

## The Role of the Media: Part of the Problem or Solution?

**Lesson Plan: Civics 10; Law 11; Media Studies 11;  
Introduction to Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology  
11; Challenge and Change in Society 12**

**Key themes:** Racism and Canadian Society

**Estimated Time:** 45 minutes

### Lesson Steps

- Discuss Pre-Viewing Question with students
- Hand out the Worksheet for students to fill in while watching the clips
- View the clips of Carol Tator and both Jonathon Kay clips (total running time 8:00 minutes)
- Have students indicate the extent to which they agree or disagree with the speaker along a continuum
- Provide students with time to discuss the argument they most agree with in small groups.
- In class, or as a homework assignment, ask students to reflect on their personal experiences by completing the worksheet

### Pre-Viewing Discussion Questions

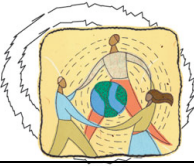
- 1) How might the media contribute to the problem of hatred and hate crime?
- 2) How could the media serve to help with the problem? How could the justice system help with the problem?

### Post-Viewing Activity

Have students place themselves along a line where one end represents those who strongly agree with Jonathon Kay that Canadian society is improving and is less racist, and the other end of the line represents those who strongly disagree.

### Activity

- 1) Have students contrast the opinions of Carol Tator and Jonathon Kay about the impact of racism in society. For each speaker, identify three main points, using the attached Worksheet.



## Combating Hatred in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



- 2) Ask students to identify the one argument that they most agree with, from either speaker, and prepare a half page explanation about how this argument relates to their personal experiences.
- 3) Have students select a legal case that relates to one or more of the arguments. Ask students to explain the case, how the justice system responded, and how it can be used as a tool to combat hatred.

### Related OJEN Resources ([www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca))

**Justice and the Media Resource** (120 page resource of classroom activities on the relationship between the media and the justice system. Available at no cost at [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca))

