

## BEING DIFFERENT IS BEING UNPOPULAR

There is not a compromise in today's world; people either follow society's norms or they are either eccentric, different. The question is, whether this means they are unpopular.

In small social groups, such as a class or family/relatives, being different could be dangerous because chances of an adherent are small. You stand out rather quick and can easily be banished. That is why we have to look on the subject on a larger scale, outside those small societies. There is a bunch of subcultures today, where »different« can find their adherents and share their thoughts with them. This will not change the fact, that inside the mentioned small social groups, you will be rejected. Furthermore you can be rejected and treated as unpopular by the majority of population – this is probably inevitable, but there is surely a group of people that shares same interests like you do. And in that, sometimes very narrow circle of people you are not treated as different-unpopular, but rather popular.

On the other hand, being different is just the thing that can assure you popularity. We have a lot of examples in popular culture: many stars are popular because they are different, because they are doing deviant things – they appear in newspapers for it and consequently they are popular. And it is the same thing in private life. We can get interested in someone just because he is different and he caught our attention. Different people are sure more talked about, but it could be positive or negative.

My personal opinion is that being different surely comes with some popularity that can either be a blessing or a curse.