**Lesson Plan Package 3 – Controversial Issues**

**LP6 – Crime and Rehabilitation**

**Top Tips for Flexibility Handout**

Key skill for engaging in controversial discussion: flexibility

*Top tips for coping with the tendency to form ‘camps’ around an issue:*

* Always be aware of how you are forming and voicing your opinion around an issue; are you following the group you find yourself in?
* Do you see another ’side’ of the issue, and if so have you tried to find common ground?
* Take time to think about arguments and perspectives ‘opposing’ yours with an open mind
* Try to be remain critical about the things you are hearing about an issue and avoid divisive rhetoric like ‘them’ and ‘us’ or statements which make assumptions about what people who don’t agree with you believe, or who they are

