

CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY: **SILENT INTERVIEW**

Goal: To illustrate the importance of non-verbal communication as well as oral communication

Objective of Activity: Communicate non-verbally (without talking, writing, or using words)

Materials: Nothing

Instructions:

Have participants pair up. Let them know that they now need to interview each other - without talking! They may use gestures, etc. but no talking and no words (or writing down anything). They need to find out as much as possible about each other in 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, let them know that they can now talk. Participants can then check their information for accuracy, learn a bit more about each other and discuss the experience with each other. Then, debrief the experience with participants. First, have participants introduce their partners based on what they learned during the silent interview. Depending on time and number of participants, other information can be added. Then, debrief the entire experience (ie what was most difficult, what participants learned from this activity, etc.).