



The language of tolerance and respect

For your discussion in Ex. 3, here you find additional people who, based on appearances and/or their life situations, may have faced a variety of reactions in public. The phrases boxes below can help you in discussion.



Very young parents:
She's 16, he's 18



A couple with a big age difference
(24 years): President Macron of
France and his wife



A mixed-race couple with their friends

Useful phrases

Possible reactions the people may experience

- I wonder if they get lots of stares / if they hear rude / insulting comments. | I bet they get / hear ...
- I can imagine positive / friendly reactions / comments too.
- I'm sure reactions will / can be different if you're in an urban / a rural area.
- In big / major cities ..., people will / might ...
- In smaller towns / villages, people will / might ...

Useful phrases

Reasons for negative reactions

- I think some people need to insult / judge others to make themselves feel better.
- Maybe if you've had a negative experience with somebody who is ..., you might then generalise² about everyone else.
- One's cultural / family background / One's personal experiences can greatly affect how tolerant / intolerant one is.
- People are often afraid of what they aren't familiar with. Some deal with it by being negative, others choose to be positive.

Useful phrases

Phrases for your discussions

- To me, it's / it isn't normal / acceptable / nice / awful / ... to see ...
- What's normal / acceptable? Who is to judge?
- Maybe some of those people want the attention / want to be looked at.
- Looking is one thing, but staring?
- So what if the people are / aren't / have / haven't / ...? It's none of your business.³
- I think it's great / ridiculous⁴ / irresponsible / embarrassing / a double standard⁵ to do / say / have...

mixed-race couple [ˌmɪksɪd reɪs ˈkʌpl] Paar mit unterschiedlicher ethnischer Herkunft ○ **to generalise** [ˈdʒenrəlaɪz] verallgemeinern ○ **It's none of your business.** Es geht dich nichts an. ○ **ridiculous** [rɪˈdɪkjələs] lächerlich; unmöglich ○ **double standard** [ˌdʌbl ˈstændəd] Doppelmoral