

Why do we talk about racism, xenophobia and intolerance?

Racism

divides the world into “races” and asserts the inferiority of some ethnic groups and the superiority of one’s own.

Xenophobia

involves hostility towards people of different national origin, culture and values.

Intolerance

is an attitude of rejection or contempt towards people, their dignity and rights, because of their different condition or opinion.



There is only one race, the human race.

We are not born racist but we learn to become so.

Racist, xenophobic and intolerant attitudes harm people’s dignity.

How do you prevent racism, xenophobia and intolerance in school?

Transforming schools into inclusive spaces of intercultural harmony with democratic values and community involvement.

Training teachers and students to respect the diversity of the human condition and the defence of human rights.

Considering diversity as an opportunity for enrichment.

How can racist, xenophobic or intolerant incidents be detected?

There are signs that should ring alarm bells at school:

The victim is late or does not come to school	The victim is being humiliated by his/her peers or by school staff.	There are fights involving students from ethnic minorities.
There is graffiti of a racist or xenophobic content or with hate symbols.	There are students with an aggressive look, wearing hate symbols or expressing antidemocratic ideologies.	

How should you deal with an incident?

When it is occurring



- Act immediately. Separate the minors.
- Be calm and respectful with everyone, including witnesses.
- Do not ignore the incident: minors cannot resolve it without the intervention of an adult.
- Activate the school’s anti-harassment or anti-violence protocols.
- If anything unlawful has happened, there are weapons or threats of hate violence, call the police.

With the victims



- Trust the student and avoid asking questions that put the blame on them.
- Clearly explain to the student and his/her family the steps to be taken.
- A protective school fellow can be of great help.

With the students



- Get them involved in the measures to be taken by the school.
- Let them know that they cannot stand on the sidelines in attacks suffered by others.

With the aggressors



- The measures should aim at taking responsibility for one’s actions, be educational and impose proportionate punishment.
- The student should know they are valued even if their actions are not.

Incidents of harassment, racism, xenophobia and intolerance have consequences

Victims may suffer the harassment aftermath throughout their lives.

This also impacts their families and the Community.

No apparent injuries does not mean they do not exist.

One single incident is enough to cause suffering in the victim.

Appropriate support can improve the consequences of trauma.

TRAINING FOR THE PREVENTION AND DETECTION OF RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED INTOLERANCE AT SCHOOL is a project led by the General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security, through the Spanish Observatory on Racism and Xenophobia (OBERAXE), in collaboration with the National Centre for Educational Innovation and Research (CNIIE) of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. It is funded by the European Commission Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity Progress 2007-2013.



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PREVENTION AND DETECTION of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance at school



The aim of the project is to improve the training and awareness of teachers and of the educational community, strengthening the positive image, inclusion and integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities.

For more information:

Support manual for the prevention and detection of racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance in schools

<http://explotacion.mtin.gob.es/oberaxe>

<http://www.mecd.gob.es/educacion-mecd/mc/convivencia-escolar/inicio.html>

