CONCEPTS AND TERMINOLOGY

Academia first likes to define ideas, concepts prior to studying a topic: i.e., Majority/minority; race v. ethnicity; prejudice, stereotyping, discrimination, racism; assimilation, accommodation

Why does Race and Ethnicity matter?

1. we are sensory creatures; 2. for simplification we classify/categorize

3. we are naturally ethnocentric - *Us versus Them*

   ethnocentrism (belief that one's own group is unique and right)
   people exaggerate and intensify everything in their own folkways that sets them a part-

examples? Why do we do that

Dimensions of personal identity – Race and ethnicity are part of our personality

Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Sexual orientation, Age/generation, Class, Occupation, Hobbies, Ideology, Marital status, Appearance, Nationality

Degree of Group Identity varies – How?

*Nuclear member* - self-identity is totally involved in the group

*Modal Type* - accepts most of the norms and values of the group manifests nearly all the physical or cultural traits.

*Dormant Type* - exhibits few if any of the physical characteristics typical of the group and internalizes in a latent manner only some of the norms and values of the group.

How do we define the Majority Group? Power vs. Number

who are the Majority - WASP dominant by 1815.

Minority - again power relationship. Blacks were the minority even though they made up 80% of the population in S. Africa. Women are considered a minority - over 52%
Underrepresented

**Why or how does minority group identity form?**

*external and internal:*

**External:** The majority "creates" the minority group as a group by seeing all persons evidencing a certain characteristic as being "different" from them and subjecting that person to negative differential treatment on the basis of that perceived difference.

**Internal:** A group consists of person of varying status who's behavior is determined by the expectations of its members. Primary groups - intimate face-to-face associations and cooperation. Mutual identification for which "we" is the natural expression.

*inter-group sequences*

pariah
indigenous isolates
annexation
migration (forced or voluntary)
colonization

**What is the difference between Race and Ethnicity**

Race refers to differences in genetic traits
Ethnicity - sense of peoplehood - collective experience, language, culture, history, physical appearance, customs, political community. examples? See Max Weber

**There are Degrees of Racism – what are they?**

*Institutionalized Racism:* society norms, values and laws reflect the racism of the majority. examples?

*Racial Stratification:* system of distributing social rewards on the basis of racial discrimination.

*Prejudice* - a mind-set where the individual/group accepts as valid the negative social definitions that the majority society forms in reference to some minority group and is predisposed to apply those negative social definitions to all individuals who are perceived as belonging to that group.
**Stereotypes**: oversimplistic and overexaggerated beliefs about a group, most often experienced secondhand. examples? lets keep this polite

**How does prejudice develop?**

*exploitation*: inferior group must be kept in its place so that the superior group can enjoy advantages. examples?

*ignorance*

*ethnocentrism* - belief that one's group is unique and right

*symbolic*: frustrations, anger look for an outlet. scapegoat. Examples?

**What is Discrimination?**
Applied Prejudice; negative social attitudes translated into action.

**Levels of Individual Discrimination**

Unprejudice Nondiscriminators - all weather liberal

Unprejudice Discriminator - fair-weather liberal - homeowner who denies racism

Prejudice Nondiscriminator - fair weather illiberal, or sort of timid bigot

Prejudice Discriminator - all weather illiberal, or active bigot

**Levels of Aggregate Discrimination**

Segregation - social stratification; caste system, class system,

**Coping Strategies**

Michael Banton - six orders of interracial contact
1. peripheral contact,
2. institutionalized contact (colonialism),
3. Acculturation - gradually absorbing the values, culture of the dominant majority
4. Integration - most interactions are conducted on equal basis, racial distinctions are only a minor consideration (exceptions to equality - education, military units)
5. amalgamation – melting pot; interracial marriage (10-52 percent jews since 1960
6. Pluralism – not a melting pot but a salad bowl, each ingredient remains distinct and identifiable yet all contribute to the mix. maintenance of ethnic subcultures

*Milton Gordon - Assimilation:*
- cultural behavioral
- structural (socioeconomic? legal?)
- marital
- identificational,
- attitude receptional (absence of prejudice)
- behavioral receptional (the absence of discrimination)
- civic (the absence of value or power conflict)

cultural will come first; if structural happens, the others will follow.

**Capacity to assimilate**
*competitive power* - ability to compete in the reward system (Asians)
*pressure power* - ability to effect change in society in a collective faction