**Peulat Shabbat – Balak**

**Location: Moadon Machon**

**Time: 5:15**

**Activity:**

1. Chanichim are handed a value as they enter the group
2. Chanichim are asked to spend 3 minutes convincing their group of the importance of their value in certain situations:
   1. Madrichim should either participate in the discussion or help keep the group focused
3. Chanichim are given three minutes to have an unstructured debate trying to convince others the importance of their value
4. After each round of trying to convince others of their value chanichim have the debrief discussion outlined below

**Debates**

1. Argue that your value is the most important in any community
2. Argue that your value is the most important value for a leader
3. Argue that your value is the most important value in our edah
4. Argue that your value is the most important value for a friendship
5. Argue that your value is the most underappreciated or undervalued in society

**Debrief Discussion:**

1. Was it difficult to argue for your value?
2. Were you convinced that someone else’s value was more important than your own value?
3. What other values might be more important than the ones presented in our group?

**Values:**

* **acceptance                                          generosity                              personal appearance**
* **adventure                                           happiness                              personal recognition**
* **authority                                            health                                     politics**
* **beauty                                                heritage                                  power**
* **cleanliness                                         honesty                                   pride**
* **courage                                               independence                        productivity**
* **creativity                                            justice                                     religious beliefs**
* **culture                                                leisure time                            respect**
* **dignity                                               life                                          responsibility**
* **education                                           love                                         security**
* **efficiency                                            loyalty                                                self-discipline**
* **equality of the sexes                         material possessions            serving others**
* **equality of the races                         morality                                 social consciousness**
* **fairness                                              nature                                     status**
* **family                                                 obedience                               success**
* **freedom                                              patriotism                              time**
* **friendship                                          peace                                       tolerance**
* **compassion**
* **truth**

Text study:

WHAT IS COMMUNITY?

A Sociological Perspective By Phil Bartle, PhD Introduction: A mobilizer, animator or activist is a person who tries to move (activate, animate) a community.

But what is a community?

The Nature of Communities:

Like most things in the social sciences, community does not fit into a nice neat package. First, let us note that a "community" is a construct, a model. We cannot see a whole community, we cannot touch it, and we cannot directly experience it. Like the words "hill" or "snowflake," a community may come in one of many shapes, sizes, colors and locations, no two of which are alike. More importantly, a community is not just the people who are in it. A community usually was already existing when all of its current residents were not yet born, and it will likely continue to exist when all of the people in it have left. It is something that is beyond its very components, its residents or community members. A community may have members who have temporarily moved to other locations. They may wish to eventually return, but not all do. A "community" in some senses may not even be a physical location, but a group of people with a common interest.

A Community is a Sociological Construct:

Not only is the concept of a community a "construct" (model), it is a "sociological construct." It is a set of interactions, human behaviors that have meaning and expectations between its members. Not just action, but actions based on shared expectations, values, beliefs and meanings between individuals.

A Community has Fuzzy Boundaries: When an identified community is a little village, separated by a few kilometers from other villages, in a rural area, its boundaries appear at first to be very simple. That pattern of human interaction may be seen as consisting only of relations between the residents living inside that location, inside that village. But its residents interact also with people outside the village. They marry persons from near and far, and may move or bring a spouse in to live with them. At any one time, those village residents may have sisters, brothers, cousins, parents and extended relatives living elsewhere. The boundary of that community is not so precise.

Discussion Questions:

* What does it mean to be a part of a community?
* Does the Jewish community affect your day to day life and how?
* What is an authentic Jewish community? At camp or home etc.?
* What are the other types of community you are apart of and why do you feel connected to them?
* Public school vs private school community?
* Jewish community, is it more a culture or a religion?