

Valuing Differences

Information taken from The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens

Level 1: Shun diversity

Level 2: Tolerate diversity

Level 3: Celebrate diversity

Shunner's profile – “Shunners are afraid of differences. It disturbs them that someone may have a different skin color, worship a different God, or wear a different brand of jeans than they do, because they're convinced their way of life is the “best,” “right,” or “only” way. They enjoy ridiculing those who are different, all the while believing that they are saving the world from some terrible plague. They won't hesitate to get physical about it if they have to and will often join gangs, cliques, or anti-groups because there's strength in numbers.”

Tolerator's profile – “Tolerators believe that everyone has the right to be different. They don't shun diversity but don't embrace it either. Their motto is: “You keep to yourself and I'll keep to myself. You do your thing and let me do mine. You don't bother me and I won't bother you.”

Although they come close, they never *get to synergy* because they see differences as hurdles, not as potential strengths to build upon. They don't know what they're missing.”

Celebrator's profile – “Celebrators value differences. They see them as an advantage, not a weakness. They've learned that two people who think differently can achieve more than two people who think alike. They realize that celebrating differences doesn't mean that you necessarily agree with those differences, such as being a Democrat or a Republican, only that you value them.”

Valuing Differences Activity

Name:

Rate your openness to diversity in each of the following categories. Are you a shunner, tolerator, or celebrator?

	Shunner	Tolerator	Celebrator
Race			
Gender			
Religion			
Age			
Dress			

What can you do to become a celebrator in each category?