

Discussion questions for the Career dating

1. Introduction: Decision-making on career choices is often not based on rational thinking, knowledge, or clear ideas.

Questions:

- **What did you know about your field in advance?**
 - Why did you choose your field?
 - How did the field meet your expectations? How not?
 - How do you see your colleague's field?

2. Introduction: On your way to your current situation, you have already made several choices about hobbies, optional subjects or secondary education. These can be influenced by a wide range of factors, from your own interests and ambitions to the environment, location or relationships.

Questions:

- **What decisions have led you here?**
 - What choices have you made before starting your studies?
 - Why did you choose the way you did?

3. Introduction: Decision-making is often influenced by other people like teachers, counselors, family members, coaches, and peers. They may have influenced you either consciously or unconsciously.

Questions:

- **Who has influenced your decisions?**
 - Has someone tried to influence your decisions on purpose?
 - Or has someone done so unintentionally, how?
 - What role has your family background played?
 - What about teachers and study counsellors?

4. Introduction: Making decisions is not always easy, and choices can evoke different feelings. On the other hand, emotions also influence decision-making; both the decisions themselves and our willingness to make decisions.

- **How did it feel to make decisions?**
 - Was it easy or difficult to make decisions?
 - Did you feel uncertain about the decisions?
 - Have your feelings about decisions changed over time, how and why?
 - What role can emotions play in decision-making?

5. Introduction: Finland still has a highly gender-segregated labour market. Some fields and even hobbies are more strongly associated with one gender than others, which can have an impact on perceived opportunities.

- **How do you think your gender has influenced your decisions?**
 - Are there gendered images associated with your field?
 - Have you perhaps been guided to make certain choices based on your gender?
 - Have you yourself made choices based on your gender?