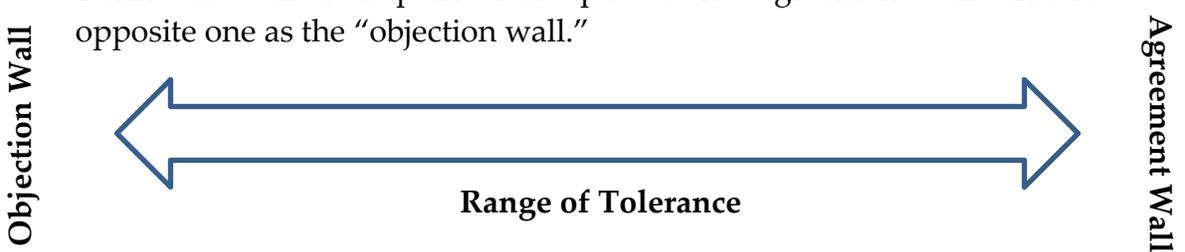


Embodied Learning Module

Range of Tolerance (ROT)

Aims <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide a lived experience of Personal and Community Range of Tolerance.2. Demonstrate the relationship between ROT and decision-making in each of the four main DM systems (autocratic, majority vote, unanimity, consent).
Environment <p>Open space with room for all participants to line up between two distinct points (e.g. walls).</p>
Materials <p>None</p>
Preparation <p>Define one wall or endpoint of the space as the “agreement wall” and the opposite one as the “objection wall.”</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the Range of Tolerance activity. It features a horizontal line with two arrows pointing outwards from the center. The left arrow points to a vertical line labeled 'Objection Wall'. The right arrow points to a vertical line labeled 'Agreement Wall'. Below the horizontal line, the text 'Range of Tolerance' is centered.</p>
Activity Description: Range of Tolerance <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Invite the participants to stand in the activity space while you introduce the activity. Tell them which wall is which and their definitions: <i>objection</i> means “I can’t live with the proposal” and <i>agreement</i> means “I am totally in favor of the proposal.”2. Ask the participants to line up where they land on this continuum (from agreement to objection) based on something benign, like car color (e.g. say “owning a white car”). Notice how they fall out and how many are at each end.3. Select another topic, e.g. “going to a steak dinner,” that will generate a little more personal involvement than car color. Ask a few people on either end (if there are any at the ends) why they landed there.4. Offer the context that this is called a “<i>personal range of tolerance</i>” (ROT) and it represents an expression of personal willingness and preference. Now change the example to include a community component, e.g. offering a steak dinner to your community. Pay attention to who moves, especially to and from the ends.5. Ask at least one person who moved ONTO the objection wall why he/she did so.6. Try to draw out the point that a person’s personal range of tolerance <i>informs and does not define</i> his/her community range of tolerance; I can suspend my personal preferences for the good of the community without compromising my values.

Embodied Learning Module

Range of Tolerance (ROT)

Activity Description: Decision-Making Systems

1. Ask participants to momentarily suspend the steak dinner example and to go along with the activity, imagining this is where they stand relative to some unspecified proposal.
2. From here, note what it would take to make a decision within each of the four primary decision-making systems, in terms of where the participants stand on the ROT. At each step, ask people in different parts of the ROT how they feel.
VARIATION: If you have not already identified the benefits and challenges of each DM system, inquire about them for each step below.
 - a. Autocratic: the leader makes the decision; it doesn't matter where anyone else is standing.
 - b. Majority vote: enough people have to move so that over 50% are off the objection wall. The minority still on the wall, despite objecting, is ignored.
 - c. Unanimity (defined as "everyone agrees"): everyone must move to the agreement wall. It can be a long walk from objection to agreement.
 - d. Consent (defined as "nobody objects"): everyone must be off the objection wall. Moving off the objection wall (resolving an objection) requires much less movement than reaching the agreement wall (achieving unanimity).

Inquiry Framework

While standing in the activity space, or after moving back into seating, use the following inquiries to harvest the experience of the participants. Use the main points listed below as a reference point for framing the responses to these questions.

1. What was the most impactful part of this activity for you?
2. How did it feel to be in the minority and have your position (voice) ignored?
3. Did this activity impact your beliefs about unanimity and/or consent?
4. What insights do you take away from this activity?

Main Points

1. Personal and Community / Group Range of Tolerance and their relationship: personal ROT *informs and does not define* community ROT.
2. There is a big difference in the magnitude of movement required, by how many people, to make a decision under each of the main decision-making systems.
3. Consent decision-making satisfies ROT for everyone while minimizing the total amount of movement required.