Ideology Island

Their Fate is in your hands!

**The Scenario:**

You were on a routine trans-Pacific flight. Something terrible happened and the plane crashed into the waters. You were, however, able to get into one of the plane’s inflatable rafts and pull 10 people into the raft with you. After a day or so of paddling, you discovered a small deserted island.

After a few days, a rescue helicopter appears. The pilot lands and admits that his instruments aren’t working right and while he can take you and 5 people, he may not be able return to get the remaining survivors. They may never be rescued. **The helicopter can only take you and 5 other people. There is no option to take more.**

The task before you is simple. Examine the list below and decide which 5 people are able to get onto the rescue helicopter and return to civilization and which 5 must stay behind to endure an unknown fate. These people may never be rescued.

There is no right or wrong answer. There is no trick to completing the task. I am simply asking you to work in your groups to discuss the list of people and decide the fate of these 10 people.

You must reach a consensus, meaning that everyone in your group must agree to your final list.

You may wish to select a group spokesperson. However all of you will be expected to justify your decision and discuss the ideas expressed during your group discussion.

|  |
| --- |
| **Survivor List**   1. A botanist who is a single mother of two children (ages 3 and 17) and has no other adult family to provide for the children. 2. The Special Forces soldier who has survival skills but seems to be suffering from PTSD or some form of paranoia. 3. A convicted murderer 4. A doctor who practices family medicine but has gone through 2 heart attacks in the last five years. The doctor is a movie buff and will constantly quote passages from films. 5. A civil engineer who has lived for many years in Southeast Asia and Africa; has extensive knowledge in building shelters, wells and the like; is diabetic and requires insulin daily. 6. A university professor with an extremely high IQ who has a broad range of knowledge; has a physical disability and is unable to walk on without assistance. 7. A religious clergy member who is known internationally for humanitarian efforts on behalf of the poor in various areas of the world. 8. A world famous comedian who is legendary for an ability to tell stories, make people laugh and feel like they are someplace else. 9. A chef who specializes in using exotic ingredients and “primitive” cooking techniques. He has just found out that after years of fertility treatments that his wife is expecting their first child. 10. An athlete with incredible strength and physical fitness; requires more daily calories than everyone else to maintain this strength |

Adapted from B. Brazeau, 2013