



**Anthony E.**

**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?**

Ethnocentrism is the understanding of other cultures based on our own culture's pre-conceived understanding. Ethnocentrism is the way that the dominant culture judge's minority groups, and the other way around. While white Americans were taught by older generations that all black minority groups are "bad", black people were also taught that all white Americans are racist.

**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.**

When I was in high school, I was allowed a weekly allowance of \$25 by my parents as I was not allowed to work until I graduated and was in college. Since I did not have any bills or necessities, I used to save the allowance I received until I had enough to go to the mall and go shopping with my friends. Every single time when I was younger that I would go into a store, I would be followed around by the white staff working at the time, who I did not know. They would follow me throughout the whole store thinking I was going to steal in some type of way and this happened every single time I went into a white-dominant store.

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

There are many differences amongst race and ethnic group. While you may identify with more than one ethnic group, you can only identify with one race. For example, I might identify as being Dominican and Puerto Rican, both ethnic groups, but I can only identify as black, one race. A minority group is also different from race as a minority group usually refers to a group that has considerably less power as race is what you identify with,

**4] 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?**

As I do not live in a good neighborhood (Gunhill road), my neighborhood's subculture are drug dealers and gang members. As I went to middle school and high school with most dealers and members on my block, they respect me in a "little brother" type of way. Although I don't do the deviant acts they do, I relate to them because what they are doing they are doing it to feed their families, same thing I do with a full time job.

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

Some of the common and probable causes of prejudice stem from home life and peer life. Prejudice means that you have a pre-conceived opinion on something without prior knowledge or experience, and your family and friends can have a big impact on that opinion. They can tell you their prejudice opinion daily and it will get implemented in your head. Prejudice is any

opinion you have that is not based on personal experience or reason while discrimination is also a prejudice opinion but is based on another person's race, age or sex.

**6] 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?**

I believe affirmative action is a step in the right direction. Although it does not forgive and makeup for the past actions taken by Caucasians towards minority groups, it is a nice gesture. It is very well needed as being a part of a minority group immediately detaches you from many opportunities you would have if you were Caucasian. Just for being part of a minority group you get treated different, and affirmative action is a good thing helping minorities get out of the stigma.

**7] Is racial profiling always a bad thing? Why or why not?**

Racial profiling is always a bad thing since is a way of discrimination. Just by being of a darker skin tone, you will get treated differently and it is not fair towards those that did not do anything but yet are still being judged.

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

A very good example of school segregation in any nearby communities is little Italy. In the schools and residential area of little Italy, located near Fordham road, the population is dominantly Italian. Although there's nothing stopping other ethnic groups from joining, that is usually what happens. Another example is Washington Heights, otherwise known as little

Dominican Republic. If you have ever been to “The Heights” you will understand that the population is also dominantly Dominican.

**9] What similarities in dominant – minority patterns were shared by most northern and western European immigrants?**

Most northern and west European immigrants were brought in by dreams of assimilation and fairness. They would attract immigrants coming with their home language or religion in order to make it more appealing to them.

**10] Discuss the major theories of minority integration and give specific local examples of a middleman minority enterprise where members of one community group provide services to members of a different minority group.**

There are three theories of minority integration. One theory is the melting pot theory, which is when two or more groups of people are moved to a distinct type due to biological and cultural factors. Another theory is Assimilation theory. Assimilation theory speaks about when a member of minority group can function in a society without marking any differences of the majority group. Another theory is the Pluralism theory which speaks about a member of a minority group keeping their distinct cultural traits while at the same time relating in the larger society. An example of a local middleman communities are the people from the middle east in the Bronx. Most of the small deli stores found all throughout New York have a middle eastern owner.