people are comfortable, or know what happens next.
- Talk about it, be open, ask questions!

Scenario D:

You have been in on the immersion for six days now and you are exhausted. Between not sleeping great, staying up late, and the community visits you are just wiped out. The group is driving back to the house for dinner and you aren't particularly looking forward to another pasta dinner. You start to think towards when you can actually have a hot shower. You are walking next to Tamara who interrupts your thoughts, "I'm so sick of eating the same food! Why can't we have a real dinner? And I swear if I don't have a hot shower soon I'm going to go crazy! I can't even remember what its like to have a good nights sleep between these beds and the noise in the halls." You have a lot of the same thoughts as Tamara, but you're trying hard to stay engaged in the experience knowing you don't have much time left. How could you address Tamara? How can you address your own thoughts and frustrations with the dynamics of your living situation in country?

Key Points

- People will get tired, and cranky, and hungry. That's ok.
- Let's support each other as a group. Think about what's needed: be it giving people space, sucking it up, venting, etc.
- Things are challenging at different levels to different people in the group so be aware. What is easy and fun for you could be terrible and stressful to someone else
- We keep in mind that this experience is a challenge, so we commit to representing ourselves and SCU well
 - this is especially true related to our community partners: being present at meetings, arriving on time, asking questions, regardless of how we feel at the moment.