



Safety Net

School / Young People Workshop

Guidance notes

This is a short session raising awareness of the harassment and bullying that people with a disability face every day. It is supported by a short film of 60 seconds looking at a day in the life of someone with a learning disability. This film focuses on a young man with a learning disability but the same would be true for many people with a sensory impairment or a physical disability. Don't forget there will be a number of people who will have all three.

The focus is on the everyday events that happen to people. Rather than any headline grabbing crimes it is the things that happen all day every day for some. The key point of the film is in the final frames when he gets home and when asked how his day was he answers 'oh you know the usual'.

There are a series of questions below to help with discussion after the short film. It will also be a good idea to have examples of local issues ready to raise. This may be inside and outside school/your setting.

Ideally people with a disability and/or their families rather than a teacher will lead these discussions.

- If more time allows looking at the marginalising of a group of people from the rest of society, how they become 'second class citizens' and the possible consequences of this can be discussed. The same issues are raised regardless of if they are female / gay / black / disabled / or from a different faith.

The film is made up of real events but these in it are acting.

For more information, clips and resources have a look at the Safety Net website –

www.arcsafety.net



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Session Outline

Watch the 'Nice Day' film through once.

a) Ask the young people how many things were wrong during the clip.

b) Ask the young people to list all the things they can remember that happened to the young man through the day.

1. Called a freak on the bus, 2. Stared at in the street, 3. Mimicked by workman following him, 4. Laughed at in the shop by staff, 5. Barmaid in the pub didn't talk to him 6. Tapped on head walking home from work.

c) Ask the young people if they think it is Ok for these things to happen.

(Many of these examples are at best of people not thinking or not knowing better - at worst they are examples of deliberately treating people differently because of what they are, what they look like. At least one of these - the name calling on a bus should be recorded as a Disability Hate Crime. The tapping on the head may well fit the remit as well. The Equalities and Human Rights Commission may wish to review the staff training given in the clothes shop if it is a national chain.)

d) Ask the young people how they would feel if people did this to them.

(We are all different we might be victims of these negative things because we look different, speak differently etc. Stress the everyday nature of the things - these happen ALL day EVERY day for many people with a learning disability.)

Watch film through again stop at each example and ask what the people should have done instead.

e) Ask the young people what THEY could do to make things better for others.

(Remember they are people with names, families, lives and feelings, Talk TO not AT, make links with disabled people in your area.)

Time should allow for people with a disability to tell their stories.



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Worksheet

Watch the 'Nice Day' film

a) How many things were wrong during the clip. _____

b) List all the things you can remember that happened to the young man through the day.

c) Is it OK for these things to happen?

d) How would you feel if people did this to you?



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Watch the film through again.

Stop at each example. What should the people have done instead?

e) What could YOU do to make things better for others?
