**Rope activity to explain Friere**

The rope is used as a code

* Put two large ropes down on the ground making a vertical and horizontal axis.
* Your vertical axis is Power with ‘Powerful’ at the top and ‘Powerless’ at the bottom.
* Your horizontal is accepting on the left and not accepting on the right.

Questions:

Ask participants to plot themselves first on the vertical axis; do you feel powerful or powerless or somewhere in between?

The ask them do they accept the structures they live in as a citizen of Ireland/the world?

Ask them to look at this from a personal point of view and then maybe get them to look it from others point of view depending on the issue or topic you are focusing on or different generations for example.

You then ask ‘why’ participants put themselves in that part of the axis.

**How does it explain Friere?** The reason this is good for explaining Friere is outlined below

**Power**

**Powerful but rejecting** the status quo and believing that change can happen

Friere would have plotted himself here and aimed to move people here from the bottom quadrants

Most people are here certainly in the West! **Powerful and accepting** of society and its structures and if the system is good for them and benefits them they are happy to stay that way

**Acceptance**

**Powerless and accepting**

This is whom Friere focused on to change the minds of these people and not to accept that their situations will never change and move them to a place where they did not accept and then to a place where they were empowered i.e. moving anti clockwise

**Powerless but rejecting** or not accepting the status quo. Some argue this leads people to become angry and frustrated but it was Friere’s belief that this anger could be channeled to move them up to feeling more powerful and challenging the system.