



# Writing for Change

RAISING AWARENESS OF DIFFERENCE, POWER, AND DISCRIMINATION

## 1.11 Comparing Instead of Contrasting

### **Objectives**

Identify similarities between groups of people.

Analyze the effects, as they relate to social justice issues, of emphasizing similarities between people rather than differences.

### **Materials needed**

Copies of the handout

### **Time needed**

Five to ten minutes

### **Instructor directions**

Have your students list ten similarities between the listed groups of people.

Ask them to concentrate on meaningful rather than trivial similarities.

Encourage them to think about the beneficial effects of emphasizing similarities rather than differences.



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## 1.11 Comparing Instead of Contrasting Handout

### Directions

List ten similarities between the following groups of people.

Homosexual people and heterosexual people

Christian people and Jewish people

Poor people and wealthy people

Old people and young people

White people and Asian people

Fat people and thin people

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Women and men

People who walk and people who use wheelchairs

Discuss the effects, as they relate to social justice issues, of emphasizing similarities between people rather than differences.