POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

1.- DEFINITION: Political correctness(adjectivally, **politically correct**; both forms commonly abbreviated to **PC**) is a term denoting language, ideas, policies, and behaviour seen as seeking to minimize social offense in gender, racial, cultural, sexual orientation, handicap, and age-related contexts.

2.- ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN EUPHEMISM AND POLITICAL CORRECTNESS?

A).- A euphemism is communicating something in a different way in order to avoid for example upsetting someone e.g. rather than saying someone "died" you might say someone "passed away". "Passed away" is a euphemism, it is not a term which would be discussed in a debate on political correctness.

It is politically correct to say both "die" and "pass away", the latter is merely the euphemism- softening the term.

B) Political correctness means to decide upon which term to use for things/ people. For example, it is politically correct to say "black" but not "coloured". This does not mean that "black" is a euphemism. It is not. It does not soften the proper term)

"Politically correct is established protocol whereas euphemism is also a place to creatively soften the blow for the listener"

"Political correctness--political and otherwise--covers not only fact and grammar, but sensitivity to race, sex, religion, age, ability and alternate lifestyles. And although it seems to have started as a largely American phenomenon, it seems to be spreading rapidly around the world"

PC LEXICON

Some examples that have gone mainstream :

OLD TERM	PC TERM	OLD TERM	PC TERM
Chairman	Chairperson	Old	chronologically gifted
Fireman	Firefighter	Dumb	cerebrally challenged
Hairdresser	Hairstylist	Fart	human ozone depletor
Secretary,	Assistant	Incorrect	alternative answer
handicapped	Physically challenged	Insane	reality challenged
Burglary	Home invasion	Lazy	motivationally dispossessed
Anti-abortion	Pro-life	Poor	economically marginalized
Blind	Visually challenged	Sex	cooperative physical fitness
Deaf	Hearing impaired	Ugly:	under-attractive
Negro	African American	Unemployed	non-waged
Indian	Native American	perverted	sexually dysfunctional
dishonest	ethically disoriented	homeless	residentially flexible
fat	horizontally challenged	blind	visually challenged
Old	chronologically gifted	Redneck	rustically inclined