Learning path 2 Facing discrimination

Medine's story



Toolbox against discrimination

Judging and grouping

a Read the texts below before you answer the final question.

Others

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We tend to form initial opinions about people we see based on their appearance or behaviour. We think someone is 'different' if they do not look or act how we expect – if they don't match the image we have in our heads. We don't invent these generalised images ourselves. They come from the society around us. They are expectations created and spread by other people and the media, through language and institutions.



Grouping and judging

As soon as we decide someone is 'different' we consciously or unconsciously put them into a group. We pigeonhole them. This often involves a value judgment. When we then encounter someone we consider to be part of a group that we regard negatively, it can lead to discrimination. The 'discrimination machine' does not run automatically. We can all think about how we label and judge people.

Impact

People who are discriminated against are harmed by it. Discrimination may be insults or physical violence against individual people. Discrimination can also be structural, such as when one group is given less access to education or housing than another.

b Do you think that Medine is or is not discriminating people at the station?

Explain your answer.

Stories that Move

Toolbox against discrimination