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Chapter 6 Reaction

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Chapter six focuses on explaining stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and racism (Mio et al., 2019). More focus has been on recognizing the diverse communities and the way individuals live in society and their differences. I agree that the four terms mentioned in chapter six are used interchangeably by individuals in society. However, they all have some distinction in essence used. Stangor (2016) accompanied the definition of stereotypes in the same way as the chapter has presented and defined it as a distorted simplification of individuals. Nevertheless, the same source adds that stereotypes can be differentiated based on many things such as gender, race and sexual orientation.

Prejudice has been considered very serious in the present society. However, Fiske (2016) agreed with the definition of discrimination being the beliefs and attitudes of a person toward a particular group. However, the same source added that prejudice is not developed by experience but emerges separately from real experiences. Racism is taken as a form of bias because it makes individuals believe that racial groups are somehow better or lesser than others. Similarly, discrimination is not new because it has existed for many years now in the United States. Although prejudice is developed by thinking, discrimination is based on activities done against some group of individuals. According to Fiske (2016), discrimination can be practiced in a different field, for instance, religion, law, age and health. For example, discrimination can be done by limiting a specific group of individuals from working in higher job positions or are informed to live in unfair housing conditions.

Moreover, racism has different categories. However, categorization of race and ethnicity is essential and has five different types. The first category is the white comprising all individuals with an origin in North, Middle and East Africa and Europe. Another class is Black or African

American, which includes individuals with a background of a Black racial group in Africa, and Asians are people with origins from the Indian subcontinent and the Far East and Southeast Asia. Finally, are the American Indian and Native Hawaiian. Nevertheless, individuals that have been allowed to present the self-identity-based race are more than one race during the census event.

Stereotypes can either be negative or positive. An example of a positive stereotype is the notion that women less complain and feel physical pain. The negative stereotype is that individuals in the leading group say that the minor group is lazy. These stereotypes can develop differently among individuals. Children can grow by feeding on and understanding the different stereotypes in society, which will determine their beliefs. The negative stereotypes understood by children will have a tremendous effect on their lives and interacting with individuals from other races and ethnicity. Thus, stereotype threat has a significant impact on the minority population because it makes them aware of what other people think of them hence working less to their potentials. Fiske (2016) noted that stereotype threats include the risks of accepting the stereotypes concerning a person's race or ethnic group. This may make individuals believe they are less human than they are told and allow it to conquer their lives.

Last but not least, racism can occur in different ways in which some may not recognize. For example, overt racism is that which is not socially acceptable and includes violence and hate. On the other hand, covert racism is practiced without people noticing and it is socially acceptable. For example, all lives matter and revisiting history. White privilege is also substantial in society because it includes the advantage that safeguards white individuals against discrimination. For instance, it is rare to find a white parent thinking about their children bullied in school because of their hair texture.

References

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