



YOU BE THE JUDGE!

This activity attempts to make students aware of the subtle and sometimes hidden messages concerning gender roles in our society. Students, in groups, will analyze magazines in the classroom for instances of gender bias and stereotyping. In so doing, they will exercise critical thinking skills and further refine notions of “bias” and “stereotyping.” Students will present findings to the class in poster and presentation form.

- Students, in groups, look through magazines for images, words or phrases that have “straightforward” or “hidden” meanings.
- Students will group the clips together in some kind of a thematic format and put on a poster board.
- Students will put a title on their poster-board presentation.

Students can use all words, all pictures or a mix of both.

THINGS TO LOOK AT TO FORM CONCLUSIONS:

- Are female figures shown as frequently as male figures?
- Are male figures shown as frequently as female figures?
- Identify and explain any images, words, phrases you deem to be bias or stereotypical.
- Do female and male figures engage equally and cooperatively in activities?
- Are females pictured as subservient to men?
- Do females have more of their bodies displayed than men?
- Are females and males shown in a variety of roles and occupations?
- Are both females and males given domestic concerns and responsibilities?
- Do the female figures appear to be proud and happy to be females? Why?
- Do the male figures appear to be proud and happy to be males? Why?