

CHAPTER – 2

DIVERSITY AND DISCRIMINATION

Q.1 Match the following statements in a way that challenges stereotypes.

a. Two surgeons were sitting down to lunch when one of them made a call on the mobile phone.	1. Suffers from chronic asthma.
b. The boy who won the drawing competition went to the dais	2. To become an astronaut which she did.
c. One of the fastest athletes in the world	3. To speak with her daughter who had just returned from school.
d. She was not that well – off but had a dream	4. On a wheelchair to collect his prize.

Answer:

a. Two surgeons were sitting down to lunch when one of them made a call on the mobile phone.	3. To speak with her daughter who had just returned from school.
b. The boy who won the drawing competition went to the dais	4. On a wheelchair to collect his prize.
c. One of the fastest athletes in the world	1. Suffers from chronic asthma.
d. She was not that well – off but had a dream	2. To become an astronaut which she did.

Q. 2 How can the stereotype that girls are a burden on their parents affect the life of a daughter? Imagine this situation and list at least five different effects that this stereotype can have on the way daughters get treated in the house.

Answer:

The stereotype that girls are a burden on their parents has an emotional impact on the life of a daughter in various ways, which also affect their day to day life resulting in shattering their **dreams and goals**. A feeling of being inferior to others may also be developed due to the **inequality** girls face in their homes.

Girls are not allowed to go to school and get a formal **education**. Their diet is also not taken care of properly and they are being forced to do household chores from a very young age. In villages, **women health and sanitation** facilities are not up to the mark. Also, the **safety** of women is also ignored in some remote places.

Q. 3 What does the Constitution say with regard to equality? Why do you think it is important for all people to be equal?

Answer:

The Constitution of India has provided **several rights** to its citizen to ensure that everybody is treated equally. All the citizens are free to pursue the religion of their choice. The constitution also provides **equal opportunities** to all the people and everyone is free to pursue government jobs. **Untouchability is an offence** and special provisions have been made to safeguard the rights of minor communities.

India is a **diverse country** and for every religion to flourish, it is required that inequality of any kind should be eradicated from the society. Equality will give equal opportunities to people of all the religious communities to express themselves.

Q. 4 Sometimes people make prejudiced comments in our presence. We are often not in a position to do anything about this because it is difficult

to say something right then and there. Divide the class into groups and each group discuss what they could do in one of the following situations:

- a. A friend begins to tease a classmate because he is poor.
- b. You are watching TV with your family and one of them makes a prejudicial comment about a particular religious' community.
- c. Children in your class refuse to share their food with a particular person because they think she is dirty.
- d. Someone tells you a joke that makes fun of a community because of their accent.
- e. Some boys make remarks about girls not being able to play games as well as them.

Discuss in class what the different groups have suggested for the above situations, and also talk about the problems that can come up when raising the issue.

Answer:

- a) Mocking someone because of their weak financial status is not a healthy thing to do. We should learn to **respect people** for who they are rather than making fun of them.
- b) India is a **multidimensional country** and is known for its religious harmony and sovereignty. This is our power and we should not hurt the sentimentalities and
- c) We all are created by the God and God has made us unique in different ways. Therefore, not sharing food with someone will hurt God also.
- d) India has a **rich diversity** and this is our beauty. People living in different regions have their specific culture, language, and accent. We

should not make fun or joke of this exclusivity and learn to adore and respect it.

e) Boys and girls have different physical attributes and everybody can't be good at everything. Some girls may not be good at sports, but they may have other talents. Some may good at painting, learning, music etc. So, we should not make remarks on them for not being good at something. Rather we should encourage them in what they are good at.