

Year 8 - Topic 2 Prejudice And Discrimination



Key Words	
Prejudice	Making up your mind about someone before you know them
Discrimination	Treating people differently
Islamophobia	Prejudice towards Muslims
Anti-Semitism	Prejudice towards Jews
Homophobia	Prejudice towards gay people
Caste based prejudice	Prejudice towards people based on their place in the caste system (Hinduism)

Causes Of Prejudice

MEDIA	IGNORANCE	UPBRINGING
<p>When the media chooses to only show a group of people behaving in a certain way. For example, in the 1980's-1990's people from Liverpool only appeared to play drug dealers and criminals in TV programmes.</p>	<p>When people make up their mind about an individual or group before they get to know them.</p>	<p>Family is the biggest influence on a person's life until the age of 5, if a child grows up in a house where there are prejudicial views, they are highly likely to think this is the norm.</p>

Religious Attitudes To Gender

	All believe that men and women are equally important. They also believe that...
Judaism	Men and women have different roles to play. Orthodox Jews do not allow women to be rabbis but some reform Jews do.
Christianity	Men and women have different roles to play. Roman Catholics do not allow women to be religious leaders but the Church of England do.
Islam	Men and women have different roles to play. Women are not allowed to lead men in prayer.
Hinduism	Men and women have different roles to play, traditionally women did not serve as priests but this has begun to change.
Buddhism	Men and women are expected to fulfil the same roles within their religion.
Sikhism	Men and women have different roles to play in society but women are allowed to be religious leaders.



Religious Attitudes To Race

All of the major world religions are opposed to racial discrimination on the grounds that everyone was created equally by God. They also teach the importance of being respectful to people of other races.

Christianity	'There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.'
Islam	'No Arab is superior to a non-Arab.... except by their commitment to their faith'.
Sikhism	'Do not enquire about one's caste and birth...honour is determined by actions'
Buddhism	'I undertake to not harm living beings.'

Positive Discrimination

Giving people who have previously been victims of discrimination an advantage.

This is done to try and bring fairness and social change.

This is currently happening in parts of India as people from the 'untouchable' or 'dalit' caste still face discrimination in many areas of life.

Some people don't agree with positive discrimination as they say that all discrimination is wrong. Other people believe it is necessary to help bring social change.



Anti-Semitism



Anti-Semitism goes right back to ancient times and the most prominent example is the Holocaust during the Second World War when over six million Jewish people were murdered by the Nazis.

Many Jewish communities report continuing anti-Semitism today.

Wider Reading and Video Clips

For everyone
 Madame C. J. Walker, the first female African American millionaire
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zxfpv4j>
 Women battle for equality in the Church
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zxrvwx>

Stretch and Challenge
 'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak this is available as a book and has been made into a film which is currently streaming on Amazon Prime video as well as several other streaming services.