Discrimination - Programme notes for Everton, 22nd April 2018

Prejudice and discrimination rear their ugly heads on a frequent basis in sport and particularly in football. It is an environment which is historically well known for it’s homophobic, racist and sexist attitudes. ‘Kick it out’ is the name for the Football Association’s campaign to stamp out all forms of discrimination amongst the football community. It aims to educate people in the benefits of equality and inclusion and challenge any acts of discrimination.

Discrimination is defined as “the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age or sex”. All of us at some time in our lives will have looked down on someone else for who they are or what they have done. Many of us have also been on the receiving end of hurtful comments and unkind behaviour. In the past followers of Jesus have been pioneers in the campaign against racism, imitating their leader’s non-judgemental attitude to people of all races, professions and social class. Jesus’ attitude towards women went totally against the male dominated society of his day.

I would love our club to be a place where the above is unusual and where we are brave enough to stand up for what is right. Let’s get behind our players today and encourage a repeat of that fantastic performance against Man City. C’mon Urzzz!