

Discrimination lesson plan

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Age group: 12-15

Aims of the activity:

- 1.) Understand and define discrimination
- 2.) Be able to identify negative and discriminatory behaviour in everyday life
- 3.) Identify channels against discrimination at school or in the city
- 4.) Encourage others to take action against discrimination

Materials used:

Whiteboard, video projector, laptop, internet, posters.

Evaluation:

- Observation of participants during the lesson
- Feedback offered through discussions with participants
- Poster assessment at the end of the activity

Description of the activities:

Activity 1: The teacher provides preferential treatment to a particular group of students. For example, students with straight hair (or tall/short students, boys/girls, who is wearing red...) must stand at the back and the others can be seated or the teacher distributes candy to some of them and ignores the others.

Teacher asks: How does it feel to be treated in this way? Was this fair? Why do people discriminate?



Students read the cartoon in Portuguese and translate it into English. They discuss about it and think of somebody they know (classmate, friend or relative) who may have suffered from the prejudices portrayed by the cartoon.

Students list as many acts of discrimination as they can. They try to understand and define discrimination.

Activity 2: Students fill in this questionnaire:

Have you ever been discriminated against?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Where?

- At home
- At school
- At public places
- Other

The person(s) that made you feel discriminated against was/were

- (one of) your peers
- (a) member(s) of your family
- your friend(s)
- other:

Have you committed any discrimination against anyone?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Against whom?

- A member of my family or relative
- A peer
- A friend
- Other:

How were you discriminated against?

Why do you think some people need to discriminate people?

- Their lives are difficult
- They need to feel dominant over you
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- Suggestions for a discrimination-free future:

Analysis of results

Activity 3: How is bullying, racism, gender discrimination or any other forms of discrimination dealt with at school? Could they be improved in any way? What can we do to stand up against discrimination?

Pledge and commitment on the part of discriminators not to discriminate any more. They must write a list of new patterns of behaviour to follow to avoid discriminating others. Tips and support to those that have claimed to be discriminated frequently. Suggestion of the different channels the school and social services have made available for them. Establishment of a support or "pride boost" group within the school, formed by volunteers.

Students create a poster that illustrates the ideas the class came up with for standing up against discrimination and the channels they can use at school or outside school ("Oficina per la No Discriminació", SOS Racisme... in Barcelona) to fight against it. We hang them around school.