

A SCHOOL SO DIVERSE  
YET SO DIVIDED

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL  
YOUTH IN ACTION

OUR FOCUS:  
DISCRIMINATION  
AND  
PREJUDICE

OUR RESEARCH QUESTION:  
HOW DO PREJUDICE AND  
DISCRIMINATION AFFECT  
OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT  
AND WHAT STEPS CAN BE  
TAKEN TO CHANGE THESE  
EFFECTS?

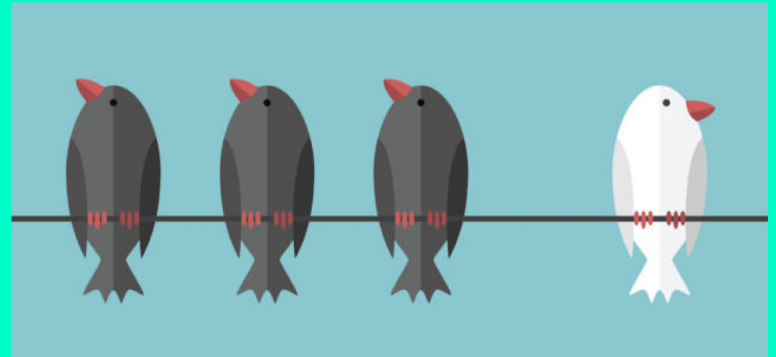
# PREJUDICE

Definition: the preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience.



# DISCRIMINATION

Definition: the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.



# HOW DOES IT AFFECT OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT?

- **It results in unfair treatment of students and teachers by limiting the opportunities of certain people and diminishes the moral of students**
- **-it could lead to tensions that could boil over into fights**
- **It affects the way people view themselves and their accomplishments**
- **The way people feel about their environments can significantly impact their academics**

# WHAT'S OUR SCHOOL LIKE?

Franklin High School consists of approximately 2,100 students with over 100 faculty members.

It is a school known for its very diverse environment with students of different races and social-economic standings. With this varying group, comes varying problems and needs.



# WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM?



Students in our school are underestimated and misrepresented because of discriminatory or prejudice-based behavior we consider to be a result of blissful ignorance.

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# WHY IT HAPPENS IN THE FIRST PLACE

DISCRIMINATION/PREJUDICE MOST LIKELY HAPPENS BECAUSE OF DIVERSITY. SADLY, DIFFERENCE IS COMMONLY SEEN AS A THREAT TO OTHERS.





# WHY IT HAPPENS IN THE FIRST PLACE

WHEN PEOPLE ARE AWARE OF ITS EXISTENCE YET CHOOSE TO DO NOTHING ABOUT IT BECAUSE...

"IT DOESN'T CONCERN ME"

"SOMEONE ELSE WILL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT"

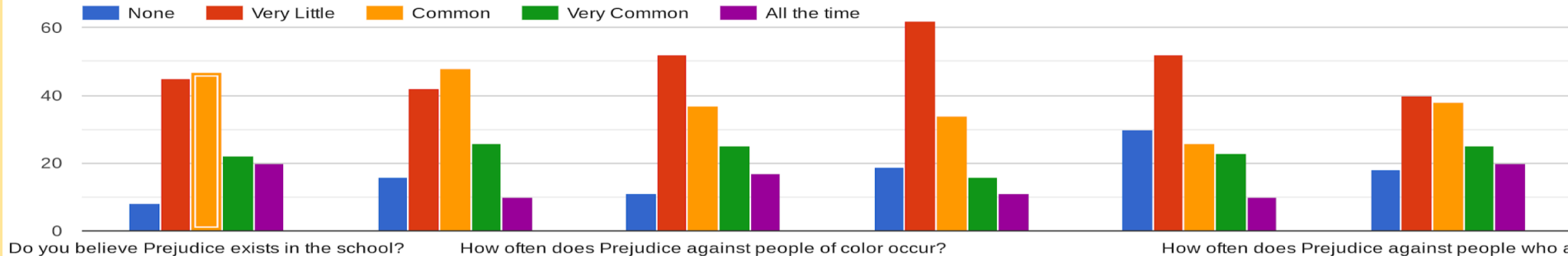
"I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO HELP"

"THEY'RE JUST JOKING. IT DOESN'T MATTER"



WE SURVEYED OVER 140 STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF FROM ALL GRADES AND BACKGROUNDS, THIS IS WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY...

### Prejudice In The School



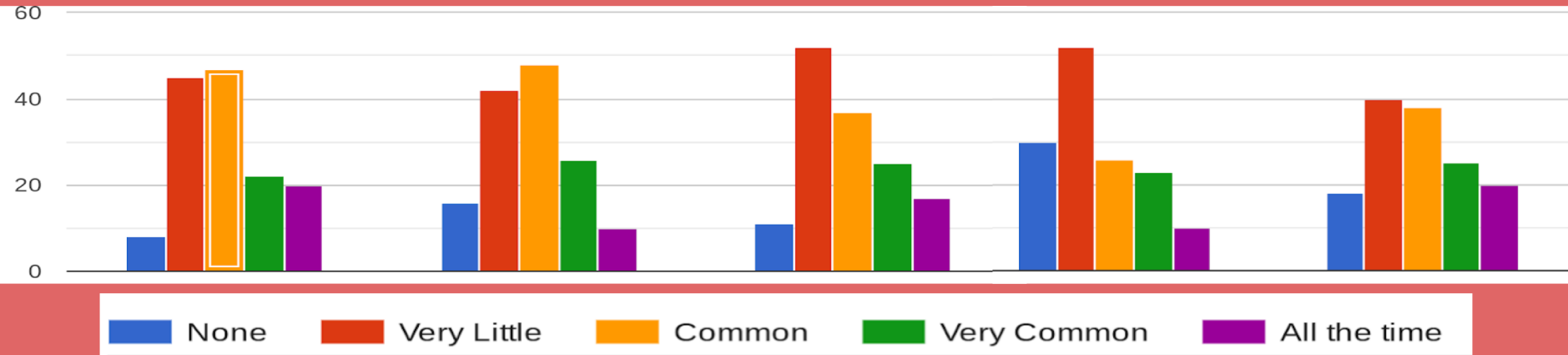
HOW OFTEN DOES  
PREJUDICE OCCUR IN THIS  
SCHOOL?

HOW OFTEN DOES  
PREJUDICE AGAINST  
GENDER OCCUR?

HOW OFTEN DOES  
PREJUDICE PEOPLE OF  
COLOR OCCUR?

HOW OFTEN DOES  
PREJUDICE PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES OCCUR?

HOW OFTEN DOES  
PREJUDICE AGAINST THE  
LGBTQ COMMUNITY OCCUR?

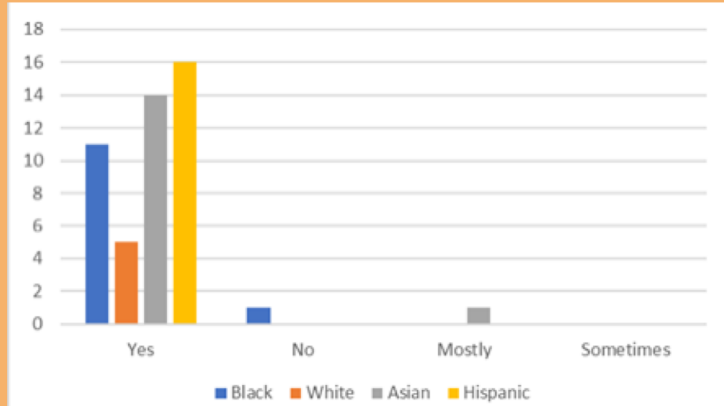


WHY WAS THIS SO CONCERNING?...

WE CREATED SEVERAL DIFFERENT QUESTIONS ABOUT PREJUDICE AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO ADDRESS IT IN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL. WE INTERVIEWED SOME STUDENTS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ABOUT IT AND WE GOT SOME INTERESTING ANSWERS...

# ARE YOU AWARE OF WHAT YOU ARE SAYING TO PEOPLE?

Here's what the students in Franklin High School said:

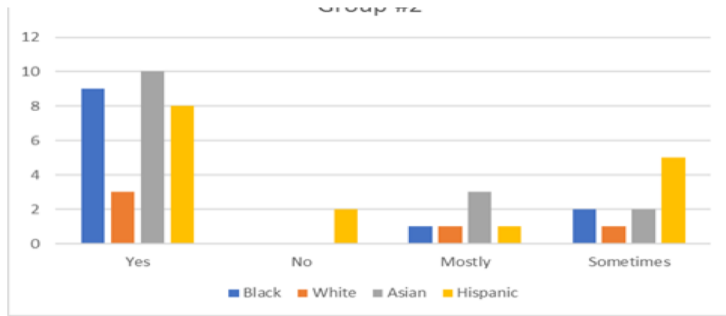


	Black	White	Asian	Hispanic
Yes	11	5	14	16
No	1	0	0	0
Mostly	0	0	1	0
Sometimes	0	0	0	0

We concluded that all the students that we interviewed for this question said yes that they were aware of what they were saying to people.

# DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE HURTING SOMEONE WITH YOUR WORDS/ACTIONS?

Here's what the students in Franklin High School said:



	Black	White	Asian	Hispanic
Yes	9	3	10	8
No	0	0	0	2
Mostly	1	1	3	1
Sometimes	2	1	2	5

We noticed that predominantly Asian and Black students were the most mindful of the negative impact of their words and actions. In contrast, White students were the least aware of the negative impact of their words and actions on the feelings of others. The only group that had some participants unaware of any negative impact based on their respective words and actions were Hispanics. Overall all the groups had low numbers to classify as sometimes or mostly. So there is a definite position, on this topic for the most part.

# STUDENT EXPERIENCES OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION :

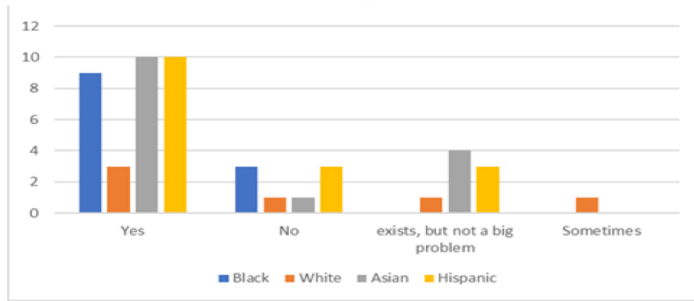
-“In my Honors classes, I’m the only Hispanic and the teaches treat me differently because I’m Hispanic. One teacher will tell me I can have an extra day to finish an assignment.”

-“People outside of my race call me a hick.”

-“I am treated as inferior because of race, age, disability...”

“Personally, in the LGBTQ+ community, I have seen people call other people slurs for doing simple things (mostly other people judging their friends or classmates).”

# DO YOU THINK PREJUDICE EXISTS IN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL?



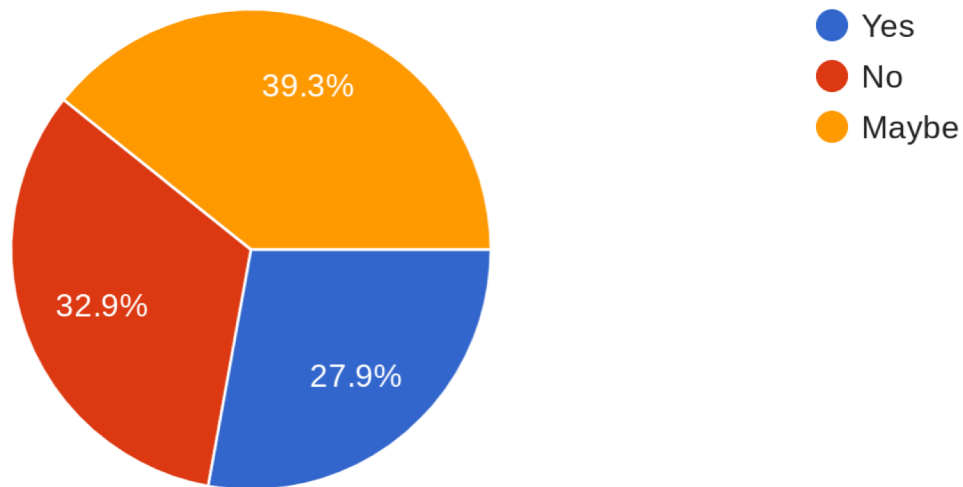
Group #3 - Do you think prejudice exists at FHS				
	Black	White	Asian	Hispanic
Yes	9	3	10	10
No	3	1	1	3
exists, but not a big problem	0	1	4	3
Sometimes	0	1	0	0

Out of a sample of 49 racially diverse students, the majority feel that prejudice does exist at Franklin High School. Half of the remaining students feel that prejudice does exist, but is not big enough of a problem to be addressed. The other half of the remaining students feel that prejudice does not exist at the school.



# Does FHS advocate enough against prejudice and discrimination?

140 responses



# INTERVIEW ANALYSIS

We interviewed a group of teachers and administrators within Franklin, all of them have very differing opinions on the existence and how to handle discrimination here.


Some teachers believe that racism and sexism aren't issues, while others recognise the prevalence of the problem in our school environment.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT  
THERE ARE EXISTING  
PREJUDICES IN OUR  
SCHOOL  
ENVIRONMENT?

Definitely, I think there are a lot of different prejudices some that probably don't show up in school and that people just think and don't act and other ones that do definitely get acted on in school

WHICH ISSUE OF  
PREJUDICE DO YOU SEE  
AS MOST PRESSING IN  
FRANKLIN HIGH  
SCHOOL? PLEASE  
EXPLAIN YOUR  
REASONING.

Teachers judging students by their ethnicity. From my perspective as a teacher, I can only say this, because I am not put in the milieu and perspective of a student.



SO DO YOU THINK THAT THERE IS A WAY TO  
REDUCE THE PREJUDICES THAT EXIST IN  
SOCIETY AND CAN ANY OF THESE BE APPLIED  
IN A HIGH SCHOOL SETTING?

So the only way that I have ever seen people overcome prejudice is by being exposed to the people that they have prejudices about... within our school community that means mixing up classes so that classes aren't so segregated and I feel like we have a lot of that.. I think you have to mix that up and I think like the school administration and staff probably have to be exposed to different groups of kids too cause it's not just kids who have stereotypes a lot of it is adults too because they don't interact with certain groups of students.



# INTERVIEW ANALYSIS

Some teachers think that we need to promote acceptance and empathy through an open dialogue. Through this, they hypothesize, racial discrimination and sexism will become less prevalent in our school.



WHAT WE CAN DO TO  
ADDRESS IT WHILE IT'S  
ALREADY HAPPENING



# WHAT WE CAN DO

-Raise awareness through programs, assemblies, posters, and clubs. We need to show that discrimination and prejudice do in fact exist.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” (Nelson Mandela)

-Educate faculty and students on differing cultures so that we teach others to accept and appreciate our differences.

-Band together factors that make us victims of discrimination and prejudice to remind others that they are not alone and that through unity we may fight against the hatred



# WHAT WE CAN DO AS A SCHOOL

- Do you think that there is a way to reduce the prejudices that exist in society and can any of these be applied in a high school setting?

To keep and bring cultural awareness to our society. In our school, we should sponsor cultural awareness activities and events and it should join the curriculum.



ONE WAY FHS IS ABLE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE IS THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND TELEVISION.

THROUGH FRANKLIN'S 'WANT TV', A SHOW BROADCASTED DURING MORNING CLASSES AND YOUTUBE STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO ADVOCATE FOR CULTURAL APPRECIATION AND RAISE AWARENESS AGAINST RACISM

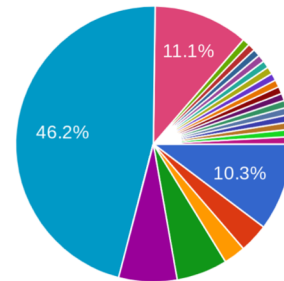
DON'T BE A  
BYSTANDER!

SPEAK UP AND STAND UP.  
IT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

JUST BE THERE FOR SOMEONE WHO EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION  
AND PREJUDICE- THE WORST THING YOU COULD POSSIBLY DO, IS  
LEAVE SOMEONE TO FACE IT ALONE

### Who did you go to about it?

117 responses



- kept it to myself
- i dont care
- I rather deal things by myself when they are not that significant.
- nobody
- it didn't really bother me
- Handle it by myself and knowing lif...
- I really didn't care



"WHAT MAKES "THE UGLIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD" FEEL BEAUTIFUL "

"THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF COMMENTS ON THIS VIDEO AND I JUST SAT THERE AND SCROLLED THROUGH EVERY SINGLE ONE. I READ EVERY SINGLE ONE BECAUSE I WAS SO DESPERATE TO FIND ONE PERSON THAT WAS WILLING TO STAND UP FOR ME, AND I NEVER FOUND IT"

IT ONLY TAKES ONE PERSON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
TO HELP REDUCE THE DISCRIMINATION AND PREJUDICE

WE AIM TO BE THAT DIFFERENCE IN OUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

"IN THE END WE  
REMEMBER NOT THE WORDS  
OF OUR ENEMIES, BUT THE  
SILENCE OF OUR FRIENDS."

-MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.