



Exercise: Stereotypical thinking and everyday language

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Analysis of proverbs and sayings:

Below you will find some examples of well known and widely used Polish proverbs. They are in a way a part of our cultural heritage – although a shameful one.

Do you know such proverbs as:

As backwards as Negroes a hundred years ago

As dark as inside a Negro's butt.

As useless as blind man's eyes.

No woman, no problem.

When the devil is at his wits' end, he sends a woman

Behave like a man

Don't act like a sissy

A woman with balls

Etc.

Now answer the questions:

- What is a relation of these proverbs with racism, sexism, ableism? How do they present Africans, visually impaired people, women?
- Can you give examples of other Polish proverbs rated among shameful tradition of inequality towards a certain social group (what kind of a group might it be)?

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