**Chapter 8 Confronting a Legacy of White Domination in America**

**Racism-involves the creation of racial categories of human beings with one group superior to others**

**-it is very obvious to realize how easy it is for young children in America to learn to be racist and they have learned some of these lessons from their culture**

**I.Cultural racism**

**Cultural racism-practice of recognizing activities and contributions of one racial group in preferences to others within a multiracial society**

**Ethnocentric group-group that imposes its culture on others**

**A.How is racism taught to children and youth in our schools?**

**-too many schools do not discuss issues of race, and all too often, they misrepresent the role of race in the history of the United States and in contemporary American Life**

**-some schools celebrate African American accomplishments by identifying the first black person to achieve a goal but are not told why that person was the first as information would have to be given as to opportunities have been denied**

**-cultural racism is also evident when indigenous people are overlooked when studying who “settled this country”**

**-Thanksgiving was not about pilgrims and Native Americans sharing a meal but rather a holiday that President Lincoln created during the Civil War to foster patriotism**

**B. How does society reinforce the cultural racism taught in school?**

**-rightness of whiteness-is a concept meaning that children learn to regard being white as normal and to make negative judgments of those who deviate from white norms**

**-white privilege-refers to choices and behaviors white people take for granted that colored people cannot such as**

**1.ease of renting or purchasing houses**

**2.pleasent neighbors in most neighborhoods**

**3.shopping being left alone**

**4.told that civilization development and national heritage belong to my culture**

**5.children get good education and materials**

**6.skin color won’t work against me when doing banking**

**7.person in charge will be my skin color**

**8.won’t be pulled over by cops because of skin color**

**-being white can mean being paid a higher salary**

**II.Indivisual racism**

**Individual racism-includes both racial prejudice and racist behavior**

**Racial behavior-occurs when someone responds to his or her racial prejudices by saying or doing something degrading or harmful toward a person or group**

**A.What denial rationalizations justify individual racism?**

**-after 1954 Brown v Board of Education said segregation in schools illegal, by 1960s desegregation plans were being implemented but by 1980, Supreme Court decisions backed away from the desegregation mandate which only really succeeded in integrating students of color into urban schools and few white students attend these schools**

**-white flight-white families moved from urban areas in massive migration to segregate suburbs**

**-some people believe no longer need for affirmative action plans because many voters believe that all people are competing on equal terms with objectives and unbiased criteria for scholarships, admission into college, and employment**

**-families of color often live in racially segregated neighborhoods and send their kids to segregated schools that are often deteriorating facilities**

**-racially segregated neighborhoods are and schools are NOT economically equal**

**-middle and upper middle class white students will likely to attend schools with excellent facilities and programs because of generous funding resources**

**-all students take the same standardized tests to qualify for admissions to colleges, technical schools, and training programs**

**-another denial rationalization white people use to justify their opposition to affirmative action is to deny that racism exists**

**B.What victim-blaming rationalizations justify individual racism?**

**-high percentage of comments from white people that appear to blame black people and regard them as deficient**

**C.What avoidance rationalizations justify individual racism?**

**-avoidance rationalizations propose partial or false solutions or are intended to distract attention from racism as a cause of some problem**

**-common avoidance is that the 1964 Civil Rights Act and other plans actually have given significant progress toward the goal of eliminating racial prejudice and discrimination so many white people have opposed a variety of programs intended to assist people of color from recreational basketball to bilingual education**

**-black children are 3.5 times more likely to be part of a family living in poverty than are white children**

**“As long as you keep a person down, some part of you has to down there to hold him down, so it means you cannot soar as you otherwise might” Marian Anderson**

**-when white Americans acknowledge problems of Americans of color, they often express no sense of responsibility**

**III.Insituional Racism**

**-institutional racism-established laws, customs, and practices that systematically reflect and produce racial inequities in American society**

**-Institutional racism-can be intentional when it is a result of a prejudiced person making a conscious decision about a person or group based on their race**

**A.How is institutional racism reflected in statistics on employment?**

**-disproportionate numbers of people of color work in low-paying, low-status jobs and people of color tend to have significantly higher unemployment rates compared to whites**

**-despite affirmative action programs, studies say that there is a disparity between unemployment rates for people of color compared to whites**

**B.How does institutional racism influence hiring decisions?**

**-word of mouth hiring-if job seekers have relative or friends already working for the company to recommend them, those job seekers have a better chance of being hired but the disadvantage is that white Americans have not tended to become friends of people of color so there is a smaller word of mouth hiring available to people of color**

**-joining labor unions also a way to secure employment, however, unions typically accept new members based primarily on recommendations of current members**

**-discrimination occurs with new company location as the suburbanization of industry especially with retail companies favor white suburbs as they tend to be more affluent than urban areas and offer other incentives**

**C.How has intuitional racism influenced the development of segregated neighborhoods?**

**-neighborhoods in the U.S. continue to reveal a pattern of racial segregation**

**-steering-real estate agencies keep files of homes for sale in white neighborhoods separate form those for sale in areas of predominantly families of color**

**-zoning ordinances may exclude multifamily dwellings**

**-prices range for purchasing or renting may be kept high enough to keep a small cliental**

**D.How does institutional racism occur in school?**

**-American schools are more segregated than ever!**

**-most curriculums do not address issues concerning people of color**

**-tracking-grouping students into categories by ability and assigning them to specific ability-related classes-BAD**

**-many children whose first language is not English are inappropriately placed in remedial classes**

**-tracking provides minimal value for accelerated learners and it harms students tracked at the lower levels**

**E.How does institutional racism affect politics?**

**-people of color are underrepresented!**

**-at large candidates-involves members of city councils or school boards being elected by the entire city instead of wards or sections…therefore the majority will get most of their candidates elected**

**F.What are some consequences of racial discrimination?**

**“Washing ones’ hands of the conflict between the powerful and powerless means to side with the powerful, not to be neutral. “ Paul Freire**

**G.What remedies have been proposed to address institutional racism?**

**1.A national agency should be created that has regional offices to coordinate anti-discrimination activities across the nation**

**2.There must be a national and statewide commitment to stop the deterioration of inner cities in America**

**3.There must be active monitoring of real estate practices pertaining to advertising and marketing**

**4.A commitment must be made to improve public elementary, middle, and high schools serving low-income students**

**5.Teachers must be taught how to work effectively with diverse student populations**