This week we were asked to work in a group using the Delphi method. This method is usually used when there is one person who is the coordinator who contacts all the people involved. We will call the people involved experts. The experts do not know who else is involved or even how many are involved. This makes it so the experts only know their opinion and the final consensus of the coordinator. This is good because then people cannot destroy other experts’ reasons of why they chose what they chose. It also provides some confidentiality so people are more open about how they feel and why they think that way. It is great for people who are shy in big group meetings and never get to have a word in the meeting.

This method is also bad because of a few reasons. First and foremost, you cannot build on other experts’ ideas. This is usually one of the best ways to get closer to the great ideas. Someone mentions something and while it may not be totally great, it leads others to building on the idea. Not sharing ideas with other experts make it so you cannot do this type of idea building. It also makes it so the coordinator has to sift through everything the experts say and come to a consensus for them all. When groups start getting big, this becomes cumbersome and time consuming.

Overall, there are always pros and cons of methods, but the Delphi method seems to work consistently.