

INTERVIEW III

by Aphroditi Stefanidou - GREECE

Interviewee: Maria Peristeropoulou, Greek Philologist

MIT SIX

Topic: How to Overcome Cultural Stereotyping

Mentor: Ewa Druzalska Kopka



1. What does cultural stereotyping mean to you?

Set, predetermined conceptions about certain groups of people which also form our attitude towards them.

2. What do you think we can do to prevent that?

Getting educated and informed; wiping out racist conceptions that are encountered even in the field of science; improvement of living conditions for a great number of people.

3. In your opinion, what do you think causes one to start stereotyping one another?

Lack of education, living conditions, low social and educational level and the mass media bad influence.

4. Do you think parents know if their child could be going through a hard time at school because of stereotyping? Why?

Not always as children tend to feel embarrassed when it comes to expressing themselves. They feel in an inferior position and parents may consider this as something normal at times. For example they do not realize that if a man orders his wife to run a chore, like washing the dishes that this could be considered as logical.

5. Why do people of different cultures, races etc. suffer from stereotyping?

Because we are afraid of the "different" due to different problems and living conditions we may be facing. We consider it evil and unfamiliar, a foreign body because of our ignorance. However, these people do not pose a threat, they just have something different.