

ROLE ACCESSIBILITY PERCEPTION SURVEY:
Prelude to engaging in group-centered research by Ann E. Hale

In this survey you are being asked to reveal perceptions and impressions you have about who is likely to be chosen by this group for the roles currently being studied by this training group: (1) director, (2) protagonist, (3) major auxiliary ego: the antagonist; (4) major auxiliary ego: wisdom figure, and (5) the expressive double. Each role will be examined using its own individual survey data sheets. You are asked to reveal on the *first data sheet* whether certain group members are likely to be chosen more often than you (M), about the same as you (S), or less often than you (L). On the *second data sheet* you will be sharing your perceptual guesses about the placement of you on each group member's data sheets, in essence, which group members perceive you will be more highly chosen for a role than him/her, chosen about the same as him/her, or chosen less often than him/her. Throughout you write as many reasons you can give for your perceptions as this information helps your and others know more clearly the possible origins of your perception. By compiling this data from you and other group members the whole training group will be able to assess the *collective* impact these usually unspoken perceptions, held individually, have on current and future access to these roles in this group.

Purpose: According to J. L. Moreno (1953, p. 76): "Role emergence is prior to the emergence of the self." Each member of this training group has his/her own journey to becoming a psychodramatist. Choices made for roles, for interactors, directly impact the emerging psychodramatist. The successes and failures of trainees to thrive in a training environment is shared by the trainees, the trainers, the larger network of support each person has developed, and their own inner being and goals. This survey is specifically designed to alert each trainee to the impact his/her *role perceptions* affect *role expectations* ("I can do this!" "I'll never get a chance!" "Please pick me!") and then influence the whole field of *role enactment*. This survey slows down an interpersonal process to both awaken your inner sociometrist and to foster you as a participant in the growth of your peers in training, the emergence of the self as psychodramatist.

Process: (A) Disclosing---Following each exploration each group member will have time with each other group member to reveal and discuss their perceptions. And, time will also be given to bring your issues and concerns to the group in order to clarify and resolve whatever is experienced as unfinished from these talks with each other. (B) Working with the data in small groups using a sociomatrix; (C) Choosing a set of data to explore further in action, looking at subgroups in action; (D) Each person creates a sociogram and has copies of all data to follow up with sociograms they can draw at home; (E) The group experiences a series of closures as each person addresses him/herself, the trainers and the training group.

Figure 1. ROLE ACCESSIBILITY PERCEPTION SURVEY (Hale)

Data sheet for a composite perceptual sociogram

My Name: _____ Today's date: _____ Group size: _____

The data is specific for this criterion _____

(M) Who do you perceive is likely to be chosen *more often than you* for this role?

Their name

My reasons:

(S) Who do you perceive is likely to be chosen *as often as you will be* for this role?

Their name

My reasons:

(L) Who do you perceive is likely to be chosen *less often than you* for this role?

Their name:

My reasons:

Figure 2. ROLE ACCESSIBILITY PERCEPTION SURVEY

Data sheet for perceptual guesses about other group members' placement of me on the survey

My Name: _____ Today's date: _____ Group size: _____

The data given below is specific for this criterion: _____

My perception of other group members' placement of me on page one of the survey:

(M) I perceive these group members will state that I will be chosen for the role *more often than him or her*:

Their name

Reason for my perception

(S) I perceive these group members will state that I will be chosen for the role *about the same as him or her*:

Their name

Reason for my perception

(L) I perceive these group members will state that I will be chosen for the role *less often than him or her*:

Their name

Reason for my perception

It is suggested that group members form dyads and share the information on both data sheets with each group member prior to quantifying the data. Typically, these dyadic conversations vary in length therefore we are suggesting that you take ____ minutes for each person. Make a note of any issue which you would like to pursue further with your partner, in a dyad or with facilitation. © Hale, 2000.