Note: This is written to be run on Zoom. To adapt to run face to face replace break out rooms to small groups. Groups can use pen and paper in place of Sketchpad.

Timmy's Worst Day at Work

Resources:

- Click here for a link to share with your team
- Click here for Sketchpad
- Breakout rooms in Zoom
- Instruction slide available for download

Instructions:

"I'll be dividing you into groups. One person in each group will be your "artist". That person's job is to share screen Sketchpad (or a similar drawing service) to their group, and then draw a stick figure on their screen (which will represent our beleaguered workmate Timmy).

Our job in our groups then is to come up with all of the distractions we can throw at Timmy, to give him the worst work-from-home (alt: work) environment possible. We have about 5 minutes before we'll bring them back to share."

Action:

Break the group up into breakout rooms. Zoom does most of this work for you. Go between the groups to make sure they understand and can smash it out the park.

- If a group is struggling (or only putting in Gremlin/silly Answers) encourage them to consider what's going on for them in their environments. Try and get one "real" answer from each group.
- If a group is having trouble with Sketchpad, have their artist use a pen and paper

Bring the group back to each other. Have one member of each team present their version of Timmy. If familiar, you can use the poll setting have them vote for their favourite difficult work environment, otherwise a show of hands works as well. Congratulate the incredible and hardworking winning team.

Debrief

"As a quick straw poll, who here was like "This is too close to home" and absolutely has dealt with these problems in their day to day. Answer with a hand or a thumbs up reaction. Yeah right, so a fair few of us. Type in the chat which is your biggest problem that we've touched on today."

Pull out and expand on the most popular answer/s.

Some examples: Bad Wi-fi, home chores that always needs doing, noisy environment, no workspace, kids are home etc.

- Encourage the group to distil the problem to the best of their ability.
  - Wi-fi might be expanded to "not connected to my co-workers/the workplace/the customer.
  - Chores might be "The workspace doesn't feel comfortable/in control."

Use this most popular answer as a springboard into what is happening for individuals and problem solving solutions.