

# Understanding Representations

## Aims

You should understand that the media tend to use simplified images of people as a short cut in drama. These images are known as stereotypes.

Sometimes they can be flattering and positive. Sometimes they can be deeply insulting.

Some people may even believe the stereotypes without knowing that they do.

## Activity

Work through the REPRESENTATION AND STEREOTYPE sheet with your teacher.

Write this up neatly for your folder.

Look at programmes on television and see if you can recognise stereotypes.

## Summary questions

What are the most common stereotypes of people who are:

- From an ethnic minority?
- Older or younger?
- Male or female?
- Richer or poorer?

## Development work

Suggest a plan for a programme which goes against common stereotypes.

## Assessment work and planning

Use this plan as a guide to your own work when you plan and organise a drama for television.