

# Price Comparison between products

*There are many items we all buy but they are slightly different versions of each other. Do a price check on one and see which gender has to pay more.*



**Section:** Scouts, Ventures, Rovers  
**Time:** 1 hour  
**Where:** Home, Den

## PLAN

Scouts could work on this on their own, or in their small groups. Start the discussion with a basic question; if a shop is selling apples, should boys and girls be charged a different price, based purely on their gender? It should not take long to reach a consensus on this! Next question so; if that product is a disposable razor - packed differently but essentially the same product - should the price be different? After some chat around this, the scouts should be ready for the task. Remind them that they are to try to find products of equal quality, where the only difference is that they are presented differently to genders.

## DO

Scouts can choose whatever they want, but here are a few ideas:

- Disposable razors
- Deodorant Shampoo/conditioner
- Different items of clothing
- A haircut

They might find the prices online or in local shops. Before comparing prices, the scouts need to make sure that they are comparing like with like. Be sure that they are almost identical in quality and function, and take the base price (ignoring any special offers). As well as noting the price, the scouts could look at other differences, such as the way in which the products are presented. Are there 'special features' meant to make them more appealing, or other colour or other design characteristics?

## REVIEW

When the scouts come back together, chat through their findings. On balance, who is paying more? On products where there was a clear difference, was there any attempt to present one product as clearly more suitable than the other? Were the significant differences in how the products were presented? If people pay different prices for essentially the same thing, would that be exploitation, discrimination, or just marketing? Finally, what can be done to change all of this?



### In a nutshell...

- Discuss the concept of different pricing by gender
- Scouts choose a product and make a real-world price comparison
- Review the results and what they mean in the context of discrimination.



### Follow-on

A follow-on conversation could address the wider issue of discrimination within society. Can the scouts pick out other examples of discrimination which might be obvious? What about some less obvious ones? Are they intentional and, if so, what is the reason for them? What can be done across society to do away with gender discrimination.



### SDG 5 Gender Equality

SDG 5 seeks to end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere. While there may be some limited examples of discrimination against men, the vast majority of discrimination is against women. The challenge for scouts is to recognise it, even where it might be less obvious, and call it out.



**Find out more!**  
 Visit - [www.betterworld.ie](http://www.betterworld.ie)  
 Contact us - [sustainability@scouts.ie](mailto:sustainability@scouts.ie)  
 Produced by the Scouting Ireland Sustainable Scouting Team