

Legacy of Racism in the Development of U.S

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The constitution United States has developed for over 200 years. The developments are contributed by various parties in the history of the U.S. In this paper, we are looking at how racism led to the development of the U.S. The belief that groups of humans possess different behavioral traits corresponding to physical appearance and the assumption that one race is superior to the other is known as racism. The division in racism led to a struggle among the black, brown, and white people in the U.S, bringing about changes and the development of the constitution.

Initially, the constitution of the United States protected the white people and their wealth. The rights of the white people were also well protected, with the white people given the mandate to vote. The constitution offered citizenship only to the white, leaving the black as the minor and the oppressed state. Racism was also seen in the places of work, where people of color were discriminated against in terms of share per work and remuneration. Today the constitution has developed, giving voting rights to both the black and the white. The black can enjoy the rights and privileges of a citizen in the U.S. In the places of work, black people are seen in an equal position of power as the white. Also, in the political arena, people of color emerge and take a position, for example, President Obama (Perry, 2018).

Despite the changes in the constitution and development of people of color, discrimination in terms of race still exists. During Obama's presidency, most people of color were deported to their native countries. The struggle for change in the American constitution is to make America great. The greatness in America only exists because of the people who are willing to fight for social justice. Howard Zinn is one of the great people who see potential in America and fights for social justice through his writing. Achievement of social justice is like

education, everybody is an expert in their ways, and therefore everybody should be allowed to contribute. Through dialogue, people become critical of their life and hence have a deeper understanding of their life. Understanding your daily life helps you to develop positively towards greatness. Having total freedom is also another way of achieving social justice. Freedom is only achieved if everybody is free. Instances of racism hinder us from achieving total freedom since they bring dehumanization and oppression. Historically oppression is justified since people of color were treated less human and treated as second-class human beings. Therefore, to achieve freedom without oppressing any side, the liberation of all the parties should occur. With freedom, social justice is achieved hence a great America.

The constitution is a document that should give us equal rights and bring equality among us. But the reality, the constitution has kept people of color mainly at the margins of the society, centrally to the economy but socially excluded. Therefore the inequality we face today originates from the history of the United States and, in particular, the constitution. The first main reason for the American constitution was to protect private property. Due to this reason, the wealthy people were privileged and favored by the constitution hence oppressing the other group. The people of color, who mainly were the laborers, were oppressed by being paid less despite the hard work.

The genocide in America was the purpose of oppressing people. The struggle of the people of America to achieve the American dream was brought by joining together and fighting together against oppression. The fight against oppression led to the development of a capitalist America. The development occurred as a result primitive accumulation of wealth. Since people had no wealth, they accumulated this wealth by stealing from others. The idea of capitalist in America led to oppression of the people of color. Zinn uses his writing to voice the grievances of

the oppressed people. They used a name like a savage to oppress others. When they use such names, they viewed the people as less human, and hence easy for them to dehumanize them.

Similarly, the slaves were regarded as blacks, which expressed them as less human, making it easy to oppress them. The white people used race to dehumanize and oppress the black people. In the United States, the race is explicitly used to justify slavery. From the above discussion, it is clear that the history of the constitution of the United States giving power to some people by giving land and labor for their lands. They used dehumanization discourses to take the land and enslave the people of color. John Smith states clearly that the white was too lazy and did not want to work on the lands. The American document was just a document written to protect the cultural system that existed before, the social culture and the haves' hierarchy and the have-nots. The have-nots were the minority in the society, and they lived in fear; hence they wanted a constitution that will protect them and help them continue with their agriculture (Thompson, 2017).

In 1942 work shortage was declared in Mexico, and many people moved to the U.S to work as braceros. The conditions for working were deplorable, with the Mexican working for long hours, no food to eat, and poor remuneration. Despite the large amount of income America earned from farming, the government continued to steal from the braceros. The terms of contract were never fulfilled. Many braceros left their homes hoping to work and provide for their families. Situations turned opposite since the white people were determined to take advantage of the situation and oppress the braceros. The braceros were treated like animals through registration, where they lived, and the working condition. They would work for almost 12 hours a day. According to their contract, if one died in the line of duty, his family would be compensated with \$1000. It was not the case as many died, and their family never received any

compensation. The rights and privileges of braceros were stripped from them by the whites. Even after the emergence of unions, the working conditions never changed. The bracero program was abolished in 1964, but the working condition remained the same despite agriculture becoming the best industry in California. In the present day, the Mexicans are used by the white people for cheap labor.

The constitution of the United States was structured in a way that as many people will achieve actual democracy as possible. War emerged as the wealthy class tried to protect their wealth. The constitution does not represent everybody. For example, the white are allowed to carry loaded guns, but the blacks are hunted for weapons. Voting rights were only granted to people with a certain amount of wealth. Therefore the constitution only protected the wealthy class. The poor white people and the middle-class white people were excluded. Over history, people have struggled to fight for their rights, today children are not allowed to work in the factories, and women are granted equal rights as men. As a concept, democracy is widely spread, but it is not achieved as a practice. For example, in sentencing, black people are mostly sentenced for more extended periods than whites for the same crimes. This shows that the rights and privileges of the people are not equally represented. Expansion of the land, which was beneficial to the wealthy class, was the primary motive for the revolution. The constitution was used to create a legal structure for wealth. Therefore, the United States' founding fathers did not look for balance, and they tried to maintain the status quo n.

In summary, racism originated in the early U.S to ensure the black people were maintained as slaves. The wealthy class oppressed the lower class people. The constitution was structured to protect private property. Before the foundation of the constitution, there existed a system of social culture that constitution was made to support. The constitution did not apply

equally to everybody; the rights and privileges of the middle and the lower class were ignored.

The lower class was regarded as less human and subjected to dehumanization, hence being oppressed. The fight for social justice was embraced to achieve democracy. America is not great but has a high potential of becoming great because of the people willing to bring change. Despite the changes in the constitution to reduce racism, it remains a factor in today's society. For example, Gorge's incident indicated that racism still exists in our current society.

References

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