Gallery Walk (Undoing Racism) – *The exercise can be modified to focus on a different aspect of social identity. E.g. Undoing Sexism*

**PURPOSE**- This activity allows students to anonymously ask questions or expose judgments they have about particular social identity groups (specify focus on one social identity category—race, gender, sexuality, etc). It also allows the students to recognize themselves as “educators” as they express their opinions, personal feelings, or explain why certain ideas are hurtful or rooted in larger misunderstanding about differences. Often stereotypes are expressed on the question/judgment cards and student have a chance to dispute the stereotypes based on their own lived realities.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Ask each participant to think of a judgment or question they have about a particular group within the social identity category in focus (For example if the focus is on gender, the statement could be, “Why are women more emotional than men?” or if it is race, the judgment could be. “White people are selfish with their money.”) Assure the group that this will be anonymous so the judgment or question might be one that they would not feel comfortable asking or stating aloud.
2. Each person prints a question/statement on an index card.
3. Facilitator collects all cards and shuffles them to keep it all anonymous. Then the facilitators tape all cards around the wall (spreading them all over the room).
4. Ask participants to moves around the room reading *all* the statements in silence or without talking about they see.
5. Once everyone has had a chance to read all the cards, invite all participants to select the one card they wish to respond to. They remove it from the wall. When it is their turn they read the statement and respond to it however they want to.
6. Others then respond in a way that follows the principles of dialogue / ground rules we have discussed.
7. If time permits, give everyone a turn to respond to the card they removed from the wall or ask participants to mention when the ideas on cards are similar or related as a way of grouping topics for the discussion.

**Debrief**

Allow this exercise to go on for about 35 minutes. When time is up, ask participants to analyze the responses as a large group in terms of unified or conflicting interpretations of the statements/questions.

a. Did the group develop a unified response to something written or were conflicting interpretations revealed?
b. For the conflicting interpretations, did dialogue create changed perceptions?
c. What did the range of statements/questions reveal to you about race/gender/etc. relations on campus?

**Suggested Closing**: Mention one word that describes your feelings during this exercise.

*For further instructions or suggestions for modifying this exercise, feel free to contact Dr. Kristi Brian briankj@cofc.edu 843-953-6452 in the Office of Institutional Diversity.*