

# True and false boards - Teaching Notes

Equipment: true and false boards set each group

Time: 20 mins

Divide the class into 3 groups (if possible, with an adult working with each). Explain the task before handing out the boards to the groups. Each group will be given a board that says true, one that says false and then a series of boards with statements on. In the group they will need to discuss the statement and decide as a group if they think it is true or false and why. Once they have decided they should lay the statements out on the desk, so they have a true column and a false column. Give the group a set time to discuss the statements. Ensure basic instructions for discussions are given, e.g. listening to each other's opinions etc. Move around the groups encouraging them and drawing out points they have discussed. At the end of the discussion feedback into a larger group, drawing out similarities, differences and reasons. Reading a statement and then asking each group for their answer could do this. Placing a true and false board on the wall or central table and asking a person from each group to stick their board next to it could also be used. Draw out similarities, differences and reasons. It is also important to ensure that correct answers are given where they exist.

## Statements:

### **"It's easy to find a suitable flat to rent if you are a young single person"**

It is difficult to find affordable flats and then ones which are 'nice'. Homehunter has age restrictions on all of its flats and houses. There is only a very limited number of flats available for people under 25. Many landlords won't rent to people under 18. Young neighbours are often perceived as being noisy and disruptive.

### **"Rough sleepers are only found in London"**

People sleep rough in Bradford and Keighley every night.

### **"Homeless people have no rights"**

Human rights, respect etc. Discuss which rights they think they do and don't have and why

### **"The local council must find suitable accommodation for all homeless people"**

Homeless people can ask for help from their local authority but they do not have to provide accommodation for everyone, it depends on individual circumstances including if you are considered a priority need. This may include special needs, previously in care, aged 16 or 17 (under 18 you won't get your own flat/house). They will also expect that you are trying to help yourself as far as possible. If you are under 18 they may try mediation to find out if you can move back to your family home. Providing suitable accommodation for the night, doesn't always finding you a flat. It may mean a b+b for the night, a hostel or a Nightstop.

### **"Electric, water and gas costs are included in the rent"**

Very rarely. There are all kinds of costs on top of your rent to pay: tv licence, council tax, utilities, food etc

### **"Begging is the only way to get money if you are unemployed and homeless"**

It is hard to get a job if you're are homeless. Some people may be entitled to benefits or emergency loans/grants. You may also have contact with friends or family who could help for a short time.

### **"Private landlords want one months rent before you move in"**

True. Require a bond.

### **"All rented flats and houses are provided with furniture"**

Some do and some don't, again this is rare. If furniture is included, it is usually only very basic items

### **"Living on the streets is the only alternative when you are homeless"**

Sofa surfing, hostels, Nightstop