

## STEREOTYPICAL THINKING AND DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOLS AND WAYS WE ADDRESS AND SOLVE THESE ISSUES.

We would like to start with the definition of stereotype, stereotypical thinking and discrimination. By definition;

A stereotype: A stereotype is a mistaken idea or belief many have about a thing or group that is based upon how they look on the outside, which may be untrue or only partly true.

In another words; A stereotype is a fixed general image or set of characteristics representing a particular type of a person or thing, but which may not be true in reality.

Stereotyping people is a type of prejudice because what is on the outside is a small part of who a person is.

Many stereotypes are rooted in prejudice.

Stereotypical thinking: is dominated by ideologies, preconceptions, stereotypes, and habit.

When a person who follows this type of thinking meets with views and information destroying his/her preconceived beliefs, he/she is ready to reject this information without verification, as well as reduce or avoid contacts with people who proclaim them.

For example; If I'm a teacher, it is important to pay attention to what kind of model of teaching I incorporate into my classes. I should encourage my students about the things they get from me to think on their own, to analyze etc. I shouldn't prefer those who agree with me, no matter what and never make any observation or points.

Discrimination: What is discrimination for students? Despite the best of intentions, everyone has prejudices and biases – seemingly harmless actions can actually be detrimental to students even if no harm was intended.

Discrimination is unfair treatment of one particular person or group of people. Usually the different treatment is because of the person's sex, religion, nationality, culture, race or other personal traits.

There are 2 types of discrimination.

- A) Direct discrimination: This is where a student is treated worse. Such treatment is likely to amount to direct discrimination because of sex.
- B) Indirect discrimination: Something can be indirect discrimination if it has a worse effect on you because of your age, disability, gender, race, sex, religion or belief.

In a nutshell; Discrimination occurs when people are treated unequally.

All kinds of discrimination are wrong and can be harmful to those involved.

In every school, discrimination exists in both intended and unintended ways.

In recent years; we have seen name – calling, hate – filled taunts, vandalism, racial slurs and epithets, offensive graffiti on desks and on the walls of the restrooms. In these circumstances; in schools, discrimination can make it difficult for students to learn because they don't feel safe or accepted and teachers have had to work over time to console.

Those student and provide resources to help .As such,finding ways to fight discrimination is essential to ensurring students educational opportunity.

## ADRESSING DISCRIMINATION IN SCHOOLS

Every student has the right to an education free from discrimination that provides high quality,equitable opportunities to learn.There are some things we can do to fight and stop discrimination in schools.

### 1-) **Establish clear school policies and reinforce goals**

Make sure the school's anti-bullying harassment and non-discrimination policies are clear.We should develop and / or reinforce our schools' community's goals around respect civility,regora and care for others.

If or when one of the students disobeys,make sure it would be the subject to penalty.

### 2-) **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

Laws exist to protect students from discrimination.We have to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race,color,national origin,sex and disability

### 3-) **KEEP SCHOOL SAFER**

\*We should promote and encourage safety not only in class but also at school.

\*Have teachers in corporate a lot of group work,games and bonding activities into the class.

\*Schedule to help students build positive,trusting relationships with both their teachers and peers.

\*Consider developing a parent action.

\*Committee to work with school staff to raise awareness about discrimination and what everyone in the school community can do to prevent it.

### 4-) **KEEP A RECORD OF WHAT OCCURED**

It is important that you are clear about the detailsofthediscriminationthatoccured,including who,what,where and when the incident occurred.

It is a good idea to write down the details ASAP after they occur to ensure accuracy.

### 5-) **IDENTIFY ALLIES**

It is often helpful to identify sympathetic individuals with in the school community with whom you feel comfortable sharing your concerns.These pcople maybe parents teachers,counselors or administrators .

If you think you or your child have faced discrimination toward others,it is important to speak up.

Families and educators generally share the common goal of ensuring that all the students have access to high-quality educational opportunities in schools where they feel valued and secure.

In a nutshell;Establishing an open dialogue with school leadership is an important step in creating more equitable schools.

#### **6) Learn about the school's formal grievance process.**

If you feel your concerns are not being taken seriously when you suspect that discrimination has taken place, find out what the school's process is for filling a complaint, which is often called a grievance. Such a process generally outlines the steps to be taken by families who think that the school has done something wrong. This may provide an effective option for resolving the matter at hand.

#### **7) What to do when you encounter continued resistance.**

There are many potential responses you might get from schools when you bring a concern about discrimination.

The best possible response might be that they hear and address your concern effectively, quickly and apologetically.

Apart from all these , If you still feel that more needs to be done to adequately address the discrimination, the office of civil rights enforces civil rights law.

#### **8) Assess your school, classroom and yourself.**

This is a good time to assess yourself, your classroom and your school by reflecting on the current and historical influences that shape your school's culture.

We should consider school mission and policies, how students interact with one another , the racial and gender dynamics among students.

#### **9) Be public and purposeful about being inclusive.**

Find ways to let everyone in the school community know that school is a safe place. All are welcome , but that biased words and actions are unacceptable.