

 **AIM:** An exercise that illustrates and increases the visibility of the participants' prejudices and beliefs and create reflection on these.

 **Participants:** 10 - 20

 **Duration:** depending on the size of the group, with 10 to 14 participants it will take approximately 30- 50 minutes.

 **Required Material:** Copies of handout A and B

 **Category:** Dialogue exercise / inter-cultural, homogeneous

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

Be aware of the sensitivity of the subject.

<b>STEPS</b>	
<p><b>Preparation</b> (2 minutes)</p>	<p>Divide the participants into groups of five people.</p>
<p><b>Activity</b> (30 minutes)</p>	<p>Tell the participants about this case study:</p> <p>Your family has two studio apartments in the basement that you and your brother share. Your brother, however, has just moved to Australia to study and your parents have decided that his part of the studio will now be rented out. You and the tenant get separate rooms and bathrooms but you have adjoining rooms with each other.</p> <p>After advertising in the newspaper, you receive seven responses. Now you are to select the person that is to move in with you.</p> <p>Give the participants handout A and tell them to read the e-mails alone. Give the participants 5 minutes (max 10 minutes). It will allow them to reflect alone.</p>

	<p>Then divide the participants into groups of 4-5. Tell the participants to rank the e-mails. This part should take 10-15 minutes max.</p> <p>One participant from each group will then present his/her group's ranking and explain their decision. The facilitator writes the rankings up on the blackboard.</p> <p>Then tell the participants that everyone from the e-mail-applications will now come to see the studio apartment and they will receive additional information about those who have responded to the ad. The participants now have a chance to reconsider the applicants again. Give them handout B. Give participants five minutes to rank the applicants again. Each group should agree on a ranking and present it to the other groups. Write the results of the rankings on the blackboard.</p>
<p><b>Evaluation</b> (15 minutes)</p>	<p>Group discussion. What did each group discuss/do? the facilitator can highlight points of interest or discuss choices that the groups made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did you manage to agree?</li> <li>• What was most important to your / their choice?</li> <li>• Did the new information change that priority?</li> <li>• Were there any applicants you wouldn't have selected to view the studio?</li> <li>• What are the consequences of the choices you've made?</li> <li>• What is discrimination?</li> <li>• Do you have examples of discrimination in society today?</li> <li>• Do you have examples of discrimination in religious communities?</li> <li>• Where do these attitudes come from?</li> <li>• Is it your own opinion, or is it something you've heard from others?</li> </ul> <p>Did their religious affiliation play a role in your decision?</p>
<p><b>Conclusion</b> (5 minutes)</p>	<p>Thank everyone for their participation, summarize what was learned.</p> <p>Some prejudices are unavoidable, everyone has them, and there is nothing wrong with this. However, it is important to be aware of one's own prejudices and be ready to challenge and overcome them.</p>

## 'Studio ad' Annex A

### Sheet no. 1: e-mails

1: We need an apartment. I am an educated brick-layer but I don't have a job now. We came from Poland 1 year ago. My wife and I are taking language courses. Write to us: Anna and Konrad Elschpeta.

2: My name is Aziz, 26 years old and a soccer fan. I'm very interested in the studio. I have a BMW and a terrier, Creon. He is a good watchdog. I can be reached on my phone, when I'm not pumping iron at the gym. . 91 ....

3: Sebastian, a 24-year-old student who is studying to become medical secretary, and the dog Odin, need the studio. Phone: 48 ...

4: I, Peter Jensen are looking for a place for a couple of friends. They are in their late 20s and very nice. I can help with practical work. Call me on tel 93 ...

5: My name is Nora and I am 24 years old and I am very interested in the apartment you are renting. I am a medical student in my 3rd year and looking for a place close to the university. It's too long to commute on weekdays from my parents in Moss, but I will spend most of my weekends there. I can be contacted on 23 ...

6: Hallo! Great ad you had on findapartments.com! I need a place to stay as soon as possible. Decent but rather wild girl who wants to get away from mom and dad (they pay - they have a lot of money). Trude, tel: 94 ...

7: I heard about your apartment today. I want to start a new life with Jesus who saved me. I want to settle outside the city and hope that you will give me a chance. Call tel 22 ... and ask for Tor Gunnar.

## Sheet no. 2

1: Konrad and Anna liked the apartment. Konrad has trouble getting in the door to the bathroom because of his overweight, but otherwise they are very happy with it.

2: Aziz is a pacifist and social worker. He is employed at an anti-violence project and works with the youth department in a football club. He is, among other things, a football coach for two teams and gives workshops on communication and anti-racism in schools in Oslo.

3: Odin is a big Rottweiler. Sebastian has a shaved head and has rolled up jeans and army boots. He asks if any "immigrants" live in the neighbourhood and seems relieved when you say no. He has been a student for 3 weeks.

4: Peter Jensen works in the Salvation Army and comes with his friends, Georiana and Stefano, who smiles from ear to ear when they see the apartment. Last year they lost their jobs in Portugal and are now looking for jobs in Norway to finance schooling for their 3 children in Romania. Normally they sleep in their car but, after Georgiana got a small position in the Church City Mission work space, they have now taken the advice to stay somewhere where the police will not be chasing them.

5: Nora is polite and humble. She is dressed in a long skirt with a wide top. On her head she has a hijab with rose patterns set tightly with golden needles.

6: Trude comes with her friends, Hilde and Alexander when she arrives. She is 16 years old and is doing her first year in carpentry, vocational education. She has a job in the newsroom of a newspaper. She says she would respect the rules of the apartment and not make any trouble.

7: Tor Gunnar lays "all his cards on the table" and explains that he has had problems with alcohol and drugs. He has been through various training programs that did not work for him. It was only when he found Jesus 6 months ago that he was able to quit. He will be followed up regularly by Blue Cross. Tor Gunnar has received an internship at a biscuit factory and begins on Monday. In his spare time, he seeks out homosexuals to convert them from a life of sin.