

YouthAware Educational Theatre

OutSpoken

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Study Materials

OutSpoken is a play about voices. This program was developed to help young people examine the question, "How do we coexist peacefully with our differences?" We went directly to the voices of young people today to answer this question in researching this play, and to look at a lot of issues from many different perspectives.

Pre-Show Discussion Questions

- Has there ever been a time when you participated in discrimination or teasing against an individual or a group? Why?
- What kind of labels do teens give each other? Think of examples.
- What is a stereotype? What does it mean to stereotype an individual?
- How do you react when someone behaves outside of the expectations that you have for them and why?

Post-Show Discussion Questions

- List some of the different labels that you give your peers and that you wear yourself in school, at home, and in your community.
- Why do we feel the need to assign labels or groups to individuals and the need to find a group to be a part of ourselves?
- Do you ever find yourself wearing a mask, or being something other than yourself for the benefit of others? Why?
- What are the consequences of changing who you are to please others?
- How do you be ok with who you are even when others label you or put you down?
- Does what we see on the outside always reflect what's on the inside? Why or why not?
- *OutSpoken* is a play about voices. What were some other voices that you would have liked to see represented on stage today?

CA AB-537: The Student Safety Act

AB-537, the California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000, added actual or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity to the existing nondiscrimination policy which also prohibits harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, color, or mental or physical disability.

Resources

- More on the **Student Safety Act**: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lr/sv/>
- Teen Health Website: <http://www.cyh.com/SubDefault.aspx?p=159>
- Dealing with Peer Pressure: http://kidshealth.org/kid/feeling/emotion/peer_pressure.html
- Teen Resource Guide: <http://teenresources.student.com/wiki/>

Everyone Has a Voice. It's Time to Listen.