



## Human Rights Education Center of Utah

### Lesson Plan Description

<b>Title</b>	Bullying Prevention & Anti-Bias Education
<b>Grade Level(s)</b>	Elementary, Middle and High School Students, Grades K-12
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#### Background

The Human Rights Education Center of Utah (HREC) is a non-profit organization that provides anti-bias/character education, bullying prevention and cultural competency training to youth and their leaders. Rapidly changing demographics in Utah along with cultural resistance to addressing complex, social, religious and cultural divides in our community have become the breeding ground for intolerance and violence. These issues have a particularly dramatic effect upon our youth in school settings. HREC is addressing these issues by providing practical and hands-on human rights education in schools, faith-based organizations, after school programs, foster care organizations and to youth within the juvenile justice system.

#### Curriculum Development

HREC continually develops curriculum that helps both teachers and students be actively engaged in bias intervention and identification. No one is born with prejudice but, children learn many discriminatory behaviors by the time they attend school. Sadly, children learn biases from important adults in their lives, the media and their peers. When prejudicial behaviors such as ridicule, name-calling, bullying and social exclusion are left unchecked, there is untold damage done to a child's self-esteem. HREC addresses these very real issues by developing curriculums that teach culturally diverse perspectives, empathy awareness and bullying prevention. Using historical events, we inform and educate about issues such as personal identity, bigotry, bullying, cultural divides, community building, hate crimes, ethnicity, non-violence, gender issues and immigration. All topics are taught in relationship to prejudice and discrimination. These tailored curriculums are foundational to learning the importance of critical analysis, fair treatment of others and appropriate civic behavior.

## Trainings Goals

Curriculums are designed to provide participants new ways of understanding and responding to issues of prejudice and discrimination. All lesson plans are individually tailored to best meet the needs of the class/group size, age and experience level of participants. Curriculums are further designed to promote self-esteem and empathy development and will assist teachers in meeting the 2008-2009 Utah State Office of Education Core Curriculum Requirements for Elementary, Middle and High School Students.

## Teaching Methodologies

Curriculums employ highly interactive teaching techniques including role plays, group readings, facilitated discussions, critical examination of films and documentaries, didactic arts instruction, games, field learning, cultural exploration through music, plays and readings and analytic writing. All training encourages interactive discussion of the material and begins with a clear presentation of learning objectives. Group ground rules are established by the participants. In addition, HREC gathers written evaluations from all participants.

## Examples of Training Materials

Teaching Aid	Title	Teaching Aid	Title
<i>Theatrical Films</i>	CRASH American History X The Matthew Shepard Story The Freedom Writers Gandhi Hotel Rwanda The Great Debaters	<i>Documen- taries</i>	The Life of Emmett Till Paper Clips Forgiving Dr. Mengele Eyes on the Prize The Times of Harvey Milk Darfur, a 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Genocide The Two Towns of Jasper Texas
<i>Books</i>	The Recess Queen To Kill a Mockingbird Malcolm X , By any Means Necessary The Diary of Anne Frank The Big Bad Bully Who's in Your Family? The Yellow Star Zink the Zebra Stone Soup for the World	<i>Animated Features</i>	Bully Dance Dumbo Dinner for Two Elbow Room
		<i>Music</i>	Strange Fruit Voices of the Civil Rights Movement Don't Laugh at Me I Never Saw Another Butterfly Holocaust Requiem, Kaddish for the Children of Terezin
<i>Plays</i>	Bang! Bang! – You're Dead The Lottery	<i>Readings</i>	That's Not Okay, Untold Stories of Utah Youth
<i>Games and Simulations</i>	Rafa' Rafa' Baranga The Privilege Walk Whom Would You Least Like to Be?		

## Learning Objectives

*Participants will:*

1. Learn the causes and effects of prejudice and discrimination.
2. Develop and use critical assessment skills.
3. Learn a common vocabulary and definition of terms that are used to explain and define inequity.
4. Recognize that their choices have consequences that affect self, peers, family and community.
5. Learn to identify and address personal biases.
6. Develop skills to prevent and confront discrimination and bullying behaviors.
7. Be empowered to create and sustain environments that exemplify respect, diversity, fairness and equity.
8. Be able to describe behaviors that initiate and maintain respectful, equitable relationships.
9. Identify activities that promote the public good (e.g., respect for cultural and ethnic differences and identify community needs).

In addition to our signature curriculums, HREC has a multi-media library of books, CD's, DVD's and human rights curriculums that are made available to any educator at no charge.