

ROLEPLAY 1

Telling the police that you have a disability.

After discussing why it is a good idea to tell the police that you have a disability, ask participants to think of the words they could use to tell the police that they have a disability. Brainstorm these words on to the whiteboard and talk about which words feel OK for the group to use.

Select the actors.

The facilitator may need to play the police officer. Using a police hat or tie can assist participants to play their role. For this role play it could be useful to invite each participant to have a turn at playing Tim.

Set the scene.

- Talk about what happened in the video when Tim did not understand the information the police officer was giving him.
- Tell participants that we are going to practise telling the police we have a disability and need support.

Play the role play.

- Invite participants to take turns playing Tim. If suitable to the group, have the police officer vary the responses to allow participants to practise this skill using different approaches.
- Some possible responses of the police officer:
 - What do you need support for, you look OK to me?
 - Do you want me to call someone in your family?
 - Just tell the Constable.....what happened.
- Make sure the police officer finishes the practise with each person giving the correct response. For example, 'I will call for some support for you'.

Debrief the role play.

- Ask participants:
 - How did it feel playing Tim telling the police officer that you have a disability?
 - Could a person do anything to help with that feeling?
 - If it was hard to tell the police officer you have a disability, what could a person do to make it easier?
- Show participants the wallet card with the Criminal Justice Support Network phone number on it. Explain how to show the card to the police if you have one with you when you are at the police station.
- Do a practise of showing the card to the police.

ROLEPLAY 2

At the police interview.

To enable participants to experience talking to the police and not answering any questions. This is very challenging for most people and the pressure may be on the answer questions so important to practise with a number of different police responses.

Select the actors.

The facilitator may need to play the police officer. Using a police hat or tie can assist participants to play their role.

For this role play it could be useful to invite each participant to play being Tim; or ask for a volunteer to play Tim and then offer suggestions from the group and the facilitator for ways of saying 'I don't want to answer any questions'.

Set the scene.

- Remind participants of what the lawyer told Tim in the video. He advised him not to answer any questions. When Tim told the police officer he didn't want to answer any questions she told him he needed to say that on tape. This means he had to have a short interview.
- Ask participants to talk about the things you need to be able to do to tell the police you don't want to answer any questions. For example: you need the right words; you need to be confident; you need support; you need good information from a lawyer.
- Discuss the role of the support person again to remind the participants that they have the right to have a support person with them in the interview.
- Tell participants that we are going to practise talking to the police in a police interview. We are going to play being Tim telling the police he doesn't want to answer any questions.

Play the role play.

- Ask for a volunteer to play Tim. If suitable to the group, have the police officer vary the responses to allow participants to practise their skills using different approaches.
- Ask the support person to sit quietly by Tim.
- Have the police officer say to Tim:.....(from the video)
- Have Tim try some different approaches and vary the reactions of the police officer with tone and body language.
- For example: 'I don't want to answer any questions about that'; 'my lawyer said not to answer any questions'; 'I don't have to answer your questions'.
- Stop after each police response and discuss if it worked or didn't work for Tim to use those words.
- Ask 'what do you think the police might do or say if you tell them this?'

Debrief the role play.

- Ask participants:
 - How did it feel playing Tim telling the police he didn't want to answer any questions?
 - Why might a person answer questions even if the lawyer told them not to?
 - How could a person stay confident to tell the police they didn't want to answer any questions?
 - Would it help Tim to have a support person there? How did it help?