Role-play Ideas and Suggestions

Make sets of index cards with a different role-play situation on each card. Color code the cards with a wide strip across the top of the index card so the same role-play in each set is marked with red or blue or green, etc. Make enough sets of cards to accommodate the number of dyads or triads you will have in your training. Each dyad or triad gets a complete set of the same role-play cards. Determine which case scenarios will be acted out and instruct each dyad or triad to pull out the corresponding color-coded card. This is a quick and easy way for all groups to be working on the same role-play, yet change the role-play situation easily and without a lot of general discussion and loss of time.

BROWN

You are twenty-one years old, and have had one abortion, with no apparent after effects. You are going to dental school and it is the most important thing in your life. You are the first in your family to attend college. You have a partial scholarship but our family is sacrificing a lot to pay for you to go to school.

YELLOW

You are a nineteen-year-old Christian going to a Christian college. You are too ashamed to face your parents with the news of your pregnancy. You come from a very legalistic, judgmental church. Some of your friends have suggested having an abortion because then no one will know and your life can get back to the way it was.

RED

You are twenty-seven years old and living with your boyfriend. You are career-minded and are not sure you ever want to have children. Your boyfriend is also encouraging you to have the abortion. He wants you to abort so badly you are afraid he will leave if you choose to carry the baby.

GREY

You are thirty-two years old and have three children under the age of four. Your husband is pressuring you to abort. He has just been laid-off at work and is worried about finances and providing for the children you already have.

PINK

You are a married woman whose husband's job often takes him away from home for long periods of time. You had an affair while he was gone and are now pregnant. You want an abortion before your husband returns home from his current business trip. You have one seven-year-old son with your husband.

PURPLE

You are fifteen years old and scared to death of being pregnant. You are even more scared of what your parents' reaction will be. Your relationship with your parents has been on the skids lately and they absolutely hate your boyfriend.

BLUE

You are thirty-eight years old. Your last child has just entered high school. This is a change of life baby. You fear the baby will have birth defects due to your age and are overwhelmed thinking about the change of lifestyle a new baby will cause.

GREEN

You are eighteen years old. You are beautiful, intelligent and the homecoming queen this year at your high school. You are the youngest child from a family of high achievers. Your parents have always had high expectations for you. You are planning to start college in the fall at a prestigious university.

ORANGE

You are twenty-four years old and have struggled with anxiety and depression for many years. Everyone says you can't care for a child. You fear the medication you are on will be harmful to the baby. You have a history of being in and out of local psychiatric hospitals.