

A Class Divided (*Frontline*)

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/class-divided/>

1. a) Was Jane Elliott's experiment ethical? Explain why and/or why not. _____

b) Do you think the same experiment could be done today? If so, what would have to be done differently, if anything? What would the reaction be today?

2. What was learned as a result of this experiment? (discuss the original findings/reactions to the results, as well as what you found out/found interesting)

3. What were the most memorable, interesting, or powerful scenes for you? Why did those stand out?

4. Did any part of the film surprise you? Do you think someone of a different race, ethnicity, or religion than you would also find it more or less surprising?

5. Both Elliott and her former students talk about whether or not this exercise should be done with all children. What do you think? If the exercise could be harmful to children, as Elliott suggests, what do you think actual discrimination might do?

6. It's easy to understand why third-graders might not refuse to obey their teacher, but when the exercise is done with the prison guards, why don't any of the adults object?
