

Loaded Words



Procedure:

1. Read the rules found at the beginning of this section.
2. Write offensive words somewhere in the room where students can read them.
3. Allow the students to look around the room and have a chance to read all of the words.
4. Discuss the following questions with the students.

Example "Loaded Words"

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|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| ◇ Faggot | ◇ Retarded | ◇ Goody-Goody |
| ◇ Dyke | ◇ Butch | ◇ Skin-head |
| ◇ Nigger | ◇ WhiteTrash | ◇ Kike |
| ◇ Honky | ◇ Queer | |
| ◇ Cracker | ◇ Bible Thumper | |

Questions for Reflection:

1. How do you feel hearing and seeing these words?
2. Which of these words is the most offensive to you personally? Which is the least?
3. Why are some of these words more offensive than others?
4. Which of these words do you use? Which do your friends, co-workers, or family use?
5. Which do you hear most often?
6. Have you ever confronted someone who has used any of these words? Was it hard for you to do that? Why?
7. Do you feel comfortable confronting people who use these words? Friends? People who live on your floor? Co-workers? Family?
8. What can you do to discourage use of these words?