



Is it fair?

The Big Picture

What is unfair?

What is fair? Why do people treat others differently?

What do we need? Why are people prejudiced?







What do we want? How should we treat others?

How does the media influence attitudes?

Is equality possible?

What should be people's attitude towards wealth?

Questions to ask

Key concepts to think about ▼	
AUTHORITY	
	DISCRIMINATION
EQUALITY	
	IDENTITY
INJUSTICE	
	PREJUDICE

  	<p>Religious teachings to explore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Human dignity – Non-violence ● Equality ● Use of wealth – Charity ● Social responsibility – Religion and the media ● Religious commitments to promote justice ● Racial, social and gender divisions ● People and organisations who have worked for justice ● Religious responses to injustice 	  
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Why do people treat others differently?

PRIDE/SELFISHNESS

Thinking only of self or self-interest; failing to consider the needs of others; jealous of others.

IGNORANCE

Not knowing, or not wanting to know the facts.

EXPERIENCES

Having had an unpleasant experience previously with a particular group of people, or a person from that group.

FEAR

Being uncertain of the implications of others; not sure of the purposes of others; afraid of what might happen.

Reasons for Prejudice

THEOLOGY

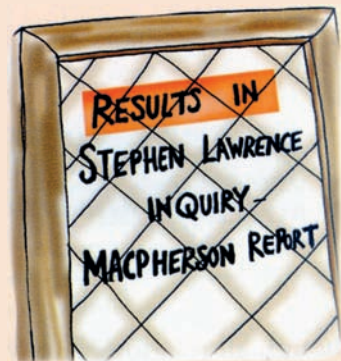
Failing to see and believe that all humans are equal in value in their own right.

ANGER/RETALIATION

Reacting after some event or tragedy, thought to be the fault of a particular group of people.

PARENTAL/PEER PRESSURE

Accepting the views and attitudes of others without questioning or challenging; not thinking for oneself.



Locally, nationally and internationally there are many examples of prejudice and discrimination, despite all the religious teachings against them.

ISLAM

The teachings of Islam include:

- All people are equal, though not the same.
- All people are important in their own right, as created by Allah.
- Muhammad's example (respect for women).
- The *ummah* (brotherhood) crosses all national, cultural, political, racial and language boundaries.
- The act of prayer stresses the importance of equality. Individuals stand as equals before Allah.



CHRISTIANITY

The teachings of Christianity include:

- Prejudice is unacceptable and is against Christian beliefs and teachings.
- God created all human beings as equals, whatever race, ability, or gender.
- The Ten Commandments give guidance on living in harmony with others.
- Jesus' example (such as his treatment of lepers and outcasts) and his teachings (such as the Good Samaritan).

BUDDHISM

The teachings of Buddhism include:

- All people are equal and have within them the nature of enlightenment.
- The things that separate people such as wealth, gender and race, are all illusory.
- We can learn from the example of the Buddha who rejected the caste system and taught that all people were equal.
- *Metta* (loving-kindness) towards all beings is stressed.

HINDUISM

The teachings of Hinduism include:

- Each group or individual has their own part to play in life.
- The caste system describes such roles, and need not be discriminatory.
- All human life, whatever caste or 'station' depends on others.
- *Ahimsa* (harmlessness) is a vital aim in life, and discourages discrimination.
- *Karma* (actions) and *dharma* (duty) expect believers to do good and show tolerance.



JUDAISM

The teachings of Judaism include:

- All humanity is made in the image of God.
- All have the same responsibility towards God.
- Being a 'chosen' nation is not being above others, but having additional responsibilities and duties.
- Israel accepts Jews from all nations and races.

SIKHISM

The teachings of Sikhism include:

- The Sikh Gurus stressed God is the source of all life and so all are equal.
- The *langar* shows how everyone is considered equal and welcome to eat together.
- Reunion with God is believed to be open to all.