

Civic Leadership Academy 2019

Workshop p#4: Identifying Harassment and Discrimination

Goal: Students will identify examples of discrimination and harassment in hypothetical situations in order to advocate for themselves and others in the workplace, at home, and in public places.

Pre-Workshop Survey: What is discrimination?

Key Vocabulary

Rights - Entitlements to have/obtain something or to act/be treated in a certain way.

Discrimination - The unfair treatment of different categories of people

Harassment - Aggressive pressure or intimidation

Complaint - An official statement that a situation is unacceptable

Guest Speaker

- Introduce representative from MCAD
- Guest guides students through her Know Your Rights slideshow.
- Students are presented with hypothetical situations, and must identify behaviors/actions that are problematic due to discriminatory practices or harassment.
- Students are given information about when and how to submit formal complaints to MCAD

Small Group Breakout Session

- Student Civic Leaders meet to discuss the takeaways from the presentation.
- Discussion questions:
 - o When have you experienced or witnessed discrimination? What did you do?
 - o When have you experienced or witnessed harassment? What did you do?
 - o What do you know now about harassment and discrimination that you didn't know before?
 - o If you witness or experience discrimination or harassment tomorrow, what steps will you take to handle the situation?

Reflection:

In our breakout session, it was clear that the presentation had been quite meaningful to our participants. All students were able to define "discrimination" and "harassment," and many felt comfortable enough in the small group setting to share examples of discrimination that they'd witnessed in their own lives. I believe that after this workshop, our students understand that, whoever they are and whatever their status, they are not alone; they know where to turn if they feel that their rights are being threatened.