

NW_Type (@nw_type)

Our meeting on the 13th February at Mad Lab in Manchester was by Dr. Shirley Jenner, Lecturer in HRM and HRD (International Development) from the University of Manchester. Shirley helped us to explore ways in which personality type provides a window upon human creativity. The session provided an opportunity to interact with a well-known and much loved, construction game to build 'towers', to raise awareness and have fun.

We began with a discussion around the importance of Creativity. This was followed up with appropriate scholarly rigour!

"Creativity is viewed as part of a continual process of extending consciousness in ways that enable us to be open towards ourselves and others in engaged acts of making, therein lies the power for transformation." (Troop, 2017)

"...when adults, like children, move into the illusory world of pretending, they are trying to understand something that they have not yet mastered in real life. In play, they construct a representation of this experience and test its applicability in real life" (Farné, 2005)

Once we had re-familiarised ourselves with the Lego pieces, in between sharing family / childhood memories we were invited to use the Lego to build a model that represents the way we use Type Awareness now.

This activity demonstrated the power of using an "external object" to yield some powerful personal insights and stories...



We then went on to use the Lego to address the question: using Type awareness as you would like to do in the future. Discussions arising were wide and various from how Type informs our questions and how play and talking about our builds can help to access other parts of our consciousness. Oh and "we don't like black bricks or slightly larger bricks". Lego windows can be used for a whole new way of looking at ourselves. Amongst some great follow up conversations one of the participants said: *"I was amazed how a focus on play and the process of creating highlighted valuable insights into where I am now and what I need to do in the future."*

Shirley is happy to receive follow up via email (shirley.jenner@mmu.ac.uk) / Twitter (@jenner_uk)

References: Farné, R. (2005) Pedagogy of Play, Topoi, Volume 24, Issue 2, PP 169-181

Troop, M. (2017) Creativity as a Driver for Transformative Learning: Portraits of Teaching and Learning in a Contemporary Curriculum Course, Journal of Transformative Education 2017, Vol. 15(3) 203-222

Next Steps for NW Type

During the latter part of our session, we discussed ideas for the continued growth and development of NW Type. We are reviewing the venue, dates, marketing and seeking to link with other pre-existing groups of Type practitioners.

We welcome ideas and suggestions from those that have the opportunity to read this review.

**Next meeting at Manchester Metropolitan University, Oxford Road, on the 2nd May at 6pm,
a session will be led by Doug Haynes (Inferior Function)**

