

# VOCABULARY

**Stereotype** = Oversimplified generalization about a group of people. When people say that all members of a specific nationality, religion, race or gender are "cheap," "lazy," "criminal" or "dumb," they are expressing stereotypes. All groups have both cheap and generous individuals who commit crimes. To label an entire group based on the actions of some is to engage in stereotyping. Even when a stereotype is positive, such as when people in one racial group are thought to be superior athletes, the consequences of stereotypes are negative.

**Prejudice** = Attitudes or opinions about a person or group simply because the person belongs to a specific religion, race, nationality, or other group. Prejudice is prejudging a person. A person who thinks "I don't want (blank) living in my neighborhood" is expressing a prejudice.

**Discrimination** = When people act on the basis of their prejudice or stereotypes they are discriminating. Discrimination may mean putting other people down, not allowing them to participate in activities, restricting their access to work or to live in certain neighborhoods, or denying them something they are entitled to be right and law.

Definitions provided by WWW.ADL.ORG (Anti-Defamation League, 2001)

## Assessing What You Have Learned

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the word that best fits each scenario.

1. Pedro is new to your class and is beginning to learn the English language. Your friend tells you that all people who don't speak English are dumb.

Stereotype

Prejudice

Discrimination

\*\*Write one sentence to show a way that you can show consideration and acceptance to Pedro.

2. Lenore tells Cynthia that she is not inviting Bettina to her birthday party because she is a fat slob.

Stereotype

Prejudice

Discrimination

\*\*Write one sentence to tell what you might say to Lenore to help her show acceptance of others.

3. Timothy says that he does not want anyone on the team who cannot throw the ball as far as him.

Stereotype

Prejudice

Discrimination

\*\*Write one sentence that you might say to Timothy that would help him learn consideration for others.

## Answer Key

1. Stereotype
2. Discrimination
3. Prejudice

Sentence answers should demonstrate that the student knows how to show care, consideration, and acceptance of others.