

Inclusiveness Day 2 • Research

RAK Definition: Inclusiveness is including others, inviting them in, and welcoming them with open arms.

In this lesson, students will learn more about Inclusiveness through historic national policies and determine how they promoted exclusion and out-group thinking and evaluate if they have been rectified today.

Weekly Objectives

Students will:

- Understand how fairness, equality, equity, and in-group versus out-group thinking contribute to our capacity to be inclusive.
- Evaluate situations for inclusive thinking and propose more inclusive and just solutions.
- Evaluate their community through the lens of inclusiveness.

Resources / Materials

- VIDEO:** [Ethics Defined: In-group/Out-group](#) (1:28)
- Students will need access to computers or history books/materials to conduct quick research on unjust laws that promote out-group thinking.

Reflect / Assess

Deliverables:

- Daily Participation points
- Inclusiveness Journal Entry:** What role can I play now to help reduce out-group thinking (in myself, with my friends, at school, in my family)?

Share

Reporting Back: Have students share their 3-box illustrations from Day 1 if they did not share already.



Discussion Starters:

- How inclusive do you think humans are naturally? [You can use a scale rating to make it easier or more visual.]

Humans naturally group themselves (or are sometimes put into groups by circumstance, choice, etc.). We also naturally identify groups different from our groups. This is called in-group versus out-group thinking.

Inspire

Watch: [Ethics Defined: In-group/Out-group](#) or read [In-Group/Out-Group](#) (transcript).



Review:

- What are the differences between in-group and out-group thinking?
- What are typical “groups” in our culture?
- What happens when we let out-group thinking take over our perceptions or thoughts about others? Where do we see out-group thinking on display in American culture?

Empower

Unfortunately, out-group thinking has dominated how we, in the United States, treat people from a policy perspective. There have been many instances in U.S. history and U.S. law that made exclusiveness of a group legal (like [Jim Crow laws](#)). Many groups and many movements (the Civil Rights movement, Women’s suffragist movement, the Americans with Disabilities movement, LGBTQ+ groups) have had to work very hard to dispel out-group thinking and make the United States more inclusive of all its citizens.



In pairs or small groups, do a *quick study* of an unjust, exclusive law or policy that promoted (or promotes, if still standing) exclusion versus inclusion. Plan to report back to the larger group the following:

- Explain why the law or policy excludes certain groups and how.
- If it has been overturned, share what lawmakers thought was a solution.
- Evaluate if the solution goes far enough to dispel out-group thinking and promote inclusion.
- What could still be done to make this solution more inclusive?