

MICROAGGRESSION ACTIVITY

Version A

Instructions:

Draw a line connecting the statements in the first column (A) with all the possible interpretations from the second column (B). Each statement from Column A may connect with more than one interpretation in column B. Think critically about how a person could interpret these statements as a “put down.” Be prepared to discuss your choice

Column A Statements <i>(Intent)</i>
You throw like a girl
Just ‘Google it’ when you get home
You are so ghetto
You are a credit to your race
Everyone can succeed if they try hard enough
That is so gay
Math is hard isn’t it? (to a girl)
How long have you lived in our country?
“I believe the most qualified person should get the job.”
Being gay is just a phase
“As a woman, I know what you go through as a racial minority.”

Column B Possible Interpretations <i>(Impact)</i>
Feminine traits are undesirable
Society knows what is right and you are wrong
You don’t belong
People of color are given extra unfair benefits because of their race.
Being gay is unacceptable
Your sexual orientation is your most important characteristic
You are not man enough
If you don’t have the ‘basics’ you must be lazy
Your racial oppression is no different than my gender oppression. I’m like you.
Your culture is your most defining feature
You people are all the same
I see you as your skin color
People of your background are unintelligent
You are lazy
You are not American

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Version B

Instructions:

Draw a line connecting the statements in the first column (A) with all the possible interpretations from the second column (B). Each statement from Column A may connect with more than one interpretation in column B. Think critically about how a person could interpret these statements as a “put down.” Be prepared to discuss your choices.

Column A Statements (<i>Intent</i>)
Don't be such a sissy.
“As a Jew, I know how you feel about Slavery.”
Of course you have a bad relationship with you parents, you're gay.
You speak English very well
America is a melting pot
I don't see color
“I'm not a racist. I have several Black, Latino, Asian, Gay, etc. friends.”
Everyone knows Blacks are more likely to shoplift
In front of the class, a professor asks – “What do you Latinas think about this situation?”
That's retarded.
“You people ...”

Column B Possible Interpretations (<i>Impact</i>)
Feminine traits are undesirable
People with disabilities are less important, likeable or competent
You don't belong
Being gay is unacceptable
You sexual orientation is your most important characteristic
You're not man enough
You don't belong. You are a lesser being.
You culture is your most defining feature
People of your background are unintelligent
You look like a criminal
I only see your skin color
You are not American
I am immune to race/ethnicity because I have diverse friends.