



LESSON 5.8 Is the World Just? - Part II

Module #5: Exploration of Others

Since having a great high school experience is really all about relationships, it is important for freshmen to explore the values and beliefs of other students – and how they're similar and different. There are dangers in not taking the time to truly understand the people we consider "different" from us – dangers that can have a lifetime of negative consequence.

Enduring Understandings

- I. **Race, gender, ethnicity, and culture are all different and cannot be interchanged. Understanding each is an integral part of getting to know others and what defines them.**
- II. Stereotyping is very common and very dangerous – if not recognized and corrected.

Essential Questions

- I. **What is culture? (I)**
- II. **What is stereotyping and what are the dangers of stereotyping? (II)**
- III. What is ethnic intimidation? (II)

Lesson Objective(s)

Students will develop an understanding of the concept of privilege and the responsibilities that come with it.

Lesson 5.6

Lesson 5.7

Lesson 5.8

Lesson 5.9

Lesson 5.10

Directions:

1. This lesson is a continuation of Lesson 5.7. Student leaders should review the cartoon and ask the freshmen to recount their reflections from the previous lesson.
 - What is the connection between privilege and power?
 - Why is it that many times when we are privileged, we tend to not realize it?
 - How is it possible that a person can be privileged in one circumstance and then not in another?
 - What are the advantages to being a member of a privileged group?
 - What are the disadvantages to being a member of a privileged group?
 - What responsibilities do we have when we are privileged?
 - Is caring for others a part of our school, community and national identity?
2. Student leaders should write the following quote from Mark Twain on the board and ask the freshmen to relate it to the conversation.

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."

General Themes:

 - *There is no shame or blame when someone is a member of either the advantaged or disadvantaged group*
 - *We can concurrently hold membership in both groups.*
 - *Advocacy for ourselves and others requires us to notice and take action*
 - *Any pain that we may have experienced because we were in the lesser advantaged group can serve as a way for us to build empathy and the desire to advocate for others.*

Materials & Supplies

- There are no supplies needed.

FOCUS POINT

Being the "large fish" feels good. But, we must also remember what it feels like to be the "small fish." Ultimately, if we remember this feeling, we are more likely to not abuse privilege and power and treat others better and with more respect.

- The interactive game, *Hate Comes Home*, is an excellent supplement to Module 5. We strongly recommend you use it with this module to enhance student understanding of cultures and stereotypes.
- To order a *Hate Comes Home* subscription, visit the following website:
<http://www.willinteractive.com/hate-comes-home>
- If you choose not to purchase and use the *Hate Comes Home* program, we recommend showing movie clips that illustrate and discuss the dangers of stereotyping and cultural biases.

resources & extension