

# For our comfort and discomfort

Living equality and truth in a time of crisis:  
how can we be allies?

# What is an ally?

- ▶ A person, state, military force, etc., united or associated with another by league or formal treaty, esp. for political or military purposes. (1425)
- ▶ A person or organization that supports the rights of a marginalized group (typically a racial, ethnic, or gender minority) without being a member of it (1970)

# What is privilege?

A right, advantage, or immunity granted to or enjoyed by an individual, corporation of individuals, etc., beyond the usual rights or advantages of others;

*(a)* an exemption from a normal duty, liability, etc.;

*(b)* enjoyment of some benefit (as wealth, education, standard of living, etc.) above the average or that deemed usual or necessary for a particular group

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Having an advantage that is out of your control and that you didn't ask for. You may not even notice that it exists.

# What do allies do?

## It's not just passive support

Allies are people who

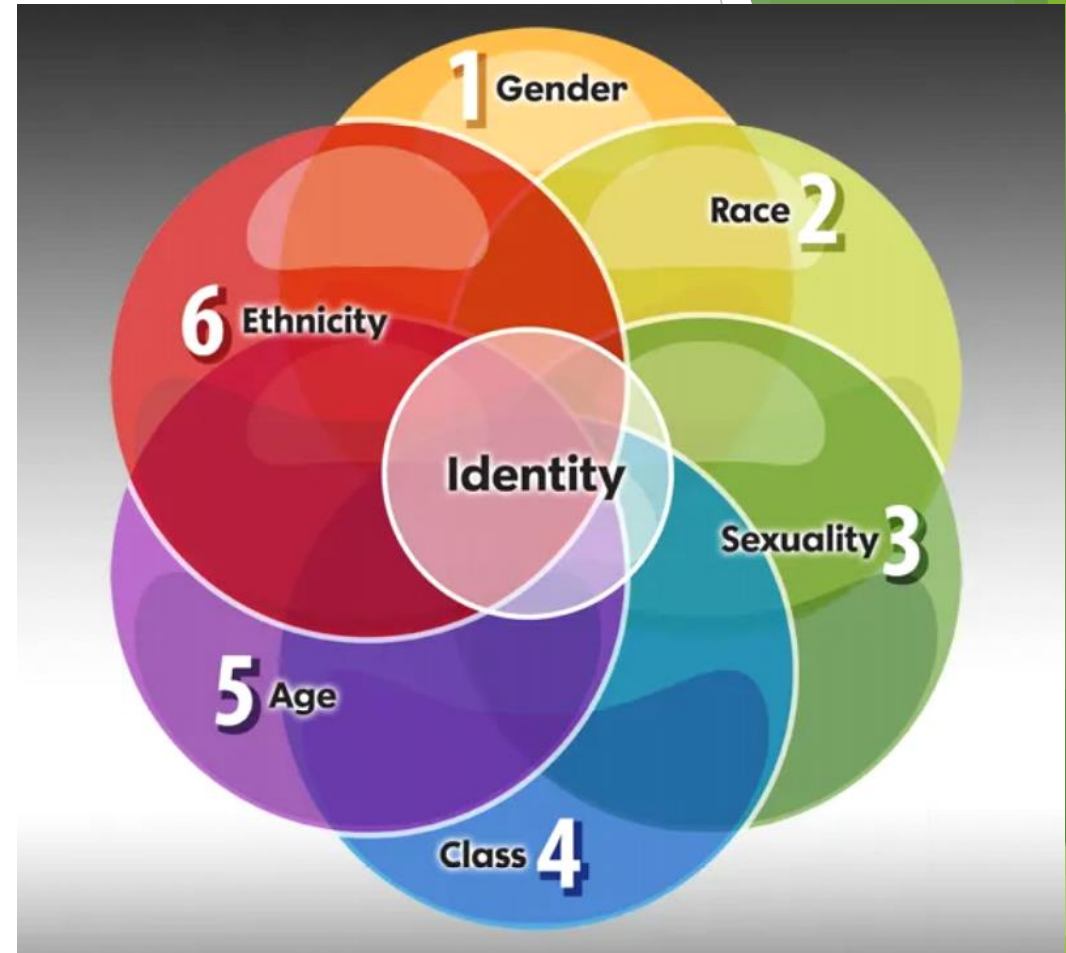
- ▶ try to use their influence and privilege to magnify the voice of under-represented or marginalised groups
- ▶ don't just talk about change - they take action and initiative to lead the change they want to see
- ▶ develop relationships and build empathy with marginalised groups, to better understand their challenges, issues and struggles.

# Intersectionality

You can be a member of more than one privileged and/or marginalised group

e.g. male, disabled and black  
white, gay and poor

You can yourself be a member of a marginalised group while being an ally to people in a different group, such as a straight disabled person campaigning for LGBTQ rights.



# What can I do?

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/equality-diversity-inclusivity/effective-allyship>

- ▶ It doesn't have to be a big grand gesture
- ▶ Make sure the voices of marginalised people are heard, even if they are not in the room
- ▶ See something, say something
- ▶ Be there in support
  
- ▶ By demonstrating you don't find something appropriate you can help to change culture
- ▶ Transfer the benefits of your privilege to those who lack it

# Allyship at Easter

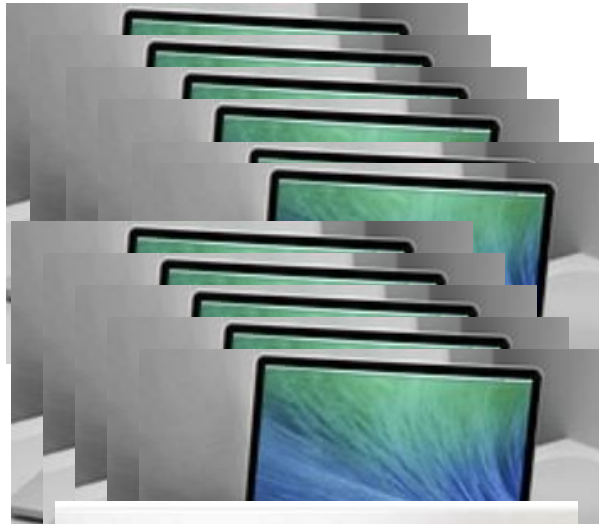
How we talked about Allyship at Easter Settlement Youth Programme

# Intersectionality & privilege; the Ethiopian Eunuch and the Torn Curtain.

- ▶ Privilege is complicated; especially in the context of young people
  - ▶ Young peoples freedoms are nested in family life
  - ▶ They live in a fairly prescribed environment
- ▶ The Ethiopian Eunuch is a great example of complex privilege, privation and intersectionality
  - ▶ Wealthy
  - ▶ Powerful
  - ▶ Queer in a Ancient world sense
  - ▶ A religious outsider

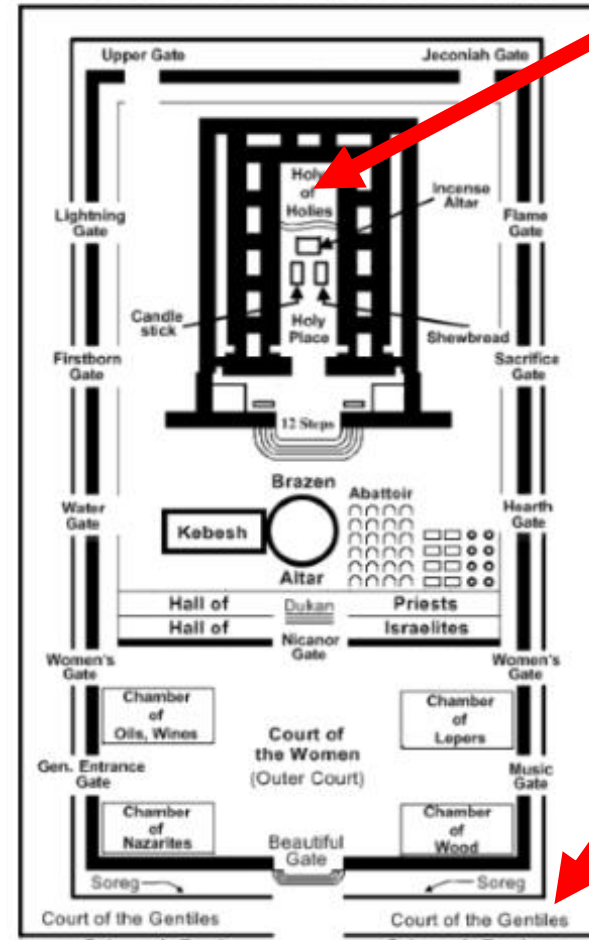


# The Eunuch, the Temple and the curtain



18 weeks

### Interior of Jerusalem's Temple

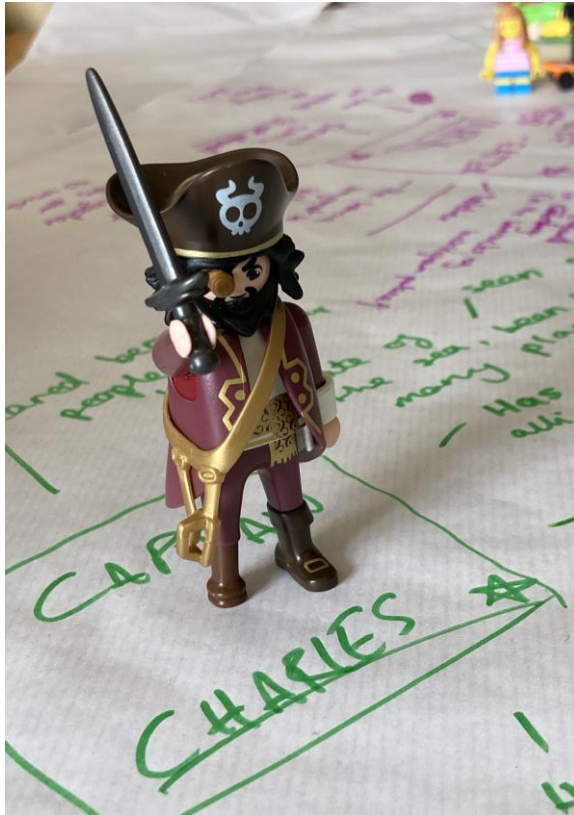


biblestudy.org

# Listening up, Conflict and Allyship...

## Dramatis Personae

### Captain Charles



- ▶ Likes steal and sometimes kills
- ▶ Afraid because people are after him
- ▶ Has been to many places and seen a lot of the world
- ▶ Has a crew, a second in command, relationships and alliances
- ▶ Eat, drinks and therefore resupplies in ports
- ▶ Has to be tough
- ▶ Yarrrr
- ▶ Good Hat

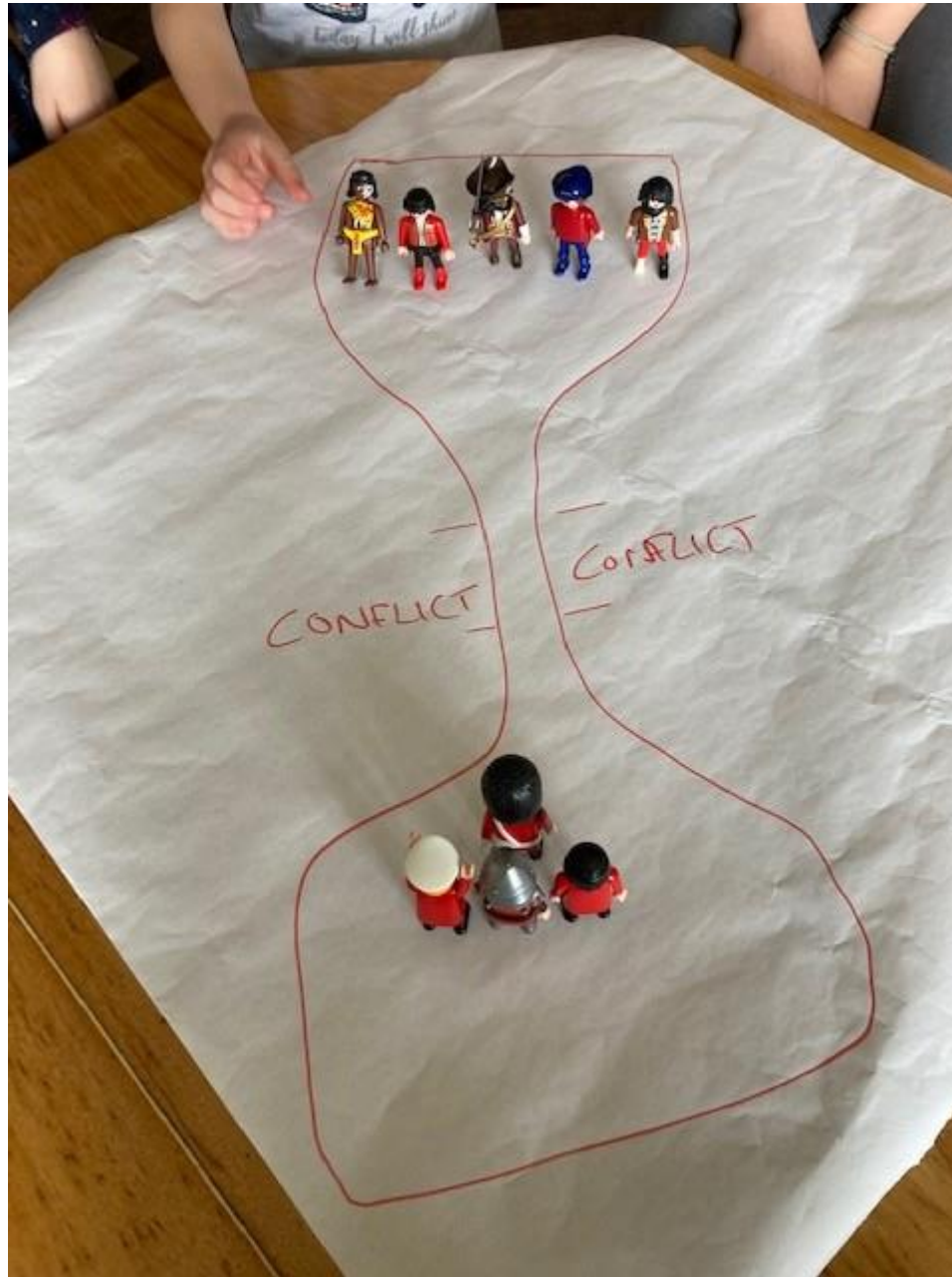
# Listening up, Conflict and Allyship...

## Dramatis Personae

### Beef-Eater Mark



- ▶ Strong and intimidating
- ▶ Is trained to kill
- ▶ Doesn't smile (is not allowed)
- ▶ Always working, no time for hobbies
- ▶ Has a good hat
- ▶ Lives in the company of many
- ▶ Has to be tough







R.I.P  
Little Plactic  
People

MMXXII

An eye for an eye makes  
the whole world blind

# Introduce the Listening Ally Peacemaker

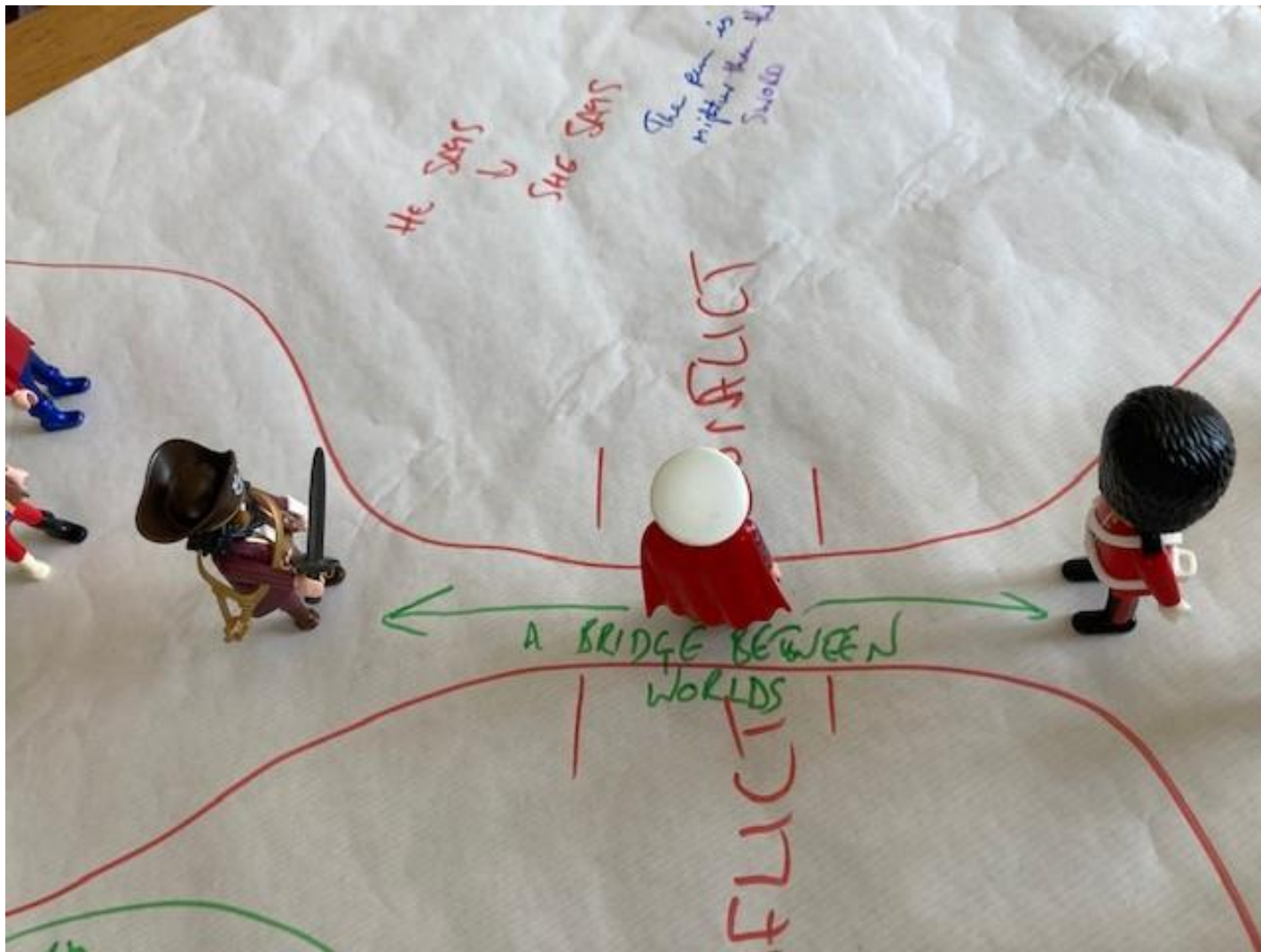
## Dramatis Personae

Gymnast Jesus



- ▶ Understands that listening is the first duty
- ▶ Meets people where they are
- ▶ Understands that peace comes from within
- ▶ Has cape and a sparkly top
- ▶ Stands on top of the Onion model of Peace Building....





# Listen Up!

