

## TOOLFIVE

### CLIQUE MATRIX<sup>6</sup>



#### Objective:

To identify different groups of young people in the community with their specific characteristics.



#### Aspects of Data Collection:

Detailed description of young people living in the community.



#### Material needed:

Paper and pens for the groups gathering information.



#### Preparation:

This tool can be used when you have already started to work with the community, and information is spread about the objectives of the process. A first preparatory step is to form a 'research team' (4-6 persons), preferably with young people, males and females. The team has the task of conducting a small survey. After the 'research team' is formed, convene a preparatory meeting with them.

They need to be clear on the objectives of their survey, the information they want to collect and the questions to ask. Below you find some proposed guiding questions. Together with the research team, you can complement or adapt the questions. You will also plan the "tour" together with the team. You define together which places to go to, and whom to ask, when and how. Together the team prepares empty tables like the one below in order to enter the collected information. Another option is to transfer the information later on. Explain that it is important to have a closer look at the differences between groups of young women and men. Youth gangs are a specific kind of group, and important to consider.



#### Procedure:

Depending on the context, the team can gather information using different means:

1. The research team can conduct a survey in one or more school classes in the neighbourhood. When different types of school are involved, a survey can provide additional information for each school.
2. The research team can talk with young people on the streets.
3. The research team can interview friends.
4. Organisations or institutions working with young people can also provide helpful information.

6. Adapted from Krisch, R., 2009

## TOOL FIVE

## CLIQUE MATRIX

**Guiding questions can be:**

- Are you part of a clique?
- Who is or can be part of your clique?
- Are males and females part of the clique; how does the gender make up affect attitudes and behaviour in the group?
- How would you describe your clique? What makes it special? What makes it different?
- Do you know of youth cliques or groups in this community?
- How would you describe them? Who belongs to them? What makes them special or different?

Use the criteria in the table to ask for more details.

Name of the clique, group or gang (if it does not have a name, you might put a name or short description here)	Sex, age, group size	Clothes, tattoos, symbols	Behaviour (how do they make themselves different from others?)	Music	World view/main values	Meeting places and contacts with other groups

**Observations:** (Additional notes for the facilitator)

Especially when it comes to groups that are rarely in the public eye, people often harbour perceptions that do not necessarily match the reality. The results here should therefore not be taken as truth - some of it may be true and some just perception. In other words, the information is useful to show the diversity, but must still be handled with caution. The added benefit of using this method is that the part of the community known as 'youth' is depicted more effectively in its diversity.

The results show more clearly that youth cannot be addressed as a group of identical or very similar individuals. And when we want to tackle the problem of violence and specifically violence by young people, we need to look much closer in order to understand the dynamics behind such violence.

**End Product:**

By the end of the activity, the objective set for this tool would be achieved and would be reflected in the following:

- A completed matrix showing different youth groups which exist in the community, and their characteristics.
- Youth is described in a differentiated way, showing the diversity which exists among young people.

