

 **Activity: Approaching people in an unsheltered environment**

For this activity, your group will be divided in 2 parts: surveyors, and “people hanging out” on the street.

Those of you who will be “people-hanging-out” will be given a role to play. We suggest that you give a bit of thought to how you will play this role; aim for it to be realistic – i.e., don’t exaggerate, but at the same time, since this is a learning experience, you should play your role in a manner that provides some challenge to the surveyors and mostly, provides fodder for a good discussion of what a surveyor could encounter on the street on the day of the count.

Those of you assigned the role of surveyor will work in pairs. (The pairs will be set up a few minutes prior to the simulation.) Your task will be to approach a “person in the street” and obtain their agreement to be surveyed. The simulation ends when you have asked questions A, B and C.

All of you, when not role playing, will be observers, making notes and preparing yourselves for the debriefing that will take place once all the simulations have taken place.

**Roles**

The roles are:

1. a person who insists on being given money or something to answer the questions;
2. a person in need of medical attention;
3. a person who is not refusing outright to answer the survey but needs convincing (e.g., doubts you are who you say you are, fears this is a trap of some sort, etc.);
4. a person who doesn’t necessarily refuse to answer your questions but desperately wants you to help him or her find a place to stay or food;
5. a person who ignores what you want and “hits” on you;
6. a person sitting on the ground with his “beloved” dog and who looks a bit “out of it”;
7. a cluster of 3-4 persons.