



## Who's a migrant?

(Based on an idea by Miriam Kennet of the Green Economics Institute)

**Aim** This is a good way to get people to move about and talk to each other

**You need-** A space large enough to enable the people you have to move about  
The people at your event 15 – 40  
A leader

### What you do

Leader occupies the centre of the space (stands on a chair?) and declares that this point represents the town in which the event is taking place and the rest of the space is the rest of the world!

S/he indicates where North, South, East and West are in the space.

1. Leader asks everyone to move to a point which represents where each person has come from today. People move around accordingly, talking to each other to make sure they are in relatively the right direction and order in distance from the centre. Leader asks people to say where they have come from today
2. Leader asks people to move to a point which represents home or where they normally live. People move around accordingly, checking with each other to make sure they are in relatively the right direction and distance from the centre. Leader asks people to say where they are. (NB – If this is a local community event people may not move from where they were in 2, but if you have, for e.g., students present there may be some variation.)
3. Leader asks people to move to a point which represents where each lived before that (if they have moved). People move around accordingly, again checking with each other to make sure they are in relatively the right direction and distance from the centre. Leader asks people to say where they are (You would expect some people to move at this stage).
4. Leader asks people to move to a point which represents where each was born. People move around accordingly, talking to each other to make sure they are in relatively the right place. Leader asks people to say where they are.
5. Leader asks people to move to a point which represents where (one of) their parents was born. People move again. Leader asks people to say where they are.

### Comment / Discuss what this tells you:

- a. What proportion have remained in the town where one of their parents was born?
  - b. What proportion are first generation migrants? (from within the UK or from outside the UK?)
  - c. What proportion are second generation migrants? (parents came from elsewhere in the UK or outside the UK)
  - d. **So is migration the norm or rare in this community?**
6. (you could go on to Grandparents but you might have had enough by now!)

### Variations

If you know that everyone lives in the local area (e.g. you are doing this with a school group (other than a boarding school) start at stage 2. You could add a stage 6 for where grandparents were born (but pupils might not know!)