

Little booklet for the
profe_minist Academy

October 5th – 8th 2017
Bahnhof Eisenberg

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Booklet

Hi!

This booklet for the profemini_st academy is supposed to give you an overview of all the puzzle pieces. The guidelines are ideas which can be the basis for a conversation/discussion/..., but feel free to invent your own outlines. Some puzzle pieces require the reading of texts, which can be quite long, therefore plan wisely. You don't have to do all puzzle pieces and it's probably not possible.

Have fun!

Guideline puzzle piece - Getting to know each other

Goal: reduce timidity, get into a conversation, link something to a person, learn more about each other.

Take 20 minutes per Person to talk about the following questions:

→ *Why did I come here? Which events in my life lead to me being here and wanting to deal with the topic of the academy?*

→ *What is my favourite sweet/cookie/pastry?*

If you finish earlier, use the rest of the 20minutes to ask each other questions.

Guideline puzzle piece - taking position

This puzzle piece is about positioning yourself in relation to different parts of identity. This could be to talk about gender, sexuality, experiences of racism and being-white, about class or family background, about education or bodies (perception of one's own body, standards of beauty, standards of health) and psyche, or many more.

On the next page you will find an introduction and a prepared timetable. You don't have to stick to it, but it can be used as a helpful orientation. Look at it carefully and adjust it, if necessary. Agree on someone who keeps an eye on the time. Make sure to take breaks, whenever you need them.

If you did not do it in advance, start with choosing a topic to talk about.

1. Talk about your questions, fears and needs for the meeting.
 - What is important for me for this meeting?
 - What do I need?
 - What do I not want?
 - What do I fear?
2. Take some time to read the introduction and to discuss the reasons why you chose this puzzle piece.
3. Let's start:
Start talking in turns in a circle (it must not necessarily be a circle, but everyone should get the chance to speak), in which everyone talks ~15 minutes about him_herself. Possible questions:
 - What are important stages in my past/his_herstory regarding this issue?
 - In which way do I take position or why do I not?
 - Which experiences of discrimination does it bring about?
 - Which advantages does it entail?
 - What do I want to do with it? What conclusions to I want to take?
4. Take a break if you did not do it already.
5. If you are still motivated and have enough time, continue an open

discussion about the issue. Set a temporal frame.

6. Start a final round of talking in turns:

→ How do I feel about what I said and what I heard? What did do to me?

→ What did I miss?

→ Do I need anything immediately following this meeting?

Short introduction

What is a privilege-check and why is it important?

1. It is not about a personal judgment of a person/character → even though it can be uneasy and exhaustive to recognize one's own benefits in current society, it has nothing to do with being *guilty* or to be a bad person.
2. On the contrary, it is only about acknowledging that there are many perspectives (which are tied to disadvantages and struggles), which you can *never* understand. → That's why listening to other people, educating yourself and learning to acknowledge is crucial.
3. A privilege-check / a positioning does not question that someone has experienced difficult situations. These experiences must not be denied. It is not about a comparison who is worse off than another.
4. A privilege-check can contribute to be more mindful and solidary in contact with other people. It is about understanding that things we do can hurt, although we did not intend to. There are some perspectives we cannot see. An onset to learn discovering them is to see our own position in society clearly.

Timetable:

Zeitplan:

Questions, need, fears

Fragen, Bedürfnisse, Ängste

ca. 15-30 min

until/bis ___ : ___

Kurze Einleitung → warum machen wir das eigentlich?

Short introduction → why are we actually doing this?

ca. 20 min

until/bis ___ : ___

Topic 1, talking in turns (not necessarily in a circle), 15 min? Per Person

questions, e.g.:

→ *In which way do I take position or why do I not?*

→ *Which experiences of discrimination does it bring about?*

→ *Which advantages does it entail?*

→ *What do I want to do with it? What conclusions to I want to take?*

Thema 1, Runde (muss nicht rund sein), pro Person 15 min?

Fragen, z.B.:

→ *wie positioniere ich mich oder warum nicht?*

→ *welche Diskriminierungserfahrungen bringt das mit sich?*

→ *welche Vorteile bringt das mit sich?*

→ *was will ich damit machen/ welche Schlüsse daraus ziehen*

ca. 15 min per Person

until/bis ___ : ___

BREAK

PAUSE

15 min

until/bis ___ : ___

optionally: open discussion

Evtl. offene Gesprächsrunde

until/bis ___ : ___

final coming together

Abschlussrunde

ca. 15-20 min

until/bis ___ : ___

Guideline puzzle piece - Criticising the particular man (text)

Text discussion: "The particular man, or should one criticise Man as Man" (4 pages)

A text from the magazine: outside the box #5

The suggested procedure is just one idea. You should rather use it as an inspiration to start a discussion about the text.

1. Everyone reads the text.
2. Or you cast the roles in the group and read it as play.
3. If you do not understand something and/or find something interesting, say "stop" and talk about it in the group.
4. We also made up some questions, which we would like to talk about. You can use them as an inspiration.

Questions about the text:

- Is the intervention in daily situations that incompatible with a wide social transformation as the text says?
- Which particular possibilities and practical approaches for social and individual transformation are suggested in the text.
- Were these approaches successful?

Personal questions:

- What do you think, is it legitimate to criticise the particular man? And what is this criticism for?
- How do you react in situations when your particular behavior is criticised?
- Are you using similar arguments like the text to defend your self?
- Is it legitimate to criticise women*, trans and inter persons, like the criticism of the particular woman in the text?

Idea:

Form 2 groups and discuss! One group stands in for the intervention in daily life situations and the other group stands in for the wide social transformation.

Guideline puzzle piece - „Feminism And the Politics of the Commons“ (Text)

Text discussion: „Feminism And the Politics of the Commons *“ (9 pages)

by Silvia Federici

Fragen:

- What is a Common?
- How do Commons look like, that are part of an anticapitalist policy?
- In another paper Federici talks about reorganising „the production on the basis of reproduction“. How could that look like and is it now, in the current society, possible?
- If so, what does it need that Commons enable production?
- Federici talks about „anticapitalist strategy“. A strategy has a clear aim, which aim do Commons have?
- Furthermore, strategy is a militant term, which refers to an enemy. Which battle is she referring to and which function could Commons take within it?

Guideline puzzle piece - Emotionality, Selfcare, Relationships (text)

The recently published book *Boys don't cry* by Jack Urwin aims to enlighten and motivate cis men to fight against patriarchy. Therefore the disadvantages of widespread masculinity performances are shown to cis men. We would like to talk with you about this approach and the book. Because we haven't got enough time to read the whole book we limited it to the introduction. This introduction was published on www.vice.com as „A Stiff Upper Lip Is Killing British Men“

1. Read „A Stiff Upper Lip Is Killing British Men“!
2. Speak about your thoughts on the text!

Following questions you can use as inspirations to start a conversation about the text:

Part 1- general

- What is the connection of a lacked self-care and masculinity?
- Why is there a difficulty in showing ones weakness and accept help?
- Why does the author adore his father even if there was a lot to criticize about him?
- How come that some people don't seem to have access to their emotions like grief, sadness, loneliness, disappointment, affection for example and why is it difficult for them to speak about it?

Part 2 – personal and biographical

- What are you doing usually when you are ill or you aren't feeling well?
- How often do you ask about the well-being of others?
- How do you estimate your responsibility for your health in counterpart to close friends?
- Which strategies do you have to dismount stress?
- Do you find any conflict between your claim of doing political work and taking care of yourself?

Guideline puzzle piece - 4 in 1 perspective of Frigga Haug (text)

1. Read the text

The text is full of requirements and uses many terms which are connected to Marxism. Therefore we try to understand it as a first step:

- Do you have questions in understanding the text?
- Are there parts which caught your eye or which you didn't understand at all?
- Are there terms or words you didn't get along with/ you wanna speak about?

2. Speaking about the text:

In the following you find some questions for inspiration and to start a conversation about the text. You can also just speak about what interests you in the text.

- What kind of perspective does Frigga Haug form and where is the connection to Feminism?
- Why do we need a perspective?
- Do we really need one?
- She talks about to scandalize „reversel“and „alienation“ in working areas. What does she mean by that and where can it be scandalized?
- Which collective places are possible for it and does she suggest some?
- Whats about your life? Can you think of areas in which you find a lack of something?

Announcement - Consent workshop

"may i kiss you on your mouth?" - workshop for a sensitive cooperation

during this workshop we will playful and practical come close to the topic consent (sexual consent) and deal with the following questions: what does consent actually mean? how can I do consent? how can i give space for honest questions and answers? how can i dare to ask? what are the positive and negative aspects of consent? the workshop is suitable for people who know nothing or already much about consent. the workshop will be in german language (with the option to do whispered translation in english) and is open to all gender. The room is free of smoke and accessible with the wheelchair, the toilette?? as well. Presented by queer_topia*(queertopia.blogspot.de).

bring: pen, slip of paper

duration: 5 hours

Announcement - Forum Theater Workshop

In this workshop we will address the topic of masculinities and your current questions with forum theater methods. Using rhythm, sounds, movements and theater we will reveal questions of the group, explore these, try out daily life interventions and reflect about it.

Questions for the final round

In the final round on Sunday we would like to talk about the recent academy. We have prepared some questions for this. They serve as inspirations to form your critic. You don't need to answer every single question ;-)

- How are you after the academy?
- Would you come back or even join us in organizing the academy?
- How do you assess the content? Which contents are missing?
- How do you like the structure and organization?
- How do you feel about the self-organized approach? How important is this for you?
- Did you feel comfortable in your group and with other groups?
- Has there been a moment or something that was of particular importance for you?
- Is there something you take with you after this weekend?
- Do you have feedback or critic for the orga group?
- self-criticism: How would you behave differently the next time?

We can learn a lot from criticism – even if it is unpleasant for the people who criticise and the people which are being criticised. Try to present your comments in solidarity!

Timetable

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	08:00 Breakfast 09:00 Info-round and feedback	08:00 Breakfast 09:00 Info-round and feedback	08:00 Breakfast 09:00 Info-round and feedback
	10:00 Workshop or puzzle piece 13:30 Lunch break	10:00 Puzzle part 13:30 Lunch break	10:00 Puzzle part 12:00 Lunch break
	15:00 Workshop or puzzle piece 18:00 End of workshop or puzzle piece	15:00 Puzzle part 18:00 End of puzzle piece	13:00 Final round 15:00 Clean up
19:00 Introduction 20:00 Food Finding of groups	19:00 Food 20:00 Presentation theater or movie + distribute peer group forming	19:00 Food Bar	