

No place for racism

Racial discrimination happens when someone is treated unfairly because of their race, colour, descent or national ethnic origin.



What is racist behaviour?

Racist behaviour can include physically or verbally hurting someone because they don't look or sound like you. Words can hurt as much as being hit by someone. They just don't leave physical marks.

Excluding people because of their race, culture or religion is a form of discrimination and bullying.

More information on preventing racism is available at: www.racismnoway.com.au.



Australian Government

Department of Immigration and
Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Classroom activities

- 1 Talk to your teachers about having assemblies and forums where people can learn about each others' cultural heritage. Include parents and other adults.
- 2 Organise student exchanges to share ideas about building school harmony and cultural understanding.
- 3 Organise a school assembly to promote respect and inclusion on Harmony Day. (21 March each year)
- 4 Take a personal stand. Make sure that racist attitudes stop with you – don't pass on comments, jokes or gossip about people's background, appearance, culture, language or religion.

What governments are doing

Did you know that racist behaviour is against the law in Australia?

One of these laws is the federal *Racial Discrimination Act 1975*.

All states and territories have similar laws.

An extension of this law is the *Racial Hatred Act 1995* which balances the right to communicate (free speech) with the right of people to live free of harmful language.