

Tips and Tricks to Avoid a Clique!

Introduce Your Committee and Your Society

- **PowerPoint Presentation:** A fun and quick PowerPoint is a great way to introduce your committee to new members. Add funny pictures, keep it light-hearted, and make it visually appealing.
- **Share Past Events:** Bring photos of past events to your first meeting. Share anecdotes, funny moments, and successes—this creates excitement and shows what your group is about.
- **Leaflet or Flyer:** Create a one-page handout that includes information about your society, committee roles, and a recap of past events. It can also highlight key upcoming activities and essential contact details.

Why is it Important to Introduce Yourself?

- Members want to know who you are, what your roles are, and who they can approach if they need something.
- Knowing the committee helps new members feel comfortable messaging you, asking for help, and attending events.

Icebreakers to Get to Know Each Other

Icebreakers are an easy and fun way to introduce yourselves and help members connect.

- **Name and Fact:** Go around the room, ask everyone to say their name and one interesting fact or their favourite meal—food always gets people talking!
- **Balloon Popping:** Write a fun fact on a piece of paper, put it inside a balloon, and inflate it. In pairs, burst the balloon together using body parts (check beforehand for comfort levels). Then share the fact with the group.
- **Two Truths and a Lie:** Each person shares two truths and one lie. The group guesses which statement is the lie—a simple way to get to know fun facts about each other.
- **Desert Island:** Ask members what book, song, and luxury item they'd take if stranded on a desert island for a year. It's fun, light-hearted, and sparks conversation.
- **Would You Rather?:** Prepare a list of creative questions (e.g., "Would you rather never eat pizza again or only eat pizza forever?"). Ask people to step left or right for their choice. Keep it light, fun, and non-controversial.

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Cliques can form unintentionally, so here's how to ensure your society stays welcoming and inclusive:

- **Mix it up:** Sit with new members during meetings or socials instead of sticking to your usual friendship groups.
- **Engage with new members:** Ask them about their lives, their course, and their interests. Show genuine curiosity and make them feel valued.
- **Be approachable:** Remember, for some members, this might be their first time away from home. Be a friendly face they can rely on.
- **Personally invite members:** Don't just rely on social media or emails. If you see someone on campus or in the library, say hello and invite them to events.
- **Inclusive socials:** Make sure to put on events where drinking is optional. Include this information in the event descriptions to reassure non-drinkers.
- **Avoid assumptions:** Never question why someone isn't drinking; this can make people feel uncomfortable.
- **Listen to everyone:** In meetings, ask for opinions and ideas for socials. Make sure everyone feels heard and involved.

Fun and Interactive Socials to Overcome Cliqueyness

Non-Drinking Socials (Inclusive and Fun!)

1. **Come Dine With Me:** Host a group meal. Order takeaway or cook together—it's a great bonding activity.
2. **Board Game Night:** Monopoly, trivia, Jenga—combine it with pizza for the ultimate chill night.
3. **Bowling Night:** A fun and easy way to bring people together.
4. **Cinema Run:** Go to a local cinema as a group or host a **Movie Night** on campus. Book a room at Union House, grab some popcorn, and bring blankets and pillows.
5. **Potluck Meal:** Everyone brings a homemade dish to share. It's a great way to enjoy food together and learn about each other's tastes.

Inclusive Socials (Drinking Optional)

1. **LCR Night:** Organise a group pre-meet before heading to the LCR for a **Damn Good** or **A-List** night out. It's on campus, **Never OK accredited**, and staff are trained to handle issues, creating a safe and comfortable environment.
2. **Curry Night:** Combine a hearty curry with optional beers or soft drinks for a relaxed meal.

3. **Cocktail and Mocktail Making:** Host a fun session where members can learn to make both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

Remember: A mix of drinking and non-drinking socials ensures everyone feels included and comfortable. Focus on creating welcoming events where all members—new and returning—can have fun, meet people, and build connections.