

Paper Toss Que Sheet - Facilitator/Teacher Guide

1. Both groups: you have returned home, you are tired, sick, and are afraid of what is to come - both groups take a step back
2. George's: you move to Toronto where there are many opportunities for work, for education and for a family - take a step forward
3. Patrick's: you return home to the reserve where you are from, there are few opportunities for work, your children are waiting for you, the community is isolated and lacks social and community services. You have pressure to provide for your family with not much to work with - take a step back
4. Both groups: you have returned home but the scars of war are making it hard to fit into society, you struggle with your mental and physical health - both groups take a step back
5. George's: You decide to apply to the University of Toronto and gets accepted - take a step forward
6. Patrick's: you find a job but it does not pay very well, you continue to struggle to support your family - take a step back
7. George's: you apply for assistance from the government for your military services, this proves rather easy, although the pay is not much it helps - take a step forward
8. Patrick's: you apply for assistance from the government for your military services because you identify as an indigenous person you have to apply through Indian affairs and an Indian agent on your reserve. This agent does not fully understand the process and files your paperwork wrong, you do not receive the government assistance - take a step back
9. George's: you graduate from university, and find a good job that pays well - take a step forward
10. Patrick's: without many resources such as medical assistance you fall ill from malaria you caught while being a POW, with no doctors close to you your wife is the only one to care for you but you recover - remain in the same place
11. Both groups: George's although you have had some success you struggle with depression from your experience in WWII and Patrick's you're suffering from undiagnosed PTSD and are struggling to cope - both groups take a step back
12. George's: you find an outlet in writing and begin to tell your story, your book becomes published and you enjoy a great deal of success - take a step forward
13. Patrick's: without an outlet and services to help, you decide to self medicate you turn to alcohol and become abusive towards your family - take a step back
14. George's: you begin to settle down and are living a more or less happy life with your wife and family, you've had success because of your education, job, family, and support system around you - take a step forward
15. Patrick's: with the combination of alcohol abuse, the emotional & physical scars of war have proved to be too much, you pass away in 1971 at the age of 55 - remain where you are
16. Both groups: based on where you are standing try to throw your paper ball into the garbage bin at the other end of the room.

17. Please clean up and return to your seat, thanks for playing

Suggested Statement to learners:

This activity is a representation of two men but also two groups of people who do not have the same access and opportunities. One group represented George MacDonell a white Canadian male, because of the colour of his skin and background he has great privilege and opportunity as opposed to Patrick an indigenous Canadian man who represents a group who has experienced, residential schools, cultural genocide, isolation, and neglect. You may think that in Canada everyone is equal and has equal opportunity but one's privilege, race, identification, gender, religion, among other things has a massive effect on how one grasps and maintain perceived success.

Additionally, veterans of all wars will most likely suffer from some sort of emotional and mental disabilities and hardships, the same that George and Patrick experienced and lived with continues with veterans all over the world.