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Portraying the Other

By Bettina Korte

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 28 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1, 7, Bielefeld University (English Department), course: Meeting the Other, language: English, abstract: Without Alterity or Diversity life would be a boring monotony. To experience new facets of life or society we need help. Stereotypes are helpful. They give us the possibility to organize our world. Everything is put into its place, neat and tidy. As long as they are an instrument which builds only the base for further recognition and evaluation of human beings they are useful. When they become our only source of getting acquainted with other human beings, when they are fixed and immobile, stereotypes become a destructive force. A stereotype is a generalization about a person or group of persons. We develop stereotypes when we are unable or unwilling to obtain all of the information we would need to make fair judgments about people or situations. In the absence of the total picture, stereotypes in many cases allow us to fill in the blanks. Our society often innocently creates and perpetuates stereotypes, but these stereotypes...


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