

Just because...

An autobiography poem about
identity, empowerment and empathy

Stereotyping

A STEREOTYPE is a popular idea about a group of people. This poem should be **personal** and **fight against** stereotypes you may have encountered personally or have seen. It could have to do with gender, race, height, background or anything else. Try to challenge the false ideas people might have about you.



STEREOTYPES

walkwithjunotumb

Task 1 Personal Traits/ Characteristics

Complete this activity on Google Classroom

[My Personal Traits/ Characteristics](#)

Inspirations and Examples

EXPLORE TŪHURA



Just because... template

Just because template

http://room413.weebly.com/uploads/2/9/1/5/2915753/just_because_poem.pdf

JUST BECAUSE!

Just because I am from Africa...

- Doesn't mean I'm from the bush
- Doesn't mean I'm primitive
- Doesn't mean I'm uneducated

I am an educated & progressive woman!



Just because I am an African woman...

- Doesn't mean I'm poor & helpless
- Doesn't mean I'm always dependent on others
- Doesn't mean I'm not capable of taking charge

I am a talented self-reliant woman!



Just because I love my African culture...

- Doesn't mean I am uncivilized
- Doesn't mean I have to be ashamed
- Doesn't mean I must be silent

I am the proud voice of my ancestors!



Just because I am a humble African woman

- Doesn't mean I am a pushover
- Doesn't mean I don't know my rights
- Doesn't mean I cannot speak up

I am an assertive African Woman of wisdom!



FatimaWahab (2014)

Examples

HAYAT
★ Just because I am... Muslim

- Doesn't mean I hate America
- Doesn't mean I am a terrorist
- Doesn't mean I'm not a feminist

Quiet

Doesn't mean my voice won't be heard 📣

Doesn't mean I'm not a dreamer

Doesn't mean I can't change the world 🌍

★ I am a silent Muslim-American Leader ★

Just because I'm **short**

Doesn't mean I can't reach the chocolate chip cookies on the top shelf

Doesn't mean my greatest wish in the world is to be tall

Doesn't mean I can't play basketball and win

Just because I play **video games**

Doesn't mean that I can be described as violent and a future terrorist

Doesn't mean I don't have a social life

Doesn't mean that my career choices are limited to gaming

Just because I'm **Asian**

Doesn't mean my parents must own a gas station

Doesn't mean I don't struggle with math and science

Doesn't mean I can't speak English just as well as you

JUST BECAUSE...

Just because I'm an only child

I'm not a freak

I'm not shy

I'm not unhappy

Just because I'm an only child

I'm not lonely

I'm not selfish

I'm not spoiled

Just because I'm an only child

I know I'm not perfect

I can't always be the best friend

I'm not a nerd

Just because I'm an only child - let me be me.

---Liz Webster

Just because I'm Indian,

Doesn't mean I work at seven-eleven,
Doesn't mean I have an accent,
And doesn't mean I wear a dot on my forehead.

Just because I'm Indian,
Doesn't mean I'm poor,
Doesn't mean there are cows roaming down my street,
And beggars in front of my door.

Just because I'm Indian,
Doesn't mean I'm unsanitary,
Doesn't mean I'm anorexic,
And looking for a cure.

Just because I'm Indian,
Why should anyone care?
What is the difference?
What is life without variety?
Just because I'm Indian.

Just because I'm a computer nerd

Doesn't mean I am humorous
Doesn't mean I eat, breathe and sleep video games

And doesn't mean I wear glasses.
Just because I am on the honor roll
Doesn't mean that I'm a goody goody and

Doesn't mean that I don't like to hang out

And I feel the stress like everyone else.

Just because I care about what other people think
Doesn't mean I decide my actions based on that

Doesn't mean I don't have confidence
And certainly shouldn't be held against me

Just because I am nice to my parents
Why should people think I'm not normal?
Who says a teenager has to be troubled?
When do I get to be me?

I am a teen unexpected.

**STEREOTYPES DO
EXIST, BUT WE HAVE
TO WALK THROUGH
THEM.**

QUOTEHD.COM

Forest Whitaker
American Actor

Forest Steven Whitaker is an American actor, producer, and director. He is also an advocate of Sustainable Development Goals appointed by Secretary-general of the United Nations