Ideas for taking action

Reporting bias incidents is a reasonable way of speaking out against discriminatory actions.

In the Community

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Participate in activities that honor diversity without creating a hierarchy of oppression.

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Actively help new people in your community and organizations, including women, and people of different ethnicity, ages, socio-economic status, religions, and sexual preference, feel welcome and accepted.

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Volunteer and participate in community activities that honor diversity and for community service work where you can assist people different from yourself.

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Encourage others to get involved.

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Move beyond your comfort zone.

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Actively recruit members from all groups represented in your community for organizations, clubs, or groups in which you hold membership.

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Contribute time and/or funds to an agency, fund or program that actively confronts the problems of prejudice, bias, hate and discrimination.

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Investigate the position of political candidates and their activity against prejudice/bias/discrimination/racism/sexism and heterosexism.

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Support and attend events held in the community that support human rights issues.

Acknowledge and emphasize the fact that not everyone has to act or look the same in order to be a positive contributor to the community.

In Schools

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Object to racism, sexist or homophobic jokes and insults.

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Organize an inter-cultural music or film festival, or other activities that highlight diversity.

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Invite guests to speak on human rights and social justice.

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Show films and encourage dialogue on prejudice, stereotyping, discrimination and racism.

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Examine the contents of television, film, radio and newspapers for stereotypes.

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Identify and discuss the stereotypes and the harm they can cause.

- Suggest that your class or school develop a policy statement against all forms of bias.

In the Workplace

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Object to racist, sexist, or homophobic jokes and insults.

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Encourage dialogue on human rights and social justice.

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Encourage human rights awareness at meetings, through guest speakers, films or other presentations.

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Examine hiring and promotion practices to ensure equality of opportunity for all.

- Develop policy statements with real consequences against all forms of discrimination and define ways to make them work through cooperation and consensus.

Source: The Spokane Task Force on Race Relations