

Prejudices that fret our lives.

A **prejudice** is a prejudgment: i.e. a preconceived **belief, opinion, or judgment** made without ascertaining the facts of a case. It also means **a priori** beliefs (without knowledge of the facts) and may include "any **unreasonable attitude** that is unusually **resistant to rational influence**."

- To be prejudiced against smth – иметь предрассудки относительно ч-л
- To be prejudiced in favor of smb – иметь пристрастное отношение к к-л
- To prejudice smb against smb/smth – настраивать к-л против к-л (ч-л)
- Racial/class/gender/religious prejudice
- Be hampered by prejudice – быть с предрассудками
- To steep in prejudice – повянуть в предрассудках
- To be above prejudice/superior to prejudice – быть выше предрассудков
- To hold no prejudice/ to be void of prejudice – не иметь предрассудков
- To be (un)colored by prejudice
- To bolster/fan - способствовать
- To trigger/ arouse – спровоцировать, инициировать предрассудки
- To kick off/break down/eliminate/root out/lay aside/overcome - избавиться
- Crusted/deep-rooted/deep-seated – укоренившиеся предрассудки

Comment on the following widespread prejudices

- A husband is supposed to provide for the family while a wife is to do the housework.
- A man has to earn more than a woman otherwise he's not a man.
- Blonds are narrow-minded.
- A women drivers are real bad.
- Family and career are incompatible.
- A mother-in-law is no bargain.
- One ought to give place to "babushkas" on the bus.
- One shouldn't indulge oneself with a meal after 6 pm.

Questions for discussion

- Where, in your opinion, does prejudice originate?

- Are prejudices always reasonable?
- Have you ever suffered because of prejudice?
- What would you do if prejudice was directed against you?
- Are **prejudgments** like this always negative/unreasonable?
- What other racial, social gender, ethnicity, age, disability, political views, sexual orientation or other personal characteristics can you come up with? Which ones do you share/oppose?
- Does the notion of positive prejudice exist at all?
- Can prejudice have a harmful impact on society?
- Is there any sense in being prejudiced?
- Are there ways to kick off unreasonable attitudes in society?

Sayings

Christian Bovee said: "The great obstacle to progress is prejudice." What do you think of this?

Goldini said: "He who never leaves his country is full of prejudices." Do you agree with this?

A "rejective, neglectful, harsh, or inconsistent style of preschool training...[may be] the major factor in predisposing a child toward a lifetime of prejudice"

"However prejudice is learned, it takes root in a personality because it meets certain basic needs or cravings"

A child "may develop an avoidance for dark-skinned people" since he has been "repeatedly warned to keep clean"