

No-tech Vent Diagrams workshop (1 hour)

July 20, 2018 "On Our Terms" CPAR Project

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This 1 hour workshop was used with a group of 40ish parents, students, educators and organizers in New York City who are embarking on a Critical Participatory Research Action Project this year about the implementation of "Restorative Justice" practices in NYC public schools. It was done on the third day of our summer institute, after we'd already been building and working together for 2.5 days. The purpose was to reflect on what we'd already done together and identify tensions & multiple/overlapping truths.

Agenda:

1. (5 min) Introduce "Venn Diagram"

- Show chart paper 1 to group
- Ask: "raise your hand if you have seen one of these before"
- Ask: what goes in each of these categories?
- Give group 30 sec-1 min to fill in two things for each category on diagram ("books" and "movies" and "both")
- Solicit about two things to put in each category from whole group
- Ask: what is the purpose of this kind of diagram? what is this kind of diagram called?

2. (10 min) Introduce "Vent Diagrams"

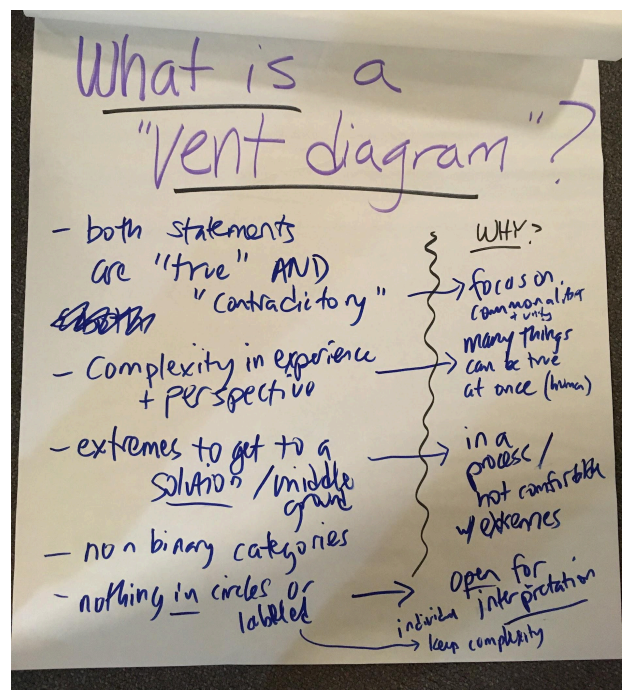
- Show chart paper 2 to group
- Say: VENT Diagrams is a collaborative social media art project that is obviously a play on words about "venn diagrams"
- Say: Take about three minutes to look through the IG or the printed images and a) select one vent diagram that you especially like and b) try to figure out what IS a vent diagram? What do all vent diagrams have in common?
- Say: Turn to one or two people nearby and share at least one vent diagram that stood out to you and why. You will have 5 min to share the vents and to talk a little about what you think a Vent Diagram is!

3. (5 min) Define a Vent Diagram:

- Show chart paper 3 to group
- Ask: what IS a vent diagram? What do all vent diagrams have in common?
- Write answers on chart paper 3 (ie, two overlapping circles, statements on each circle are two contradictory truths, nothing filled in the middle, etc)

4. (25 min) Make new Vent Diagrams!

- Say: Following these guidelines we just created about what a vent diagram is, you will try to make vent diagrams about some things that have come from our time together so far. You can work on your own or with other people.
- Show people the two examples you have made and make explicit where they came from
- Give people 20+ minutes to make vents - circulate to offer encouragement & support on wording & style...



- When there are about 5 min left, give everyone a piece of tape and ask them to choose a vent diagram they will share with the group - either with a name/IG handle written on to it or anonymously

5. (15 min) Vent gallery walk & closing

- Say: Everyone please post at least one vent diagram up around the room for others to see.
- Say: Please walk around and view as many vents as you are able to while this song plays (play a song!). Then return to your seat and think about one idea and/or vent diagram you know you'll continue to think about
- (10 min) Closing: Everyone will share out one idea you saw or heard today that you appreciated and/or made you think (feel free to just read out a vent -- no explaining!)

Materials:

- Large, printed out copies of 10-20 of favorite, most relevant vents (from ventdiagrams.com or @Vent_Diagrams on Instagram) - *color copies if possible*
- 4 prepared pieces of chart paper:
 1. Draw a large empty venn diagram labeled "books" and "movies" and "both"
 2. Write @vent_diagrams and www.ventdiagrams.com large enough to see from across the room
 3. Write "What IS a Vent Diagram?" on the top of a chart paper and bullet points / space below for writing
 4. Make two example vent diagrams YOU have made about the content/dynamics of your group so far
- Tape
- Markers
- Any paper, pens, post-its, art materials of your choice for vent making
- Cell phones / music optional