

# I Shine 4 Me

*We Shine Together*

## Members



**Kanako Kitano**



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## About us

We work under the team name "I shine 4 me." We are taking actions against racism to reach the 10th goal of the SDGs, "Reduced Inequalities," and are especially working on the topic of racism. We started this project because some of us have experienced racism before, and there are many students who lived in a foreign country before. Our aim is to spread information and awareness about racism. More than 300 people have been involved in this project, from surveys to interviews to workshops. Also, one person who was in the 12th grade last year deeply helped our activity. He did a project similar to ours for his capstone project, so we collaborated with him and did some interviews and meetings together.



This is our group logo. The hands with colors of race represent our theme well, and the colorful hands make the logo more eye-catching.

## What we learned

- Communication skills
- Presentation skills
  - How to make effective slides and presentations
- How to do a survey
  - How to do an interview
  - How to design flyers and slides
  - Writing skills
  - How to make a schedule and act according to that
  - How to switch to English from Japanese quickly
  - How to organize workshops
  - Teamwork
  - How to gather people

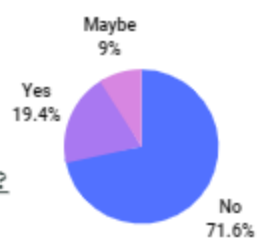
## Black Lives Matter Movement

Have you heard of BLM? An innocent man, named George Floyd, was handcuffed on the ground by a police officer. He couldn't breathe and was seeking help to live. After people heard about this, people including celebrities started to protest about the problem saying "Black Lives Matter" and "I Can't Breathe". From these massive movements, we all know that the whole world was against racism.



## Survey

To know if students and teachers in our school have ever experienced racism, we did a survey. We presented our project to several classes, and also sent it to a variety of classes. We got 67 results from teachers and students.



### Q1. Have you ever experienced racism before?

This is the result. We realized that students who lived in a foreign country have experienced racism more than students who have not.

### Q2. What are your experiences?

Some people experienced racism as a "foreigner." For example, when some school students of an elementary school went on a field trip to a Japanese traditional museum, an Indian teacher wasn't able to get into the museum because of her nationality. There were experiences relating to war, too. A student used to live in New York City, and there was a kid who called him "Pearl Harbor." We hope that people won't judge others by rude assumptions.

## People

100+ Survey #1  
67+ Survey #2  
5+ Interview  
35+ Workshop  
25+ Survey #3

## Hours

450+ Hours

**Our workshop was on the school news paper!**



## Interview

We decided to interview teachers too. Every teacher agreed that Japan has more xenophobia than actual racism. From the interview, we realized that racism is still present, even if it is small things. Sadly, we found discrimination in our school. At our school festival, a teacher told an African student to tie her curly hair because it would be a bad influence for the school. She felt that her identity was violated.

Q "What do you think would help the current situation of racism?"

For example, one said interacting with people in different cultures or nations would help this situation. Another person said that as a teacher, he thinks education could help solve it. For example, making young people more sensitive and mannered, or teaching racism to students. Also, he pointed out that usually in movies, African or Middle Eastern people are the bad guys. These movies can affect children's thoughts, leading to future racism. Changing these movies would definitely help.



## Workshop



We held a workshop on April 19th after school. Holding a workshop was an amazing way to spread information and experience about racism to people in our school. More than 30 people came, and we discovered that many people were interested in racism, and were supporting us. For the activities, we put together all the information, and made a presentation. The presentation included some quizzes for the participants to enjoy. We also did a group discussion and talked about what they thought would help the situation of racism. Through this, we got some new ideas such as making cultural days or educational websites. After the presentation, we made time to

create keychains of our logo to remind the participants about this workshop. It seemed like many people enjoyed it. However, having just one workshop is not enough; we could do more workshops in or outside our school. In order to improve next time, we did a survey, and many people gave us feedback such as compliments and improvements.

To spread awareness about racism outside our school, we made an Instagram account. We post pictures of our meetings, flyers, workshops, and the research on racism history.

 @weshinetogether\_tokyo



Our Keychain



13000 EME  
GSL  
Workshop  
We Shine Together

Hello!  
We are the GSL team 2022!  
We are doing a project about racism around the world.  
We are holding a workshop, so come and join us!

2022/4/10 Tue  
4:30~5:30  
@Play Labo

INFORMATION

Welcome!	Activity	Instagram
Receive our logo	Make a presentation using our logo	We have an Instagram account to spread our message!

If you have any questions, please ask Ms. Fukuda in the ESL office, or Kanako, Maria, Hiroko and Tomoko in Grade 8 class 1 and 2.  
Instagram: @weshinetogether\_tokyo

## Conclusion

Once we finished researching and interviewing we noticed that we now know so much about racism but we do not really know how to react once we witness racism. When racism occurs in front of you, it is important to step into the situation and provide help. However, acting out would not always be possible. If you feel too scared, you could just tell people what happened. After all, having some courage would change the lives of people who are being discriminated against.

This activity deeply helped us to grow as a person, by teaching us the importance of courage and kindness. We will continue our activities as "I shine 4 me," and keep on working hard to make a better society.

I shine 4 me; who do you shine for?