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C4. Values Clarification Through Enactment

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Building on Moreno's attempt to increase emotional wellbeing in people, the 'root' from which have emerged various action-oriented methodologies, 'shoots' signify the possible embellishment and enhancement of Moreno's intent by amalgamating various action-oriented, kinaesthetic, emotional and cognitive educational learning processes.

Society's values, or the standards of behaviour an individual should live by, affects individuals and the people they live among. Values as prescribed are impacted by culture and climate, practised and lived out in the country and among those who live there.

Using elements of psychodrama such as dramatization, spontaneity, role taking, and surplus reality, in this workshop I will use folktales to elicit a few values that participants can experience in a non-prescriptive and metaphorical way. As in the Western tradition where religious stories were employed to convey moral truths and messages, in India too, stories, mostly folktales, were adopted to embed important lessons. Religion was eschewed and social themes were used in the creation of folktales.

The warm-up for the workshop will allow participants to experience the sociological connection that happens in a country such as India, where every individual is believed to have a significant role to play. Following this, subgroups may be formed and pre-scripted short folktales with characters may be acted out. The enactment will conclude with 'the ideal' or 'surplus reality' that is envisioned as a desired outcome of the experience. I will introduce participants to the Indian cultural conserve that has evolved from an oral tradition of using stories to concretise learning. The attempt is to use the technique not as therapy yet with therapeutic benefits for those who participate.

About T.T. Srinath, PhD: I am a qualified sensitivity trainer, qualified with the Indian Society for Applied Behavioural Science, the Indian arm of NTL, USA. I have a Post-Graduate degree in Human Resource from Xavier Labour Relations Institute, and a Ph.D. in 'Behaviour of the Small-Scale Entrepreneur', from Anna University, Chennai, India. I am a Certificate holder in Sociodrama & Action Methods, issued by MPV / SAM Sociodrama & Action Methods Training and accredited by the British Psychodrama Association. I am a stage actor, a student of Gestalt, trained by the Northern Rivers Institute of Gestalt, Australia. Over the last 26 years I have worked with CEOs, Managers, Middle level Managers, Executives and front line staff, numbering more than 30,000 individuals across India, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, Middle East, and Indonesia, ranging from manufacturing industries, service industries, educational institutions, government departments, the public sector and the NGO sector.