

Utopia Fishbowl Preparation

Group members:

Now that you have participated in a fishbowl, I am sure that you can recognize the importance of good preparation. Tomorrow you will be doing a fishbowl on one of the following topics. You and your group should prepare today and tonight. It is another 15 point classwork grade using the same rubric. This fishbowl is somewhat different because it asks for your opinions, so make sure you have thought your ideas through.

Each group will need an "opening statement" to let the class know what the question was about and your collective summary.

This fishbowl will be more **organic (developing naturally)**, so the timing is flexible. We can spare time for a second day, so don't feel rushed.

FCA's (focus correction areas):

After our 1st fishbowl, it was evident we need to focus on these areas of improvement:

- talking loudly
- sharing the conversation (not hogging all the "answers")
- as an audience, taking notes/ following along (now you'll use a note sheet to help)

Resource Group #1: What is a Utopia?

- define
- look at our Bill of Rights--is this Utopian?
- Is it possible to have a society that all people agree on? Why or why not?
- Think/talk about the quote as it impacts the idea of a Utopia::
 "When we lose the right to be different, we lose the privilege to be free."
 (Charles Evans Hughes, Address at Faneuil Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, June 17, 1925)

Resource Group #2: Transforming the US into a Utopia:

- If you were to improve our society/world, what would you change?
 (example: poverty)
- How would you go about making those changes?
- What kind of government would work best to create this Utopia?
- Think/talk about the quote as it impacts the idea of a Utopia:

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.” (Nelson Mandela)

Resource Group #3: Bullying and Power

- How would you eliminate bullying?
- What is the relationship between bullying and power?
- Look at the DASA document. What do you notice?

Resource Group #4: Connotations and conclusions

- Remember that a connotation is the feelings associated with a word and denotation is the dictionary definition. For this discussion, you'll be talking about both.
- Look at this list of words: infraction, interdependence, relinquish, infringe, unanimous
What connotation does each word have?
- What conclusions can we draw about this book, based on these words?
 - The precise meaning of words is very important in this book. Why might that matter? (think about our conversation about good vs. stupendous, tiny vs. microscopic)

Resource Group #5: Real Utopias

Throughout history, societies have tried to form Utopias. Research one that was pre-1900 and another that was post-1900. Discuss with each other your findings, making sure to compare and contrast when appropriate.

Bob Dylan