

## EXERCISE 10.1

### Assessing ethics and politics

#### Exercise A. Ethical issues

1. When you collaborate with others, how can confidentiality be maintained?
2. If your action research project is a 'journey' and 'evolves', how can informed consent be meaningful?
3. As action research can have political consequences, how can you avoid doing harm to others?

#### *Political issues*

1. Challenging the status quo: how can you do things differently?
2. Changing existing power relations: do you have the power to change this for yourselves?
3. The system reasserting existing power relations: what do you do if you don't have the authority to change this for yourself?

#### Exercise B: Assessing ethics and politics

As a concrete application of Table 10.1 to your project, answer the following questions and fill out the table for yourself.

	<i>Task</i>	<i>Process</i>
First person	What are your specific political and ethical tasks in your project?	How are you to achieve your goals ethically and politically?
Second person	Who are the political stakeholders of your action research project? What interests do they have that need to be served?	How do you work with the different stakeholders to achieve the purpose of the project?
Third person	What knowledge are you generating from this project that informs your understanding of the political dynamics of organizations?	How do you build this actionable knowledge about the political dynamics of organizations from your first- and second-person inquiry and practice?