

DIVERSE VOICES

PRODUCED BY THE IUP COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STANDING COMMITTEE

RACISM 101

December
2020

Did You Know?

76% of Asian Americans and 58% of Hispanic Americans say that they've experienced discrimination based on their race or ethnicity.

81% of Black Americans who have attended college say that they've experienced racism, compared to just 59% of Black Americans who have not attended college.

About Race:

Race has no scientific or genetic basis. While physical traits, commonly skin color and hair texture, are often emphasized in racial classification, those traits do not follow racial lines. Despite the lack of biological distinction, race emerged with European colonialism. Racial classification has been used to justify exploitation, oppression, discrimination, and structural racism. Persisting racism can look like: overt oppression, physical subjugation, dispossession or displacement, decreased access to health care, economic and educational discrimination, histories of segregation, and material deprivation.

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Know your terminology:

Race – Historical classification based on biological features like skin color.

Ethnic Group – Individuals who share common language, heritage, religion, geography, etc.

Culture – Social practices, values, and behaviors of a group.

Racism – prejudice against someone because of their race in the context of a belief in the inherent superiority and inferiority of different racial groups.

Racial Inequity – When two or more racial groups do not stand on (approximately) equal footing.

Discrimination – The unequal treatment of members of various groups based on race, gender, social class, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion and other categories.

Oppression – Systematic domination of a social group by a more powerful social group for the social, economic, and political benefit of the more powerful group.