



TEACHERS OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES, INC.

TESOL is an international professional organization whose mission is to strengthen the effective teaching and learning of English around the world while respecting individuals' language rights.

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A TESOL STATEMENT

on

NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH AND HIRING PRACTICES

"Whereas TESOL is an international association concerned with the teaching of English to speakers of other languages and comprised of professionals who are both native and non-native speakers of English, and

Whereas employment decisions in this profession which are based solely upon the criterion that an individual is or is not a native speaker of English discriminate against well-qualified individuals, especially when they are made in the absence of any defensible criteria, and

Whereas such decisions, not based on sound criteria, must ipso facto be in contradiction to sound linguistic research and pedagogical practice,

Therefore be it resolved that the Executive Board and the Officers of TESOL shall make every effort to expunge from all publications of TESOL and its affiliated bodies all language supporting such discrimination, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Executive Board and the Officers of TESOL shall make every effort to prevent such discrimination in the employment support structures operated by TESOL and its own practices, and

Therefore be it further resolved that the Executive Board of TESOL shall instruct the committee on Professional Standards (and such other TESOL bodies as the Board sees fit to involve) to work towards the creation and publication of minimal language proficiency standards that may be applied equally to all ESOL teachers without reference to the nativeness of their English.

This resolution is moved by the Sociopolitical Concerns Committee, having been drafted by the Employment Issues Sub-Committee and endorsed by the committee of the whole.

The Sociopolitical Concerns Committee urges that, should this resolution be duly passed, the Executive Board establish a deadline by which the actions herein mandated are to be accomplished."

October 1991