



Good Relations



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Purpose: To help participants understand what is meant by good relations and to understand why promotion of good relations is important in Northern Ireland.

Participant learning objectives:

1. Understand what is meant by the term “good relations”.
2. Understand why good relations work is important in Northern Ireland
3. Be aware of Northern Ireland population statistics

CONTENT	METHODS/ RESOURCES <i>Slides 14-22 can assist with this session.</i>	APPROX. TIME
<p>What is Good Relations?</p>	<p>Resources: Flip chart Markers</p> <p>Ask participants to brainstorm what they think good relations means? Split into smaller groups if appropriate. Ask one person in each group to feedback comments from their group.</p> <p>Provide participants with a definition of good relations. The Equality Commission define good relations as, <i>“The growth of relationships and structures for Northern Ireland that acknowledge the religious, political and racial context of this society, and that seek to promote respect, equity and trust, and embrace diversity in all its forms.”</i> TBUC offer a simpler explanation and state that good relations is about making our communities more:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared • Safe • Accepting of others • Open and encouraging to the celebration of different cultures and beliefs. <p>Show the short YouTube video – ‘Be Together. Not the same’ on slide 18. Ask participants: Why is this video important when talking about good relations? What could we learn from this video?</p> <p>Debrief: How familiar are we with good relations? Is it easy/ hard to understand what good relations work is all about in Northern Ireland?</p>	<p>30 minutes</p>

<p>Why is good relations work important in NI?</p>	<p>Resources: History of NI timeline Glue to stick pictures into workbook</p> <p>Cut out each square on the history of Northern Ireland. Split the group into pairs and provide each pair with a copy of all the periods in history.</p> <p>Ask participants to work together to put all the events in order, starting with the earliest.</p> <p>Debrief: Facilitator shows correct timeline of events. Ask participants if they have heard of these events in history? If so, where did they learn about it? What do they know?</p> <p>Facilitators then go through slides 19-20 to help participants understand why good relations work is still important.</p> <p>Debrief: Do participants know much about the conflict and “the Troubles” in Northern Ireland? Are we likely to achieve total peace in Northern Ireland? Why? Why not?</p>	<p>30 minutes</p>
<p>NI in a classroom</p>	<p>Resources: Write the following on sticky labels: 20 X ‘Protestant’ labels 20 X ‘Catholic’ labels 20 X ‘Other’ labels 20 X ‘British’ labels 20 X ‘Irish’ labels 20 X ‘Northern Irish’ labels</p> <p>Ask participants to imagine that their group represents all people living in NI (population of approx. 1.9 million). Ask participants to determine how many in the classroom would be Protestant, Catholic or Other?</p> <p>Then ask participants to determine how many in the classroom would be British, Irish, Northern Irish or Other?</p> <p>Ask participants to repeat the activity based on their own community where they live. Perhaps repeat this with their school/ youth club etc.</p> <p>Debrief – Are we surprised by the figures on slide 21? NI is highly segregated. We see this in all aspects of our life. It may be also useful to point out that we cannot generalise people’s beliefs solely based on their religion e.g., not all Protestants are Unionists and not all Catholics are Republicans.</p>	<p>20 minutes</p>
<p>Preparation for next session</p>	<p>In preparation for the next session ask participants to bring along something which is very important to them or is special to them. Ask them to bring something which they don’t mind talking about with the rest of the group.</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Check-Out/ Evaluation</p>	<p>Resources Informal Evaluation Ideas</p> <p>Choose an activity from the list provided.</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>



1690 Battle of the Boyne

William of Orange won against James II King of England at the battle on the river Boyne.

James was a Catholic. Many protestants fought with William and they became known as Orangemen. Today, every 12th July Orangemen march through Northern Ireland to celebrate William's win.



1921 Partition (Separation)

Two governments were introduced – one in Dublin to serve the 26 counties and one in Belfast to serve the six Northern counties.

Unionists, (those who want to remain part of the UK) supported the partition but Republicans (those who want a united Ireland) were against it.



1801 Act of Union

Ireland and Great Britain came together to become the United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland



1998 Good Friday Agreement

Agreement towards peace in Northern Ireland.

The Agreement included:

- A United Ireland would not happen unless a majority of people in Northern Ireland voted for it.
- Human rights and equality for all.
- Paramilitaries to hand over their weapons and declare peace.
- Release of political prisoners.
- Introduction of a new police force; the PSNI (Police Service for Northern Ireland)



1916 Easter Rising

The Irish did not want to be under the control of Britain. Irish volunteers fought the British to win their country's independence back.

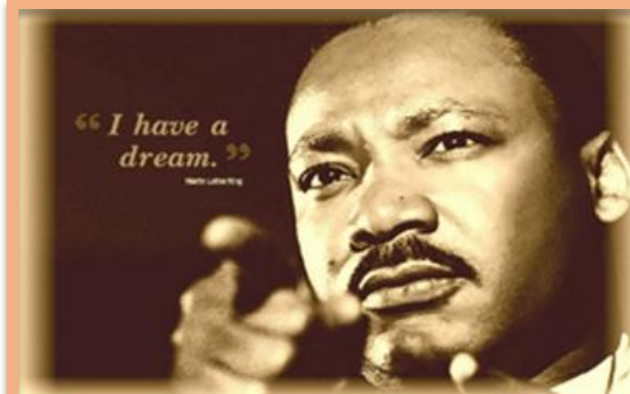


1972 Direct Rule

Bloody Sunday happens. 13 Catholics are killed by British paratroopers during a civil rights march in Londonderry/Derry. This encourages hundreds to join support for the IRA.

Six months later over 20 IRA bombs explode in Belfast leaving 9 dead in what became known as Bloody Friday.

Violence is high and the Northern Ireland Government stops working. British Government steps in to govern Northern Ireland.



1967 Creation of Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA)

NICRA was created to help Catholics gain the same rights as Protestants, e.g., housing, jobs, and voting.

This movement was inspired by the US Civil Rights Movement that fought for equality for black Americans.



British Soldiers Called into NI to Help

There were lots of fights, hate and violence between Protestants and Catholics. British soldiers were called in to help keep the peace.