

All-Win Think Tanks

The All-Win Principle: Premise

Everything is interconnected both in Nature and within humanity. Here our traffic and communications systems, national economies, politics, etc. are globally interconnected. It is therefore in our common interest to find ways of relating where all feel safe and fulfilled without harming other people or our environment..

Getting from All/Lose to All-Win: All-Win Think Tanks

Acting at the expense of others, or *win/lose relationships* tend to create ill-will and conflict, whereby all lose. When we give others the space and encouragement to develop their full potential, we all win. People feel happy, benevolent, and wish others to feel fulfilled, too. Here all win. Think tanks are ways of practicing all-win relationships. They take conflict situations and find ways in which all parties can come into their own, work together in ways that benefit all concerned and develop structures that support all-win relationships.

An All-Win Think Tank consists of a group of people who meet (regularly) to practice the art of all-win relating, using problems from the personal or professional lives of participants or items (for instance from the news). Some specialize on global issues encountered by Nations working together at the UN and provide Governments and the UN with the solutions they come up with.

How Do They Work?

The group meets regularly, chooses a problem and finds an all-win solution. Here are some steps:

1. Create an atmosphere of connection and peaceful reflection, using music or a brief period of quiet to enable the group to think intelligently together. Suggest that all retain the atmosphere of inner quiet whenever they speak. This makes it possible to be in touch with even violent emotions without being overpowered by them.
2. Choose a problem/conflict to work on.
3. Explore everything you know about the topic
 - a. First all the facts you can find out
 - b. Then how each party *experiences* the conflict from their perspective. You will want to see whether you can, as it were, creep into each ones skin in turn. Here are some questions you can ask yourself for each party in turn:
 - i. How do I experience the conflict from within this party's experience?
 - ii. What hurts? What am I, as this person, specifically afraid of? What feels good?
 - iii. What do I, as this person, need or wish to gain from this situation?
 - iv. What can I, as this person, contribute, which concessions can I make
 - c. Continue this exploration, until all-win solutions present themselves.
 - d. Write down the issue the group has dealt with together with the solution(s) found
4. Send this to the All-Win Network to be passed on (in anonymous form) shared with others.
5. Send another copy to the parties to the conflict if appropriate.

Objectives of All-Win Think Tanks

- ✓ Gain valuable practice all-win relating
- ✓ Making all-win solutions available to those who can use them
- ✓ Supporting government at all levels, including the UN to develop all-win solutions
- ✓ Create a worldwide network of think tanks which act like a global brain.