COPEN ACCESS Global Journal of Research in Humanities & Cultural Studies Volume 01| Issue 03 | Nov-Dec | 2021

Journal homepage: https://gjrpublication.com/journals/

**Original Research Article** 

# Socializing against Racism

\*Prof. Dr. Samah Khaled Zahran

Personality and Social Psychologist Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

\*Corresponding Author: Prof. Dr. Samah Khaled Zahran

**Received Date:** 17.12.2021 | **Published Date:** 28.12.2021

#### Abstract

This is a very brief article, not an experimental paper; through a deductive methodology represents racism subject; its definition, its nature, the psychological background behind racism, then how it develops, and how should we educate/socialize to avoid raising racism character.

Keywords: Racism definition. Psychology of racism. Racism development, how to act against it

Copyright © 2021 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0) which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and replica in any medium for non-commercial use provided the initial author and supply area unit attributable.

## **Racism Concept and related concepts**

Racism is any attitude, action that subordinates a person or a group because of h/her race, color, ethnicity. Racism is a systematic mistreatment experienced by people.<sup>[5]</sup>

Race is a social contrast that artificially divides people into distinct groups based on characteristics as physical appearance, ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation and history, ethnic classification, social economic political needs at a given period.<sup>[5]</sup>

Ethnicity is a social construct which divides people into smaller social groups based on shared sense of group membership, values, behavioral patterns, languages, political and economic interests, and history and geography base, while ethnocentrism is the attending to view other cultures as alien and/or inferior.<sup>[5]</sup>

Thus, racism may be a degradation associated with the materiality of domination employed by the planet system within the zone of non-being. Racism may be a world hierarchy of superiority and inferiority on the road of the human that politically, culturally and economically produced for centuries.<sup>[2]</sup>

Related to racism concept are discrimination, prejudice and stereotypes.

Discrimination is that the act, apply or instance of proscribing one thing unconditionally instead of

individually or separately or singly by one on Associate in Nursing individual basis} as a result of the according to or respectful treatment of the person of associate degree "alien" race or faith.<sup>[5]</sup>

Therefore, discrimination refers to unjustifiable negative behavior towards a group or its members.<sup>[3]</sup>

While, prejudice is favorable or unfavorable opinion or feeling a few person or a gaggle fashioned while not information, or thought or reason.<sup>[5]</sup>

Finally, stereotypes are beliefs about the personal attributes of a group of people, and can be over-generalized, inaccurate, and resistant to change in the presence of new information.<sup>[3]</sup>

Hereby, we may conclude, from all above that racism is the applying of discrimination, prejudice and stereotypes, with all its thoughts and emotions that unconsciously developed in one's personality through the development process. Discrimination, prejudice and stereotypes translated in to racism causing racial behavior; to believe in race as the most effective factor of superior or inferior. Means to act in discriminated and prejudice manner, with unconscious emotions about such discriminated ones as stereotypes.

#### The psychological background behind racism

Varity is common phenomenon in nature and human society, but sometimes this Varity develop to racial differences. The key factor of holding racial perception; character is how to perceive and judge such

24



differences/varieties. Racial characters have an in-group bias; perceive themselves and groups they are belonging to as superior, while others as inferior. Racism is more than prejudice and stereotypes, racism applying discrimination by a hierarchy of superiority/inferiority along the human line. Racial personality perceives others; out-group as subhuman or nonhuman; below the line of human.<sup>[2]</sup>

Such adopted perception translated into negative dominate actions; each actions towards out-group members and judgments/decisions concerning them. These actions become bit by bit automatic and unconscious, embrace verbal and non-verbal.<sup>[3]</sup>

In-group members' bias means also that such racism personality motivated to protect their self-esteem and achieve a positive and distinct social identity; they tend to overestimate in-group, and underestimate outgroup.<sup>[3]</sup>

Psychologists have also helped the world's understanding of how human brains shapes and process bias; FMRI has allowed neuroscientists to pinpoint critical regions in the brain responsible for this bias, as facial perception; there is a tendency to remember faces of in-group better than those of other race. Such affect unconsciously by holding systems of oppression. <sup>[1]</sup>

Racism behaviors as examples are: ignoring another presence, not making eye contact with them, excluding members of out-group from getting certain opportunities, supporting institutional racism, voting for anti-immigration political parties.<sup>[3]</sup>

To control racism in society and diminish it, communities have to apply equal opportunities, avoid unequal social systems to extend oneself/ego justification, and one's cluster/ group justification.<sup>[3]</sup>

Racism and discrimination increase stereotype threat, anxiety and depression symptoms at the individual and community level, as; poor health, medical records of chronic diseases.<sup>[3]</sup>

### Socialization against Racism: Racism and education; how to work against forming racism

Researchers observed that kids in very early agefrom three to five years- learn hypocritical about differences and expressing strongly race-related values by the age of four. The prejudice of their society affect not- nice on their feelings, self-concept and self-esteem. Many families are not aware about unconsciously racial development/identity. The ideology assumes that if adults do not talk with children about racial differences, children will grow up to be non- prejudiced adults.<sup>[4]</sup>

Raising children to adopt superior/inferior in-group bias and attitude robbed them from opportunities of emotional and intellectual growth, so that they cannot holding any sympathy, or accepting humanity, this personality outcome will unconsciously feel fear and reject differences among human beings, and build a confused self-identity; seeing oneself solely as a superior individual and develop negative attitudes toward out-group members consciously and unconsciously.<sup>[4]</sup>

To raise children to be anti-racist; parents, teachers and others have to be silent about acknowledging differences, not stress on one's group to avoid produce children who feel positive about their group. Adults must first clear themselves to distinct between racism and racial identity; we do not deny differences, but do not raise inferior or superior value labels placed upon them. Children must learn to sort and interact with these differences without making positive and/or negative attitudes toward them, without making stereotype information and prejudice toward other groups.<sup>[4]</sup>

Children in early childhood are excellent observer to physical characteristics, then cultural ones. The concept of race is a social concept, adults must not stress on physical characteristics as color, gender, tall, etc. to form positive or negative identity toward oneself and others'; to make it clear for kids that this is larger family relationships and characteristics.<sup>[4]</sup>

Children in middle age, if adopted racial behavior, will behave against others with intention to hurt, with deep pride in their identity. Children in this age become increasingly peer oriented, while stereotyping put racism in their immediate world, and deprived them from such peer relationships, whereas different victim ones can expertise unfairness, which is able to appear/reflect in their sense of right and wrong and behavior.<sup>[4]</sup>

Children in late childhood; pre-adolescences, have deep understating to racial/cultural identity, understanding their historical and geographical identity, adopting the concepts and attitudes of their ancestors, which may develop racist/ anti-racist thinking and behavior, up to the raising manner of previous years.<sup>[4]</sup>

# **CONCLUSION**

Finally, to conclude, while Varity/which appears as individual differences are natural aspect in nature, racism is a social artificial one, representing human dominance up on others, unfairly. To socialize against racism, we've to extend all actions against racism; behave for decreasing its existence, performing on each major and minor level is needed. Major level on community systems, institutions, cultures, and educators' daily modeling attitudes and behaviors, all are required and important, for all groups and individual in all ages, minor level on shaping personality perception and developing all its characteristics. Racism aspects may appear in gender, color, religion, economic, educational status, and many others, all are differences, if we want to develop, educate and socialize children to become anti-racist, we have to face one's own feelings, knowledge and behavior related to such differences, and to increase sharing each-other experiences, emotions, accepting each-other, and working in harmony together consciously and unconsciously.

## REFERENCES

- Andoh, E. (2021). Psychology's urgent need to Dismantle Racism. APA Monitor on psychology, April/May 2021, Pp. 38-45.
- 2. Grosfoguel, R. (2016). What is racism?. Journal of World-Systems Research, 22(1), 9-15.
- Ramiah, A. and others. (2021). Chapter5: The social psychology of discrimination. Pp. 84-105. Ec.europa.eu. Last visit, Feb.2021.
- Derman-Sparks, L., Higa, C. T., & Sparks, B. (1980). Children, race and racism: How race awareness develops. *Interracial Books for Children Bulletin*, 11(3/4), 3-15.
- www.actforaction.org: 2006: Tri-Country Domestic & Sexual Violence Intervention Network Anti-Oppression Training for Trainers. Pp. 1-20. Last visit, Feb. 2021.

CITATION: Prof. Dr. Samah Khaled Zahran.(2021). Socializing against Racism. Global Journal of Research in Humanities & Cultural Studies, 1(3), 24-26.