

Glossary

1. **Prejudice:** Judging unfairly without knowing the facts.
2. **Discrimination:** Unfair treatment
3. **Hierarchical system:** A system that accords higher/lower status to different people
4. **Stereotype:** A fixed notion about a group of people
5. **Empowerment:** Giving power
6. **Constitution:** A book of law that lays down the principles on how a country should be run.

Fill in the Blanks

- A. A Stereotype is an unfair generalization
- B. Inequality can form the basis for Discrimination
- C. The law has given the women equal rights to Inherit property
- D. The constitution discourages diversity because it causes Discrimination
- E. When prejudice is expressed in action, it is called Discrimination
- F. The practice of untouchability is a Punishable offence
- G. The chief architect of the Indian constitution was Dr B.R Ambedkar
- H. The constitution has granted fundamental Rights to all Indians

Answer the following questions.

1. How can the stereotype that girls are a burden on their parents affect the life of a daughter? Imagine this situation and list at least five different effects that this stereotype can have on the way daughters get treated in the house.

Answer: The stereotype that girls are a burden on their parents affect the life of a daughter in many ways which have impacts on their day to day life as well as shattering their dreams and goals. It also creates a feel of being inferior to others and arouse a negative feel. Five different effects are:

- (i) They are not given quality education and do not sent to schools.
- (ii) They are not given proper diet.
- (iii) They have to household work and kept busy in this.
- (iv) They are not allowed to go out and enjoy with their friends.
- (v) They are not given proper care, love and affection of the family.
- (vi) Their health issues are not properly addressed

2. What does the Constitution say with regard to equality? Why do you think it is important for all people to be equal?

Answer: With regard to equality, the constitution said that:

- (i) People are free to choose the kind of work they wish to do.
- (ii) Everyone has equal rights and opportunities.
- (iii) Every one is free to compete for Government jobs.
- (iv) Right to equality for poor and other such marginal communities.

(v) Untouchability is seen as a crime and has been legally abolished by law. It is important for all people to be equal so that all of them have the freedom to follow their religion, speak their language, celebrate their festivals and express themselves freely. Respect for diversity can only be achieved by equality.

3. Sometimes people make prejudiced comments in our presence. We are often not in a position to do anything about this because it is difficult to say something right then and there. Divide the class into groups and each group discuss what they could do in one of the following situations:

- a. A friend begins to tease a classmate because he is poor.
- b. You are watching TV with your family and one of them makes a prejudicial comment about a particular religious community.
- c. Children in your class refuse to share their food with a particular person because they think she is dirty.
- d. Someone tells you a joke that makes fun of a community because of their accent.
- e. Some boys make remarks about girls not being able to play games as well as them.

4. Discuss in class what the different groups have suggested for the above situations, and also talk about the problems that can come up when raising the issue.

Answer: Students should make five group and discuss the issues among themselves.

- a. A friend begins to tease a classmate because he is poor.
 - We should learn to respect the personality and social background of each other. We should not tease or make joke of others only due to their appearance.
- b. You are watching TV with your family and one of them makes a prejudicial comment about a particular religious community.
 - India is a country know for its religious harmony and sovereignty. This is our power and we should not hurt the sentiments and believes of other by commenting.
- c. Children in your class refuse to share their food with a particular person because they think she is dirty.
 - Every on is the children of God and is unique in their own way. It is shame to consider someone inferior or odd only because of their personal appearance.
- d. Someone tells you a joke that makes fun of a community because of their accent.
 - Our country is having rich diversity ant this is our beauty. People in each region have their own language and accent. We should not make fum or joke of this beauty and learn to adore and respect it.
- e. Some boys make remarks about girls not being able to play games as well as them.

- Everyone has their own physique and everyone is not good in all things. Some may be good at sports some may not, some may be good at painting, learning, music etc. So, we should not make remarks on them for not being good at something. Rather we should encourage them.