

EUPHEMISMS

Insensitive Words & Phrases	Possible Alternatives / Euphemisms
Acting like wild Indians	Out of control
AIDS sufferer	A person living with AIDS
Bitchy or "PMSing"	Assertive
Black sheep	Outcast
Black/nigger/negro/coloured/Afro-American	African American
Blackboard	Chalkboard, board
Blacklisted	Banned
Blind	Visually challenged
Bums	Homeless people
Businessman	Business person, executive
Chairman	Chairperson, chair
Deaf	People with hearing impairments
Decrepit/senile/aged/ old/elderly	Chronologically gifted/older person/senior citizen/seniors
Die	Pass away, pushing daisies
Emotional cripple	Difficult to express somebody's emotions
Fat	Overweight/Person of size/Differently sized person/Individual with an eating disorder/full-figured
Fireman	Firefighter
Flip chart	Easel (Flip is a derogatory word referring to Filipinos)
Gifted children	Advanced learners
Guys (when referring to a mixed group)	Friends; folks; group
Half-breed	Multi-ethnic
Handicapped	People with special needs; people who are physically/mentally challenged; people with disabilities
He	He/she, s/he, everybody
His	His/her, their
Indians	Native Americans/'First Nations' people
Insane/idiot/crazy/mad	Mentally challenged or ill
Invalid/the handicapped/cripple	Disabled/people with disabilities/physically disabled or challenged/differently abled

Jew down	Negotiate
Job seeker's allowance	Unemployment benefit
Jungle	Rainforest
Manhole	Utility hole
Mankind	Humankind
Man-made	Artificial
Manning the project	Staffing the project
Mentally retarded	Developmentally challenged
Minority groups	People of colour/Emergent groups/Traditionally underrepresented groups
No culture (when referring to parts of the U.S. where the opera and the theater are scarce or nonexistent)	Lacking European culture
Old people	Seniors; "Chronologically Advantaged"
Oriental (when referring to people)	Asian (using the specific nationality, i.e. Korean is even better, when possible)
Oriental/Asiatic	Asian (Pacific Islander, Chinese American, Korean, Indian)
Pet	Companion animal
Policeman	Police officer
Policemen/postman	Police officer/mail carrier
Poor	Lower income bracket
Prostitute	Sex worker
Race	Ethnicity or nationality (There is only one race-human)
Retarded	Developmentally challenged
Salesman /woman	Sales person
Steward /stewardess	Flight attendant
Swamp	Wet land
The little woman; the wife	Your wife; his wife
Ugly	Esthetically challenged
Uneducated (when referring to adults)	Lacking a formal education
Wheel-chair bound	A person who uses a wheel-chair
White lie	Lie (Calling it white does not make it okay)