

# IT'S ALL JUST CLICHÉ!



## Preperation

- ▶ Print out position cards and hang them on two opposite walls.
- ▶ Mark the middle between the two positions with masking tape = "as well as".

**Learning Objective:**

To recognize gender stereotypes and be able to distinguish them from reality.

**Grade Level:** 5th Grade and up

**Duration:** 20 - 30 minutes

**Method:** Thesis barometer, Optional: research on professions

**Materials:** Position cards, (copy template), masking tape



## Implementation

1. Explain the procedure of the method and point out that it is not about "right" or "wrong", but about awareness and justification of one's own position.
2. Introduce the first thesis (see second page) and ask everyone to position themselves on the barometer between "I agree" and "I disagree".
3. Ask individual students about the reason for their positioning ("Why are you standing here? What do you think about this thesis?"). As you do this, select students from the different positions.
4. Then give the opportunity to change the position if someone has been convinced by the arguments of the others. Introduce the next thesis, etc.
5. Explain the term "gender stereotype" (see supplementary materials). On this basis, discuss individual theses using the reflection questions.



### Reflection Suggestions

- ▶ Do you have different expectations of boys and girls or men and women, e.g. in terms of behavior or interests? Give reasons for your assessment.
- ▶ Do stereotypes influence what we believe about ourselves? Give reasons for your assessment.
- ▶ Do these theses apply to all boys or men or to all girls or women?
- ▶ Do these theses apply to yourselves?
- ▶ Have you ever experienced that someone has certain expectations of you because of your gender? What do you think about that?
- ▶ What can we do so that we don't judge people prematurely according to stereotypes?

Finally, formulate a statement together and visualize it in the classroom, for example:

**"Clichés are simple, but rarely true!"**



### Extensions

Research on professions: Collect clichés about professions, e.g. "computer scientists only sit at computers and have nothing to do with people". Establish a connection to real-life occupations by having students research selected occupations.

## THESES FOR THE BAROMETER

- ▶ Men are more talented in crafts than women.
- ▶ Women are better at raising children.
- ▶ Men do not have a good sense of direction.
- ▶ Women are interested in technology and fast cars.
- ▶ Women do diets and beauty treatments.
- ▶ Mothers are more important for the development of children than fathers.
- ▶ Men are professionally successful and earn a lot of money on the job.
- ▶ Women are less suitable for management and leadership positions than men.
- ▶ Men want family and children.
- ▶ Women like romantic movies and romance.
- ▶ Men clean and do the housework.

Some theses are deliberately formulated provocatively. Expand the theses and, if necessary, adapt them to suit the group.



**I agree!**  
**100%**

**I disagree!**  
**0%**