

TEACHER'S NOTES

SECTARIANISM

VIDEO VAULT

CROSS-COMMUNITY 1

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Pupils will improve their understanding of what anti-sectarianism is
- Pupils will explore some of the reasons why people are anti-sectarian
- Pupils will think about the consequences of anti-sectarian actions
- Pupils will begin to realise that these actions can have a wider impact across Northern Ireland

SUGGESTED STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES TO REINFORCE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Debate
- Workshops
- Role play
- Pupil journal
- Collages

RESOURCES:

Video clip - Cross-community 1 (1 min 36 secs) Located in Video vault, Sectarianism section.

Blank display entitled: 'Wall of hope'

White and coloured paper

Colouring pencils

Blu-tac

SUGGESTED TIMING:

 40 minutes

(depending on size, receptivity and ability of class)

LESSON SEQUENCE:

Preparation

- Explain that the Protestant Woodstock and Catholic Short Strand areas have been serious flashpoints in East Belfast (as they will see at the start of the video clip). Then tell pupils that they are going to see these communities doing something different.
- Write the following questions up on the whiteboard:
 - Where was this wall built?
 - Who were brought together to build the wall?
 - How long did it take them to do all the work?
 - What was the message they were trying to get across?
 - Is this usually the reason you see in Northern Ireland for building walls?
 - What colour would you encourage the children to paint their wall and why?

SECTARIANISM

- Students watch video clip
- Consideration of questions asked
(including help with lesson glossary if required)

Task

- Explain to pupils that they are going to look at the word Anti-sectarianism.
- Ask pupils to brainstorm the word on the whiteboard.
- Pupils should then go to the Glossary on this website to pursue a definition.
(Teacher may wish to look up the definition beforehand.)
- Ask pupils if they can see that the Hope wall in Short Strand was an example of anti-sectarianism in action.
- Explain that we are now going to try to put anti-sectarianism into action.
Pupils get into pairs and are asked to create a 'wall of hope' of their own.
- Each pairing will think of and draw out a word, a message, a symbol or a picture that they will stick onto the blank 'wall of hope' displayed in the classroom. They will be given white and coloured paper and colouring pencils for this.
(NB: The IT software could be used instead to carry out this task.)

Conclusion

Each pairing brings their presentation to the wall and sticks it on with blu-tac.

Homework

Pupils write into pupil journal their thoughts on the 'wall of hope' they created and the lesson in general. They should also think about whether there are any other anti-sectarian actions they could do or do pursue in their lives.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

- Display: organise a display on the theme of 'Anti-sectarian actions – what are we already doing and what could we be doing?'
- Links: make contact with schools / groups from the 'other' community with the aim of doing something together, eg football tournament, exhibition, a 'wall of hope', a trip somewhere, etc ...
- Guest speaker: invite a guest speaker to visit the school or their class to talk about a cross-community project/initiative. (Perhaps something the pupils could get involved in themselves.)
- Research: for suggestions of activities they could get involved in or organisations they could contact they should take a look at the Act now! section of this site.

LESSON GLOSSARY:

Community: A group of people who live in the same area, share common interests and look out for one another.

Cross-community: Contact between two divided communities. For example, events held where Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland can get to know each other better.

No go areas: These are places where it is dangerous for outsiders to go, usually because the police do not have complete control of the area. For example, in Northern Ireland it can be unsafe for Catholics to go into certain Protestant areas and vice versa, because they may be verbally abused or attacked.