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STEREOTYPES OF DIFFERENT GROUPS I

Objective: To create awareness of stereotypic attitudes held toward different groups of people.

TIME REQUIRED	About an hour
RISK LEVEL	Moderate
PARTICIPANTS NEEDED	Any number of students, plus a facilitator
PROCEDURE	<p>Please take the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select five cultural or special interest groups. 2. Prepare a chart with the five groups at the top and the list of statements along one side. An example of such a chart is provided in Exhibit 3.9. 3. Distribute the chart to students and ask them to rank order the frequency with which "most people" would apply the characteristic to the groups. The group the characteristic most applies to would be rank ordered 1, and decreasing rank would reflect decreasing frequency of application. 4. Ask the students to meet in small groups to discuss the similarities and differences in their responses. 5. Ask the students to compare their rank orderings of the characteristics by each group.
DEBRIEFING	<p>Students may resist matching any particular statement with a particular group as disregarding of within-group differences. The instructor might explain that this experience looks at stereotypes and that students do not have to personally agree with the stereotypes. Some questions for discussion include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why does stereotyping persist? 2. Is stereotyping in any way useful?

Exhibit 3.9 *Groups and Their Characteristics*

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Characteristic
					Are not at all aggressive Are conceited about appearance Are very ambitious Almost always act as leader Do not hide emotions Are very independent Are sneaky Cry easily Are very active Are very logical Are not at all competitive Have easily hurt feelings Are not at all emotional Have a very strong need for security Are easily influenced Are very objective Have difficulty making decisions Are dependent Like math and science very much Are very passive Are very direct Know the way of the world Are excitable in a minor crisis Are very adventurous Are very submissive Are hardworking Are industrious Are not comfortable about being assertive

3. Is stereotyping in any way harmful?
4. What kind of situations tend to promote the stereotyping of people?

INSIGHT Stereotypes control our thinking, with or without our permission.

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STEREOTYPES OF DIFFERENT GROUPS II

Objective: To identify where stereotypes are found and how they are reinforced and to examine how beliefs about others influence one's behavior.

TIME REQUIRED An hour

RISK LEVEL Moderate

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED Any size class or discussion group of 10 or more students, plus one instructor and four or five student volunteers as group monitors and discussion leaders

PROCEDURE Please take the following steps:

1. Ask the group to respond to the statements in Exhibit 3.10 on paper. Each response should be recorded on a separate piece of paper. Encourage group members to record their own personal opinions or statements according to what they think or to what "everyone knows" about a particular group mentioned. Collect the papers.
2. Reread the first statement. Then read its corresponding responses while the group monitors make observations (and record reactions) to the responses.

Exhibit 3.10 *Stereotype Statements*

1. Intelligent, educated, assertive American women today are _____.
2. Consistent personal characteristics of people over age 65 include _____.
3. Black people raised in the ghetto are _____.
4. Problems with Asian Americans are _____.
5. True or false: Almost everyone belonging to a minority group would agree that most middle-class White people are racist.