# SAFER TUTOR GROUP

#### AYY TUTOR TRAINING AALTO CHAPLAIN JENNY VAINIO

# THINK FOR A MOMENT

In what kind of group you can be yourself? Where does the feeling come from?

What was your own freshman group like? How do you envision your own future tutor group?

## **SAFE GROUP**

- Everyone feels welcome, regardless of their background
- Freedom to be yourself, express yourself freely and to be involved in all activities
- Shared responsibility for common security

#### PRINCIPLES FOR SAFER SPACE (WWW.ALLI.FI)

- Practices to allow experience of security in the group
- Community (e.g. tutor group) creates principles for itself to which its members commit
- Principles enable inclusion and shared responsibility for creating a social space
- Principles also help in resolving conflicts
- The most important thing is to become aware of your own presuppositions
- Assumption of diversity!

#### PRINCIPLES FOR SAFER SPACE (WWW.ALLI.FI)

#### • DON'T ASSUME

- **RESPECT**
- BE OPEN
- ENCOURAGE
- INVOLVEMENT
- RELAX

#### DON'T ASSUME

RESPECT EVERYONE'S SELF-DETERMINATION AND DO NOT MAKE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT, FOR EXAMPLE, THE GENDER, BACKGROUND, OR FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS OF OTHERS.

- > New students can come from all kinds of backgrounds
- Gender does not automatically mean certain behaviour
- Choice of clothing does not determine a person
- Specialist in some field may not want to be an expert in his or her free time

# RESPECT

GIVE OTHERS SPACE, PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR CHOICE OF WORDS AND KEEP IN MIND THE DIVERSITY OF THE EVENT PARTICIPANTS.

- Respect the right of self-determination of others
- Don't keep asking if a person does not want to tell you everything about themselves
- > Avoid dumb words or jokes
- > Try to take everyone's opinions and thoughts into account in the group
- > Act encouragingly

## **BE OPEN**



- > Try to identify your own prejudices and stereotypes
- Ask if something is unclear to you
- Approach a lonely person
- Proactively explain the reasons and goals for what you are doing
- Don't hide your mistakes everyone makes them!
- > We are all united by diversity treat this richness openly and kindly

## ENCOURAGE

#### TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS AS WELL. LISTEN AND ENCOURAGE.

- Also notice the quiet ones
- > Encourage new students to join associations and recreational activities
- > Encourage others to try out something new and ask for help if needed

## INVOLVEMENT

#### IF YOU WITNESS ANY FORM OF HARASSMENT OR OTHER INAPPROPRIATE TREATMENT, DO NOT REMAIN AN OBSERVER.

- > If you are not sure what happened in the situation, you can always ask
- Think about the words you will use in advance when addressing inappropriate behaviour
- > AYY's harassment contact persons help and advise you if necessary

## RELAX

#### CONFUSION AND MAKING QUESTIONS IS ALLOWED.

- If someone does not know something, it is okay
- Do not laugh viciously at the mistakes of others
- Accepting and sharing of your own mistakes relaxes the atmosphere of the whole group
- > If you inadvertently hurt another person, you can apologise
- It is okay if you don't always want to be involved in everything and you can also refuse

# THINK FOR A MOMENT

What kind of thoughts the principles for safe space evoke in you? In what ways can you support the development of your tutor group to be safe for all its members?

#### THANK YOU FOR **PARTICIPATING** VE A GREAT AND **REWARDING** T U T O R I N G EXPERIENCE!