

Power and Closeness Reflection

If a classmate invited you to a get-together at a local restaurant this weekend, how hard would it be for you to refuse?

What if it were your best friend instead? If you still had to refuse, would you say something different than you would to someone you just know from class?

What if it were the teacher?

Imagine you're hosting a baby shower for close friend. What might you say to invite her twin sister, whom you're also good friends with?

How would you go about inviting your friend's great-aunt, who lives in a different state and whom you have never met?

What are the factors that influence differences in how you make the invitation? For example, age, how well you know the person, and how he/she is related to the mother-to-be might be factors.

How important is social distance (how close you are to a person socially) to how you make or accept/refuse an invitation?

How important are differences in power (for example, a boss to an employee vs. you to a younger sibling)?