

# SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

## Writing

The following people were all featured in the video *THE TEEN FILES: The Truth About Hate*. Choose one of the people and write a letter explaining your feelings about the person's story. You may choose to talk about the problem the person faced or is facing, or you may want to offer words of support and encouragement.

- Elizabeth Mann, Holocaust survivor
- Carlos, black man who was paralyzed after being beaten by skinheads
- Gabby Clayton, mother of Bill Clayton, the bisexual student who was beaten and committed suicide



30 Minutes

## Meeting Individual Needs

Ask students to make sentences using the following words. Encourage them to use a dictionary if they are unsure of the meanings. Make sure that their sentences display an understanding of the words as they relate to the program.

- prejudice - a judgement that is not based on information, but relies on a hostile attitude toward a person or group
- racism - a belief that race determines a person's worth and that some races are superior to others
- white supremacy - a movement centered around the belief that white people are superior to all others
- tolerance - respect for someone whose beliefs or practices are different from one's own



20 Minutes

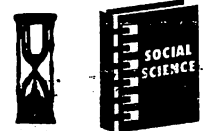
## Connection to Social Science

When the subject of different cultures and ethnic groups comes up, there is often disagreement and debate. Ask students which of the following opinions they agree with:

"Prejudice and racism can be erased when different races interact and get to know one another. Therefore, racial integration is good for society."

"People want to be with other people who are like them. That is why people of different races usually form social groups in schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. There is nothing wrong with racial segregation."

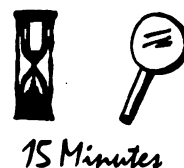
Have students who support integration defend their argument against those who support segregation. This can be done in an oral debate or in persuasive essays.



60 Minutes

## Extended Activity

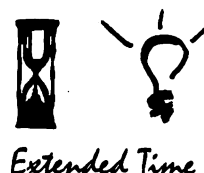
Encourage students to discuss their own role in ending prejudice and hate. What would they do if someone expressed a hateful, racist attitude? Would they confront the person, walk away, or let it pass?



How can students state their opinions in a way that does not make them look conceited or self-important? Can they really make a difference in society and the attitudes of those around them?

## Critical Thinking

In the video, Butter said, "I like to hope that one day...you could get rid of racism, you could get rid of hate. But too many people out there are just so ignorant, that if you can't get two people in a classroom to get along, how can you get the world to get along?"



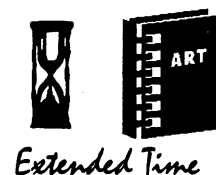
Ask students to discuss their reactions to Butter's quote. Do they agree or disagree? What can be done to help people get along?

Next, ask the class to generate a list of activities and actions that could help to end racism and hate. The list should be separated into two categories. The first category should contain small things that everyone can do, such as talking to someone at lunch who is different in some way. The second category should contain larger projects, like starting a chat group for students who have experienced discrimination or prejudice at school.

Encourage each student to try at least one thing from the first category each week. Also encourage them to work together on an idea listed in the second category.

## Connection to Art

In the past, many people have expressed their feelings about racism, prejudice and hate through artwork. Ask students to choose one of the creative projects below to explain how they feel about the subjects explored in *THE TEEN FILES: The Truth About Hate*.



- Write a poem and read it to the class
- Create a collage of magazine or newspaper images
- Write a short story and make copies for the class
- Sketch, sculpt or paint an original piece of art
- Write and perform for the class a one-person or two-person play
- Take a photograph or a series of photographs
- If you play the guitar or another instrument, write a song or piece of music