

I AM A PERSON  
WHO WILL

INTERRUPT

ECHO

TOLERANCE.ORG  
**SPEAK UP AT SCHOOL**  
RESPOND TO EVERYDAY STEREOTYPES AND BIAS

QUESTION

EDUCATE



TEACHING TOLERANCE  
A PROJECT OF THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER  
TOLERANCE.ORG

**SPEAK UP**  
AGAINST BIAS

EDUCATE

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A TEACHING TOLERANCE POCKET GUIDE

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**TRY SAYING**  
“THANKS FOR SPEAKING UP, ALLISON. I AGREE THAT WORD IS OFFENSIVE AND WE SHOULDN'T USE IT.”

If someone else speaks up against hate, thank her and reiterate her anti-bias message. One person's voice is a powerful start. Many voices together create change.

## ECHO

**TRY SAYING**  
“DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF THAT WORD?”

Explain why a term or phrase is offensive. Encourage the person to choose a different expression. Hate isn't behind all hateful speech. Sometimes ignorance is at work, or lack of exposure to a diverse population.

## EDUCATE

**TRY ASKING**  
“WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?” WHAT DO YOU MEAN?” OR “TELL ME MORE.”

Ask simple questions in response to hateful remarks to find out why the speaker made the offensive comment and how you can best address the situation.

## QUESTION

**TRY SAYING**  
“DON'T LIKE WORDS LIKE THAT.” OR “THAT PHRASE IS HURTFUL.”

Speak up against every biased remark—every time, in the moment, without exception. Think about what you'll say ahead of time so you're prepared to act instantly.

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