Fishbowl Discussion - Strategies

AP Seminar * Mrs. Johnson
Analyzing “Lost Voices” Spoken Word Piece
When You are the “Fish”

- Take a few seconds to consider the question before responding.
- Have paper/pen/pencil and your text with you. Make notes as ideas come to you.
- Employ the following discussion/response strategies:
  - LISTEN. What your partner is saying is important.
  - Agree or disagree with what your partner has said and say why. The “why” is the most important part of the response.
  - Ask a question about your partner’s comment. Asking for an elaboration on part or all of the original comment is a good approach, assuming it needs further explanation.
  - Provide evidence for your partner’s comment. Evidence can come from content covered in class, from the reading, or from experience.
  - Relate or link your partner’s comment to a prior comment or discussion, maybe one the teacher or another student made. A link also can be made to something in the reading material.
  - Make a new, related comment. It needs to be different from what’s been said and don’t assume that how it relates to your partner’s comment is obvious to others.
When You are the Observer

- Write down the question. Make a list of your initial thoughts.
- LISTEN. What the “fish” are saying is important!
- Remember: You may be called on to assist a “fish out of water” at any time. Be ready to jump into the conversation!
Question 1

- Why are minorities lost voices? Aside from race and gender, what are other groups which are often disregarded?
If there are just as many, if not more, women as men, and women are treated as minorities in this document Lost Voices, then what does the term minority really imply?
Question 3

- Should “allies” be less involved to give those affected more of a chance to speak, or should they speak more so that those affected see some change?
- How can people better speak up for someone without taking their voice?
- Where would you draw the line between a person outside of the minority supporting and trying to speak for the minority?
- How much of a voice do you think that those who are not a part of the oppressed should have in these protests?
Is there any way to sympathize with someone without being in their exact situation?

Even though we might not be going through either of the speaker’s problems do you feel that we could be going through similar situations and we can try to help without taking away their voices?

Are there any circumstances where one who is not a part of the minority can truly understand the pain of the oppressed?
Question 5

What actions can be taken by a minority voice to convince the majority to support their position, and how effective would they be?
Question 6

- Is the concept of Peacemeal Reform prevalent when concerning relations between oppressors and the oppressed in today's society?

- Peacemeal Reform is essentially when you give a homeless dude a dollar and you're like woah I solved world hunger but in reality you aren't helping the root cause and perpetuating the person's homelessness by not giving them stability in their lives.
Question 7

- Why do people feel more comfortable standing up for the rights of others, especially when they are in a different minority group?