



## Perception and Empathy (2) Being Picked On

<b>LEVEL</b>	Intermediate to Advanced
<b>AIMS (Aspect of Pestalozzi)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To encourage learning that takes place using real or realistic situations and which involves concrete experience</li><li>To develop students' perceptiveness and understanding, and empathy for others</li></ul>
<b>FURTHER AIMS</b>	To improve students' acting skills
<b>MATERIALS NEEDED</b>	Any props that may be available

*(NB: This Teaching Idea should only be used with students who are confident and who know each other well.)*

The students brainstorm situations where there would be an individual in authority (for example a shopkeeper, a policeman, a doctor, a teacher or a parent).

The students are divided into three groups (A, B and C). The teacher speaks privately to all in Group A, telling them, when in role, to be very kind and generous to a Group B student and very unkind and mean to a Group C student. *(NB: The Group A students must not explain to the students from groups B and Cs that they have been told to behave in this way.)*

The students are now divided into groups of three, each group containing an A, a B and a C student. The teacher explains that all from Group A should choose to be an individual in a position of authority and all from Groups B and C should be characters needing things / help from whichever figure of authority their A student has chosen to be.

The students do a 5-minute role-play, with A students remembering to treat B students well and C students badly. Several groups are chosen to act their scenes in front of everyone else. *(NB: Students should go straight into their roles, not planning dialogue or script in advance),*

The teacher asks C students how they felt and then B students how they felt. This leads into a discussion about unfair treatment and discrimination.

**According to Pestalozzi, perception is inner understanding of morality and truth – the powers of the heart, which include empathy. He wanted education to help ensure that people are able to empathise with others and treat others fairly. Pestalozzi was concerned about inequality and struggled constantly for equal rights for people who are discriminated against.**