

MIKE HAINES
**GLOBAL
ACTS-OF
UNITY**



HATE CRIME AWARENESS WEEK

Lesson Plan Guide

HATE CRIME AWARENESS WEEK

Hate Crime Awareness Week is a national week of action that aims to raise awareness and educate about hate crime. The week of activity encourages people to stand in support of those affected by hate crime, as well as standing up against hate crime itself.

This is a time to take an opportunity to share the important messages of mutual respect and tolerance, and discuss with students how and why the legal system assigns a special status to crimes that are motivated by hate.

What is a hate crime?

When someone commits a criminal offence which is perceived by the victim, or a witness, to be motivated by disability, transgender identity, race, sexual orientation, religion, or a combination of these. For example, this might be verbal abuse, assault or damage to property.

What is a hate incident?

Behaviour that isn't a crime but appears to be motivated by hostility based on these characteristics. It's still important for the police to have a good picture about these incidents so they can help the public feel safe.

How to report a hate crime?

Unfortunately, many students may themselves have been the victim of a hate crime or hate incident, and this week can be an opportunity to talk about how to deal with the difficult emotions these events can trigger. Practical advice, such as how to report experienced or witnessed hate crime, is one of the ways to address feelings of powerlessness.

- You can report a hate crime or hate incident by calling 101 to speak to the police.
- Alternatively, you can report it online using the Police's True Vision reporting website.
- Call 999 if you're reporting a crime that's in progress or if someone is in immediate danger.

EXERCISES

How to use these resources



[Access our learning resources here](#)



INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION

Navigate to Part 3,
Interactive Presentation

RESOURCES

Select 'Why do we
use stereotypes?'

Why do we use stereotypes?

Use the interactive activity to get your students thinking about why we all use stereotypes. The resource lists some of the reasons why people use stereotypes.

The students should drag and drop them in order from most convincing (at the top) to least convincing (at the bottom), according to their opinion.

- Because people think the stereotypes are funny.
- Because it is easier to think, "they are all the same".
- A positive stereotype can make a group feel special.
- A negative or untrue stereotype can turn people against a group.
- It is sometimes quicker to use a stereotype.
- A positive stereotype can unite people.
- Stereotypes can be used to support government plans.
- An extreme stereotype is a good way to get attention.
- Stereotypes get easy reactions from an audience.

The students can complete this activity on their own devices before you discuss it as a class – "What have you put at the top? Do you think this is true?" Alternatively, you could complete it as a class, inviting a pupil up to the interactive white board to do the dragging and dropping, while you discuss the statements with the class – "What would you put at the top? Why? Who agrees?" and so on.

The aim of the discussion is to help the students examine their own reasons for using stereotypes, and to begin to think about why that might be a problem in preparation for the next activity.

EXERCISES

How to use these resources



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INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION

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Select 'Why are stereotypes a problem?'

Why are stereotypes a problem?

And now use the interactive resource to think about the problems that using stereotypes can cause. Again, invite the students to drag and drop the list of reasons in order from most important to least important according to their opinion.

- People with very different personalities are seen as all the same.
- Large groups of people are seen as having the same negative characteristics.
- Many stereotypes are unfair.
- Many stereotypes are not true.
- A large group of people is blamed for the actions of a few.
- We don't see people as individuals.
- People think of a group as 'them' and not 'us'.
- Stereotypes concentrate on the differences between groups.
- People notice things that agree with a stereotype and ignore things that disagree with it.

And again, discuss the reasons and the order the class wants to put them in. There are no right or wrong answers, but the aim is to help the students see how unhelpful, unfair or even dangerous using stereotypes can be.

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