

# *Ender's Game*

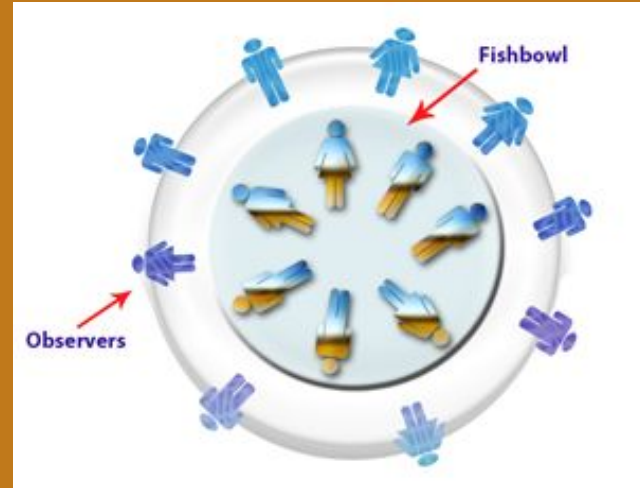
Discussion



# Fish Bowl Rules (review)

1. **Only one person speaks at a time.**
2. **Participants must use cues such as body language and eye contact to determine when it is appropriate to speak.**
3. **If two people start to speak at the same time, one must yield.**
4. **All participants look at the person speaking.**
5. **Questions can be asked of other participants in the inner circle to motivate them to join in.**
6. **Disagree politely.**
7. **State your ideas and support them with evidence.**
8. **Respond to the comments of other participants by agreeing or disagreeing and offering additional evidence.**
9. **Record notes, quotations from the text(s), statistics, etc., that support your ideas and opinions.**
10. **The teacher or seminar leader does not participate in the discussion except to provide a new question or to terminate an irrelevant or inappropriate line of discussion.**

# Setting the stage





# Tapping in and out



**Is childhood a right? Does a person robbed of a “normal” childhood have any possibility of stability as an adult? Does Ender have a chance of living “happily ever after”?**

**Card has stated that “children are a perpetual, self-renewing underclass, helpless to escape from the decisions of adults until they become adults themselves.”**  
**Does *Ender’s Game* prove or disprove this opinion?**

**The government in Ender's world plays a huge role in reproductive decisions, imposing financial penalties and social stigma on families who have more than two children but exerting pressure on specific families who show great genetic potential to have a "third" like Ender. Is government ever justified in involving itself in family planning decisions? Why or why not?**

Is genocide, or in the case of *Ender's Game* where an entire alien race is annihilated, xenocide (the killing or attempted killing of an entire alien species), ever justified? Was the xenocide of the buggers inevitable?



**How does Col. Graff (and other military personnel) believe that leaders are made? How do you think leaders are made?**

**The buggers communicate telepathically using no identifiable external means of communication. Was it inevitable that war would have to occur when two sentient (endowed with feeling and unstructured consciousness) species met but were unable to communicate?**

**How does Ender's continual belief that he is like Peter affect his development? How is Ender like and unlike Peter?**

**Ender is very successful at Battle School despite the fact that he has many enemies and is lied to by adults. Do you think that you have to be tough on a person in order for him/her to perform at their full potential? Why or why not?**

**What is the purpose of the giant's drink game?**

**Does its appearance again at the end of the book make sense?**

**Given the current state of military technology, how different is conducting a war from playing a game?**