Utopia Workshop

Topic	variable, different focal points can be set as desired
Method	utopia workshop / scenario workshop
Age	from 12 years
Group size	any
Required time	2 - 4 h, depending on requirements

Goals of the workshop

Positive thinking, inspiration	Discussion techniques and methods are used to break down thought barriers. Ideas for the future and desires are specified.
Motivation for change	By letting your mind wander and "thinking big", new motivation for change can arise.
Joy	The method should give the participants joy and hope for the future. The participants' self-efficacy should be activated.
Together instead of alone?	A sense of community is created through shared experiences and daydreaming. The participants are not alone with their desires.

Materials

Presentation
Dixit cards
Flipchart + pens
Question catalog
Craft materials:
      Catalogs for collages
        Scissors
        Glue sticks
        Pens
        Posters
        Sticky tape

Procedure

Phase	Method	Description	Goal	Notes
Introduction / Presentation	Presentation	At the beginning of the workshop, teamGLOBAL is introduced. An introduction to the topic of "utopias" follows. Who are we? What are we doing today? What is a utopia? What do you imagine a utopia to be? ○ Collect associations ○ Attention: risk of framing ○ Dixit cards can be selected as an aid	The participants arrive. They get involved in the workshop thematically. First chains of association arise.	Depending on how the associations turn out, more or less input on the topic should be provided.
Warm-up	Utopian charging	Chains of associations are formed. The participants gather in a circle. In turn, ideas / words / concepts are said / thrown in. Dixit cards are used as an introductory impulse. It is up to the workshop leader whether they want to place several Dixit cards in the center, give one card as an impulse, have a participant choose a Dixit card, etc.	Participants let their thoughts flow freely and develop ideas. A space is opened up for creative, imaginative ideas that are free from norms. The exercise can and should be fun.	The exercise is based on the "Yes, and ..." -method from impro theater. The aim is to build on the previous contribution and develop an idea further. What was previously said is taken as given and not criticized. Therefore, each sentence begins with "Yes, and ..."
Work phase	Utopia workshop	The workshop leader poses a guiding question to everyone: **"My perfect world is ..."** This question is answered with an adjective. Participants can design their utopias in groups or individually and create posters (collages, mind maps, painting/drawing).	The participants develop various utopias. These are visualized using creative methods.	The question can be written on a flipchart to illustrate it. The collection of materials contains a question catalog that can support the development of the utopias. It may be necessary to limit the utopia development thematically: e.g. school.
	Utopia sharing	The participants present their utopias. The individual posters are hung up in the room where they are clearly visible. Everyone has the opportunity to look at the posters quietly and let them sink in. This is followed by a "utopia viewing": The posters are looked at together and	The utopias and the work of the participants are appreciated. Inspiration can be drawn for one's own utopia.	The presentation is voluntary. If necessary, only aspects can be presented. There is no right or wrong!

		the individual people have the opportunity to present their utopia.		
	Back to the future	Past tense is used to talk about the achievement of the utopias. If the utopia has been achieved, how did it happen? What steps were taken to achieve the utopia? What has been achieved? What alliances were there to achieve this?	Concrete steps to achieve the utopias are recognized. These are broken down into concrete actions. This should make the achievement of utopias less "fantastic" and distant, but more tangible and realizable.	This step is more suitable for older groups, as it requires a certain amount of planning, organization and abstraction skills. The ideas can also be recorded in writing. A concrete action plan can be developed from the individual ideas.
Conclusion	Examples	Some "utopias" that became reality are presented. (see collection of materials)	The participants see that it is possible to make supposed utopias come true. At best, they are motivated to put their own ideas into practice.	Fantastic library
Reflection	Different methods are possible: On another poster, each participant paints/draws a utopian association. At the end, a joint picture is created (e.g. getting into action = drawing a hand, green future = drawing a tree) Packing a suitcase: A suitcase is drawn on a poster. The participants write in the suitcase what they would like to take with them for the future. Dixit cards: Dixit cards are laid out and each person can choose a card that matches the workshop. Five-finger method Etc.		The experience is recalled. The participants should think about their day again.	Depending on the group, different reflection methods are suitable.

Question Catalog

No "yes/no" questions
"How and why" questions
Various topics can be incorporated, depending on the focus of the workshop/ age group of the participants

Utopia in the context of school:
- What does the building/schoolyard look like?
- Who sets the rules?
- Who has a say and how?
- How does school/education work?
- What can you learn?
- Who decides what you learn?
- What leisure activities are available?
- What role does money play?
- How do people treat each other?
- How do people communicate with each other?
- How does the exchange between pupils and teachers work?
- How does the exchange between different cultures/countries work?
- What is fairer in your utopia than in the real world?

Utopia in the context of city/society:
- How does politics work in your utopia?
- Who sets the rules?
- Who has a say and how?
- How is nature doing?
- What does the environment look like?
- How are cities designed? Who designs cities?
- How does school/education work?
- What role does money play?
- How is wealth/poverty distributed?
- How do people treat each other?
- How do people communicate with each other in your utopia?
- How does the exchange between different cultures/countries work?
- What is fairer in your utopia than in the real world?

Examples of Utopia Come True

Hundertwasserschule Lutherstadt Wittenberg
The pupils at a school in Lutherstadt Wittenberg thought about how they could make their school more beautiful during art lessons in the early 1990s. As the pupils' designs resembled the buildings of the artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser, they contacted him. Hundertwasser personally designed the plans for the exterior façade of the building, which were implemented during renovation works.
The interior of the school is also reminiscent of Hundertwasser's style. Here the pupils were able to have a go and be creative themselves.

(https://lutherstadt-wittenberg.de/fileadmin/_processed_/e/d/csm_Hundertwasserschul_Front_c_Alexander-Baumbach_4bfc2e3534.jpg Retrieved on: 02.03.2024)
Hundertwasserschule Lutherstadt Wittenberg

Hundertwasserschule Würzburg
There is a school in Würzburg with a similar design. The idea here was to create a learning environment that is full of happy spaces. The all-day school should be full of life and do justice to the individuality of the pupils.

Friedensreich Hundertwasserschule Würzburg

Existing utopia (not true)

(public domain)

https://cdn.realutopien.info/q:i/r:1/wp:1/w:436/u:https://realutopien.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Frankfurt-Realutopie-2045-by-Render-Vision-vorher-2048x1536.jpg (Retrieved on: 02.03.2024)

https://cdn.realutopien.info/q:intelligent/r:0/wp:1/w:1/u:https://realutopien.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Frankfurt-Hauptwache-2045-by-Reinventing-Society-Render-Vision-CC-BY-NC-SA-4.0-klein.jpg (Retrieved on: 02.03.2024)

Utopias of History:

Women's suffrage

The opponents were certain "that the vast majority of German women and men regarded women's suffrage as a national misfortune".

Quote from a memorandum by two anti-feminists

https://www.bpb.de/themen/zeit-kulturgeschichte/frauenwahlrecht/278830/stimmen-gegen-das-wahlrecht-der-deutsche-bund-zur-bekaempfung-der-frauenemanzipation-und-andere-gegnerinnen/ (Retrieved on: 02.03.2024)

Working day

"The working hours of the workers, whatever their work may be, are determined by the factory owner according to the circumstances and the season. Every worker is obliged to work longer than usual and also on Sundays if circumstances require it." - These are words of a Prussian factory regulation from the 19th century.

https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/100-jahre-acht-stunden-tag-der-lange-kampf-um-faire-100.html (Retrieved on: 02.03.2024)

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OUR TOPICS

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Wealth & Markets| Identity in a Global World| Migration & Fleeing| Intern. Collaboration |
Globalization

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WHERE ARE OUR TEAMS?

All over Germany!

WHERE ARE WE OPERATING?

Mainly nationwide, but sometimes EU and worldwide

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WHAT

DO YOU THINK?
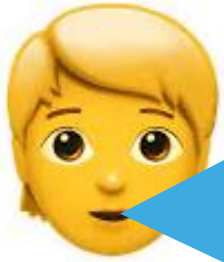
In my utopia, every person has a flying fruit basket.

YES, and...
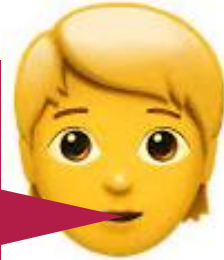
💬 SHARING UTOPIAS

WE TALK ABOUT OUR UTOPIAS.

ONLY SHARE WHAT YOU WANT

THERE IS NO RIGHT
OR WRONG

Back to the Future

What was achieved?

What steps were taken to achieve the utopias?

What alliances were there to achieve them?

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