# Multiple Identity Chart

**Rationale:**

* The exercise helps to establish the different identities of individuals and helps to bring attention to those held by the group as a whole. It should be used when participants first come together.

**Goal:**

* The exercise should allow for participants to realize the atmosphere they are in based on the people who are with them and how they fit into this.

**Type of Activity:**

* Icebreaker
* Awareness builder

**Target Audience:**

* All people

**Learning Objectives:**

* To begin the process of having the participants get to know one another
* To impress upon the participants the idea that we all have multiple constructs to our identity and we are not merely composed of our class, race, gender and orientation.
* To encourage and support those who often communicate better through nonverbal or artistic activities

**Measurable Outcomes:**

* Participants will be more aware of the identities of the people with them.
* Should realize people carry many identities and it is important to learn from and respect all of them.

**Time Required:**

* Exercise: 20 minutes
* Debrief: 10 minutes

**Materials Needed:**

* Flip chart page for each person
* Different color markers, or writing utensils
* List of suggested identity constructs for reference

**Instructions:** As the participants arrive bring them into small groups of 3-5 and go over the directions for how to create their multiple identity charts.

Call the participants attention to the workstations throughout the room. Instruct them that they are to use only one sheet of paper. Show them the lists throughout the room with suggested areas for consideration. As the participants finish ask them to see you for where to hang their Chart.

Ask participants to write their name prominently on the chart, and perhaps use the name they prefer to be called or their full name (their choice). Photos can be added, too, if the technology is readily accessible to take and print pictures during the process.

List of Identity Constructs: This is only a partial list to get you thinking. Do not be bound by this list.

1. Age
2. Ability
3. Socioeconomic Class
4. Community activities
5. Favorite book
6. Ethnic background
7. Family connections/roles
8. Gender
9. Hobbies
10. Nationality
11. Physical characteristics
12. Political affiliation
13. Places Lived
14. Race
15. Religion
16. School or Institution
17. Sex
18. Sexual Orientation

**Process Flow:**

1. Did you learn anything from this exercise?

2. Are there things on your list that no one else has? How does that feel?

3. Are there things on your list others have? What is that like?

4. Were there things that were difficult to put on your list? Why was it difficult?

5. Are there things you are surprised to see on others lists? How come?