

## POWER WALK

### Process

- Hand each person a role card.
- Tell them they must keep their role secret until later.
- Explain that the income is weekly.
- Ask everyone to stand facing the same way, along a straight line in the middle of the room.
- Explain that they are to respond to a series of questions you will read out by taking one step forward if their answer is "yes" and one step backwards for "no".
- If they are unsure of any answers they may stand still.

### Questions

1. Is English your first language?
2. Can you speak English competently?
3. Did you complete secondary school?
4. Did you complete an apprenticeship or some form of further education?
5. Can you make an income without relying on a social security benefit?
6. Do you have full time employment?
7. Can you save money on your income?
8. Can you afford to pay all of your bills on time?
9. Can you get a personal loan from a bank?
10. Can you afford to buy a house?
11. Can you afford to buy and run a reliable car?
12. Can you afford a holiday house, boat or caravan?
13. Can you afford to go on annual holidays?
14. Do you have money to invest?
15. Can you afford disability and life insurance?
16. Can you afford private health insurance?
17. Can you afford to eat out on a regular basis?
18. Can you afford to employ someone to help with house duties?
19. Can you afford to be a member of a health, fitness or sporting club?
20. Do you have money for recreational activities?
21. Can you vote?
22. Do you have a good mental, physical and emotional health?
23. Do you have a network of supportive family or friends close by?

### Discussion

- Get each person to read out their role card.
- Lead a discussion about where they are in relation to each other.
- What was the activity like for them?

*There are a number of different variations of this activity. This version was adapted by Good Shepherd Youth and Family Service for use by Meeting Point*

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 23  
**Cultural background:** Aborigine  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** Studying at University  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** Abstudy - \$155.05 p/w  
**Housing:** Renting shared accommodation (3)  
**Family:** Single  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 28  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** Secondary School  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** Disability Pension - \$226.40 p/w  
**Housing:** Supported accommodation  
**Family:** Single  
**Health:** Physical disability

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 17  
**Cultural background:** Vietnamese  
**Years in Australia:** 5  
**Education:** Year 10  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** Youth Allowance - \$155.05 p/w  
**Housing:** Supported youth housing  
**Family:** Has a boyfriend  
**Health:** Periods of depression

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 26  
**Cultural background:** Bosnian  
**Years in Australia:** 4  
**Education:** Equivalent Year 8  
**Employment Status:** Work for the Dole  
**Income:** Newstart - \$202.90 p/w  
**Housing:** Caravan Park  
**Family:** Single  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 70  
**Cultural background:** Italian  
**Years in Australia:** 24  
**Education:** Equivalent Year 8  
**Employment Status:** Retired  
**Income:** Pension - \$378 per household  
**Housing:** Own unit  
**Family:** Married with children  
**Health:** Fair

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 24  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** Year 12  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** Single Parent Pension - \$367.33 p/w  
**Housing:** Government housing  
**Family:** Two children under 5  
**Health:** Fair

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 34  
**Cultural background:** East Timorese  
**Years in Australia:** 10  
**Education:** Equivalent Year 7  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** \$40 p/w per family  
**Housing:** Staying with friends  
**Family:** Married with two children  
**Health:** Fair

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 17  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** Year 8  
**Employment Status:** Unemployed  
**Income:** \$0  
**Housing:** Homeless  
**Family:** Single  
**Health:** Misusing chrome and alcohol

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 35  
**Cultural background:** Greek  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** Full-time teacher  
**Income:** \$1000 p/w  
**Housing:** Buying own home  
**Family:** Single with two children  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 42  
**Cultural background:** Italian  
**Years in Australia:** 18  
**Education:** Equivalent Year 12  
**Employment Status:** Factory worker  
**Income:** \$600 (single income)  
**Housing:** Buying own home  
**Family:** Married with four children  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 22  
**Cultural background:** Vietnamese  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** Year 11  
**Employment Status:** Shop Assistant  
**Income:** \$505 p/w  
**Housing:** With parents (no rent)  
**Family:** Single  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 32  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** Manager  
**Income:** \$2500 p/w per household  
**Housing:** Buying own home  
**Family:** Married with no children  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Female  
**Age:** 34  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** Physiotherapist  
**Income:** \$1340 p/w  
**Housing:** Buying own home  
**Family:** Single with one child  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 39  
**Cultural background:** Italian  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** Account Executive  
**Income:** \$2800 p/w per household  
**Housing:** Own home  
**Family:** Married with two children  
**Health:** Good

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 74  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** Retired  
**Income:** \$960 p/w per household  
**Housing:** Own home  
**Family:** Married with children  
**Health:** Fair

**Gender:** Male  
**Age:** 48  
**Cultural background:** Anglo-Saxon  
**Years in Australia:** Born here  
**Education:** University  
**Employment Status:** CEO  
**Income:** \$5770 p/w per household  
**Housing:** Own home  
**Family:** Married with three children  
**Health:** Good