



# CLASS: VI-SOCIAL SCIENCE-CIVICS

## Chapter-2: DIVERSITY AND DISCRIMINATION

### Module-1

#### Concepts

- Difference and Prejudice
- Creating Stereotypes

# INTRODUCTION

We have learnt the meaning of diversity in the previous chapter. Sometimes, people who are 'different' from others are teased, laughed at or not included in a certain activity or group. We feel hurt, angry, helpless or sad when friends or others treat us in such ways. Have you ever wondered why this happens?

In this chapter, 'Diversity and Discrimination' we shall understand how such experiences are related to the society and how they are connected to the inequalities that exist around us.



# DIFFERENCE(DIVERSITY) AND PREJUDICE

**Diversity:** Different languages, religions, regions, rituals, customs and traditions constitute diversity. The phrase “Unity in Diversity” is used to describe the country. But there are many things that make us what we are-

- Our way of life
- Our languages
- Our food
- Our clothes
- Our games
- Our festivals

All these are influenced both by geography and history of the place where we live in.

India is a land of diversities.

What makes India diverse?

- Eight major religions of the world.
- More than 1600 languages – that are people’s mother tongues
- More than 100 dance forms

## Different dance forms



## Different religions & symbols





Yet this diversity is not always celebrated. **Why?**

Because we feel safe and secure with people who look, talk, dress and think like us. Sometimes people form certain attitudes and opinions about others who are very different from them or who are not like them.


**On Rural people:**

Village people are dirty, ignorant and superstitious.

**On Urban people:**

City people are money minded, lazy and cunning.

When our opinions about certain people are always negative then, these become **prejudices** that we carry with us,

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- **Prejudice** means to judge other people negatively or see them as inferior.
  - For example, if we think that English is the best language and other languages are not important, we are judging the other languages negatively. As a result we do not respect the people who speak languages other than English.
  - Things which we can be prejudiced about are:
    - i. Peoples religious belief
    - ii. Colour of the people skin
    - iii. Region they come from
    - iv. Accent they speak in
    - v. Clothes they wear

# Some ways of prejudice

Rural people



Urban people





# Creating Stereotypes

The process of fixing people into an image is called **stereotype**.  
When we fix people into one image, we create a stereotype.

## **Problems created by stereotypes**

They stop us from looking at each person as a unique individual.

They fit large number of people into only one pattern or type.

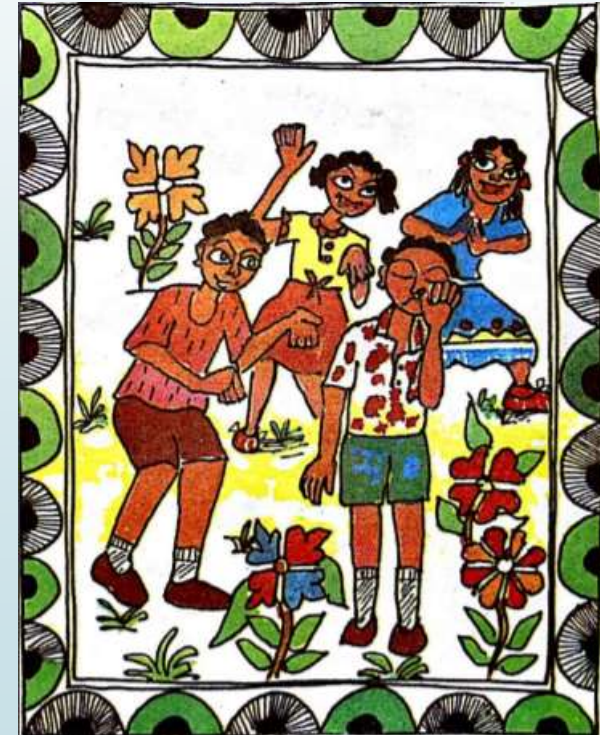
They prevent us from doing certain things we are good at.

## **Stereotype Statements about boys:**

- i. They don't cry.
- ii. They are brave

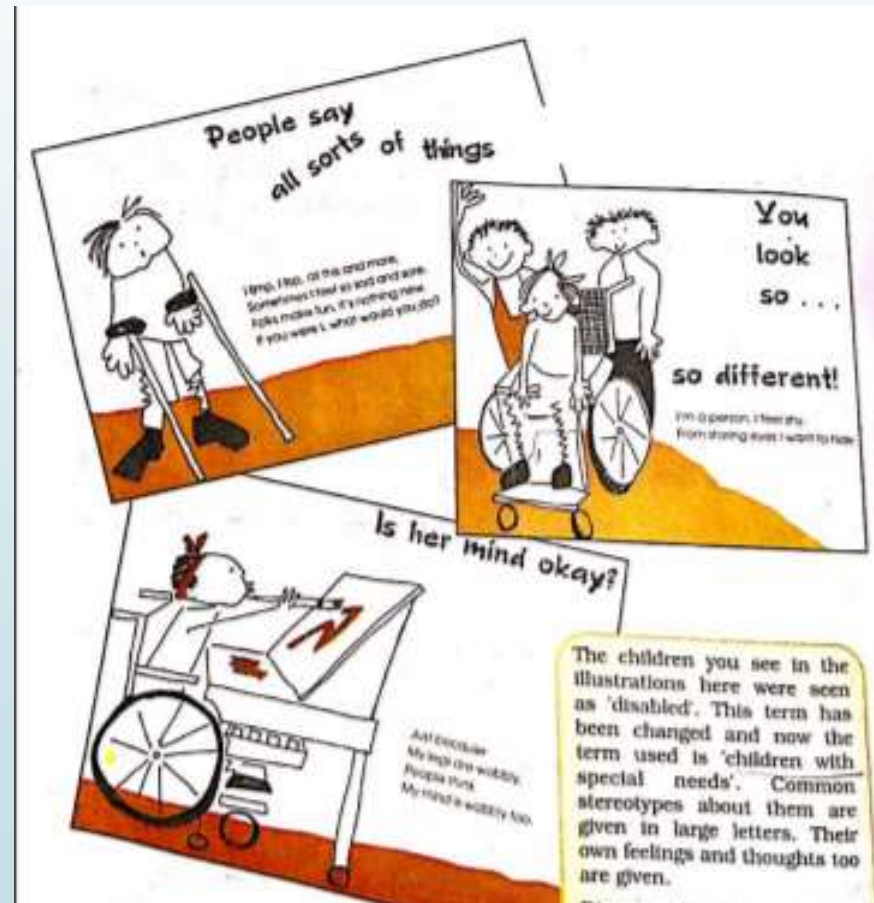
## **Stereotype Statements about girls:**

- i. They are soft spoken and gentle.
- ii. They are well behaved.





**Disabled children-** The children with disabilities are no more called “Disabled Children”. They are now called “Children with special needs”. Many stereotype statements are passed against them.



- A common stereotype about Muslims is that they are not interested in educating girls and they do not send them to school.
- Poverty is the main reason why Muslim girls don't attend the school or drop out from school after few years.





THE END