

Drawing from our probe items, one of the most used and used creatively item was the Speak-To-Me-Bottle. One participant dropped tinfoil into the bottle while some placed inspirational quotes. It appears as though it was an item that would allow the participants to do as they please with it because it was not limiting them in anyway. They can share their most personal thoughts if they wanted to and would remain anonymous. This was one factor why we wanted to develop the Speak-To-Me-Bottle. In Sue's journey framework, she had an issue that she wanted to share with the group but was afraid that she would be overtaking the group dynamics. She did not want fellow group members to feel as though the group meeting is centered on her. By implementing the bottle to the framework, people like Sue would be able to share their thoughts with the group anonymously because all thoughts are placed in the bottle and drawn by group members. This detaches the problem itself from the specific group member itself. It would be different when hearing the problem shared from a different group member. This may provide greater insight into the problem for that person who actually wrote the issue because now, he or she is observing the problem instead of experiencing it him or herself. However, it can also make it feel more personal because it is possible for the individual to pick the issue oneself wrote. Then this would allow the person to share the problem without concern because everyone in the group is sharing, not just that one person; thus, making it a group activity and not centered on only one individual.

After viewing the interview video, the group agreed that some members were quieter than others. A couple participants were eager to share their experiences while a couple were less persistent. Even though the quiet ones were not as excited to share their ideas, they surely did have opinions about the cultural probe. It would not have been fair to have their voice unheard. The bottle allows the participants and users to use express their ideas and opinions with the group while maintaining the desire to not be the verbal member but still have their ideas presented to the entire group.

The cultural probe was used to measure the group member's individuality. However, a group probe item was also included to get a better understanding of the group dynamics in the youth group. The house poster made the designers understand that some group members are not present at all meetings for other commitments. Some felt bad for being absent because they missed that week's opportunity to share and just be around the close-knit group. From the poster, only one team member was able to draw herself on the poster. The other three were absent from that week's (the week the probes were deployed) gathering. A participant mentioned that when another member was not able to attend a meeting, the absentee would call the participant asking for updates and what was missed. However, if there was a new member the group, one may not be as eager to call a group member and ask what one had missed because of the unfamiliarity one has for the group members. With the virtual bulletin board, the entire group is given equal opportunity to contribute in the group meeting updates. The bulletin board reduces the time commitment required of an individual because one is no longer asked to be the only one updating the absentees (either via email, text messages or even social networking sites). With the proposed idea, the group now helps each other as well as oneself because of the effectiveness and efficiency of the virtual bulletin board.

Participants also mentioned in the interview videos how they preferred some digital items (iPods, digital cameras). With the stage technology is at, it is understandable why they would suggest the ideas that they did. Almost everyone has a cellphone or a smartphone now. With the virtual bulletin board, it adds to the participants' desire of technology, digitally based items. The touch-screen interface increases the interactivity of the group --- not only with technology but also within the group.