

EXERCISE 2.1

Stereotypes

10–20 minutes

Allow yourself to write whatever comes to your mind, uncensored. By getting at the ideas that are just below the surface we can begin to identify our stereotypes—and, if appropriate, discard them.

Typical philanthropists:

(Example: Are from old money; are older than 55; live in mansions)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

People I know who give are:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

As a giver I am:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

Reflection: What have you learned about yourself by doing this exercise? For example, you may have found that your stereotypes contradict your experience or that the terms “philanthropist” and “giver” elicit different reactions.
