

# CROSS THE LINE

## Key Learning

To develop compassion for others.

## Goal

To walk across the line when the statements called out by a caller apply to you.

## What You Need

Equipment

- Chalk (or anything to mark a line)

No. of players

- 6 or more



## Opening Question

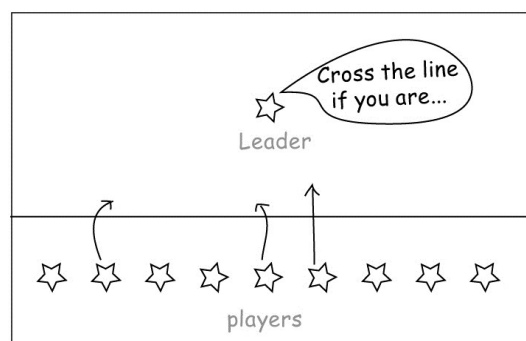
- What do you think it means to feel isolated?



## How To Play

Note: make sure participants have completed the game "Ground Rules" before you begin.

1. Tell players that it is important to listen to each other. In this exercise, it is important to remain quiet—no talking, whispering, snickering, or giggling. Silence will allow everyone to participate fully. Silence will also help us to experience our personal thoughts more clearly.
2. Draw a long line across the play area.
3. Ask the players to form a line and stand side-by-side. Stand 3 steps in front of the line and face the line.
4. Explain and demonstrate that:
  - You will call out an "If" statement. Invite players to cross the line if that statement reflects their identify, feelings, or preferences. Some sample statements are: "Cross the line, if ..." :
    - you are tired
    - you don't like sports
    - you don't like school
    - you can climb a tree
    - you are male
    - you are female
    - you have ended a serious relationship since joining Live Safe Play Safe
    - you have cried at least once this year
    - you don't like (name a popular food)
    - you know what you want to do for a living
    - you play an instrument
    - you want to have children
    - you are involved in a sport
    - you sometimes feel bad about yourself
    - you worry about the future



# CROSS THE LINE CONTINUED

5. All other players stay where they are if the "If" statement does not apply to them.
6. After crossing the line, the players turn and face the players on the other side of the line.
7. Encourage all players to take a brief moment of silence to observe each other on opposite sides of the line. After a moment of silence, ask the players who crossed the line to return to the spot they started from.
8. Call out another "If" statement.
9. The game ends at your discretion.



## **Watch For**

- Do all players cross the line at least once throughout the game?
- Are players observing and remaining quiet during the moment of silence?



## **Discussion**

### **Reflect**

- What feelings did you experience during this game?
- How did you feel when your choice to cross or not cross the line made you part of the majority? The minority?
- What did you feel when you decided not to cross the line?

### **Connect**

- How do you think people infected with or affected by HIV and AIDS feel about being on one side of the line?

### **Apply**

- What can we do to help people who feel isolated feel more included?



## **Variations**

- Ask a volunteer to be the caller.



## **Inclusion**

- Refer to page G5.