

TED Talk

THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY

By Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Discussion Guide

INSTRUCTIONS: Watch the TED Talk “The danger of a single story” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie(available at www.womenofcolorintheworkplace.com). Use the questions below for a group discussion based on the expert talk. The moderator or a volunteer from the group could jot down key points and ideas following each question.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What are your thoughts about what you just watched?
2. How does society play a part in sanctioning single stories?
3. If you were to point to different geographical locations on a map, would you already have a description for the people who live there and/or their way of life? Where did this description come from?
4. Can you think of a time when you were mischaracterized based on someone else's preconceived ideas about your age, gender, culture or race?
5. Have you ever judged someone or something based on a misconception about their age, religion, race or culture?
6. Based on the following labels, how would you describe (not define) the persona associated with each category? Feminist, Intelligent, Poor, Wealthy and Powerful. Where did the description come from?
7. How does “Danger of a Single Story” relate to the challenges women of color face?

Moving forward:

What's some key takeaways?