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**Race and Ethnic Relations [SOC 31] QUIZ**  
Bronx Community College, CUNY  
Prof. Remi Alapo  
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**1. What is ethnocentrism and why is it important in relations with the dominant culture and minority groups?**

**Answer:** Ethnocentrism is the belief that one's own culture is more inferior to everyone else's. It's important because dominant groups of people, such as white people believed that they were better than black people. Thus, enslaving us for hundreds of years. Minorities throughout history has always gotten the shorter end of the stick due to ethnocentrism.

**2. Give an example of social distance or ethnocentrism from your own experiences and or observations with family, friends, or neighbors on campus, in your communities or at work.**

**Answer:** Picture this scenario: Two teenagers are talking about the upcoming school dance. One mentions a desire to ask a certain person to be his date. The other quickly says, "Don't bother; she's out of your league!" Is it true that some people are 'out of reach' to others? Social distance refers to the level of acceptance people have of others outside of their own social group or class. You'll often see this when people are dating or in social gatherings.

**3. How does a race differ from an ethnic group and what is the difference between a minority group and a race?**

**Answer:** Race refers to the physical appearance that a particular group (race) of people may have. While ethnicity describes a shared culture. While race identifies what you look like your ethnicity identifies *what* you are. For example: Your skin is brown so your race would be black, but your ethnicity would be Nigerian. A minority group, on the other hand, refers to a group of people who experiences relative disadvantage as compared to members of a dominant group. This can be a race of people, but not always so. Sometimes it can be based off of your religion.

#### **4. What is the relationship among culture, reality and intergroup relations?**

**Answer:** They all play into each other because our cultures are affected by how we are brought up. We are constantly an intergroup because we constantly have outside forces affecting how we think. The reality of it is our culture has been plagiarized by intergrouping for centuries.

#### **5. What is the relationship between ethnicity and social class?**

**Answer:** The relationship between the two is that they both share subdivisions. Subsocieties results from the intersection of stratifications of race and ethnic group with stratifications of social class. Usually, based off your ethnicity says were your social class is on the stratification. Minorities tend to be lower on that system due to their ethnicity.

#### **5. Do any persistent subcultures live near your home or campus (or have you even come across any)? If so, what have been your experiences with them? What do you know about them? How do you interact with or relate with them?**

**Answer:** I currently do not live by any subcultures, but I am fascinated with the Amish. They accept us for who we are and use of battery operated devices, but refuse to be be “modernized.” They refuse to drive or use electricity or eat our foods. They believe in a

simpler, more colonial style of living. For the most part, interaction with them are minimal. They keep to themselves and their communities. I relate to them because that's how most of us are: we stick to our own communities/ we have our own sets of friends, people and customs we stick to.

**7. What are some of the common and possible causes of prejudice and what is the difference between prejudice and discrimination?**

**Answer:** Prejudice is judging a location, a person or group of people based off what you hear. For example: You've heard so many stories about how ghetto and nasty Walmart is, so you refuse to even step foot inside the store and find out for yourself. That's being prejudice to the establishment. Whereas, discrimination is a form of racism. You do not like the store because it *is* Walmart. You think Target is superior. That's how white people viewed their ethnicity, race and culture over black people. A lack of knowledge, empathy and ignorance is why people will behave either way. I think discrimination is more hateful though.

**8. Some Caucasians and minority leaders are dissatisfied with "affirmative action" as being unfair and attaching a stigma to minority achievement. Other Caucasian and minority leaders say that it is still necessary to create a level playing field. What are your thoughts on affirmative action and why did you provide the response that you have given?**

**Answer:** Affirmative action is still needed here within the United States. Minorities still face a financial gap in society. We still have less opportunities handed to us because we have not always had the tools to be successful. We are suffering from the 600 years of oppression that was *forced* upon us. Whereas, whites have had wealth passed down, ensuring their success within society.

**9. Is racial profiling always a bad thing? Why or why not?**

**Answer:** Yes, it is a horrendous thing. Racial profiling is mainly directed towards black people and other minority groups. It's set up in a way that people are judged based off of their religion, ethnicity, race or national origin. Not cool.

**10. Can you give examples and comments on specific examples of residential or public school segregation in any nearby communities?**

**Answer:** Within our communities, inside and outside of school, I feel as though we still have a form of segregation. You'll see "Little Italy" where all of the Italians live. Then you have Chinatown where all of the Chinese live and Spanish Harlem where all of the Puerto Ricans live. Those are forms of segregation. In school you may see most of the drama majors sitting together at lunch or the basketball team only invite each other out. These are all segregation tactics that we unknowingly abide by.