

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED
AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND
ACCEPTING OF
DIVERSE CULTURES,
GENDERS,
PERSPECTIVES,
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND
TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS
PARTICIPATING IN THEIR
OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND
FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND
AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR
AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH
OUR ACTIONS,
POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

Adapted from: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide_2019ed_v1_20190809-Web.pdf



National Hispanic and Latino

MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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At the time of this presentation, Tom Coderre served as Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA. The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

This work is supported by grant No. 6H79SM081788 from the DHHS, SAMHSA.

Addressing Our Bias when Working with the LGBTQ+ Community

Part I: Identifying Our Bias and its Impact on Our Work"

Jesús Ortega, LMSW

Date

06/11/2021



Happy Pride!





Diversity

Is **embracing** the many ways in which we are similar to and different from other human beings.

Equity

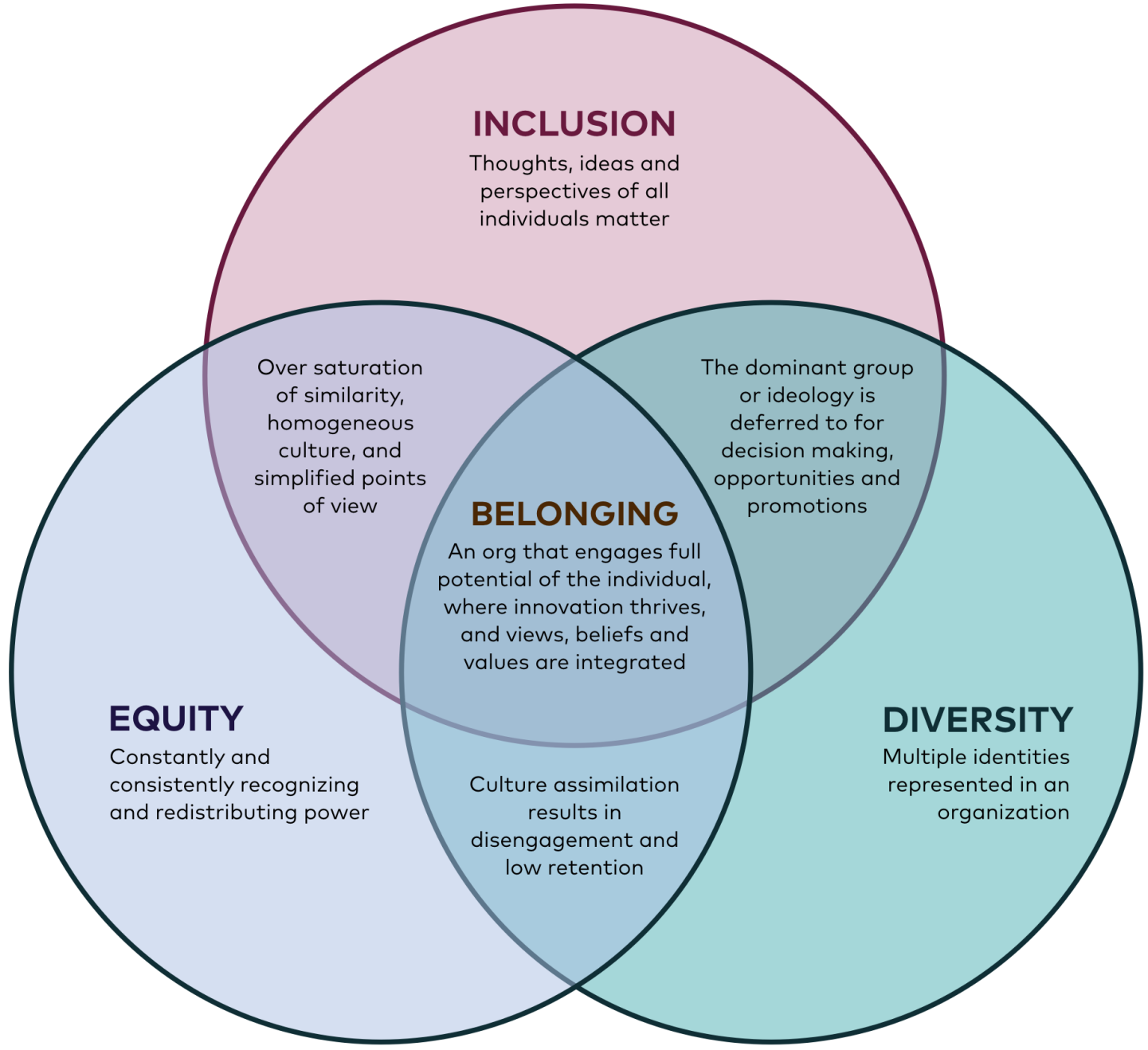
Is **providing** equal opportunities for all with justice and fairness.

Inclusion

Is **creating** the conditions where people have a sense that they are respected, connected, contributing and progressing.

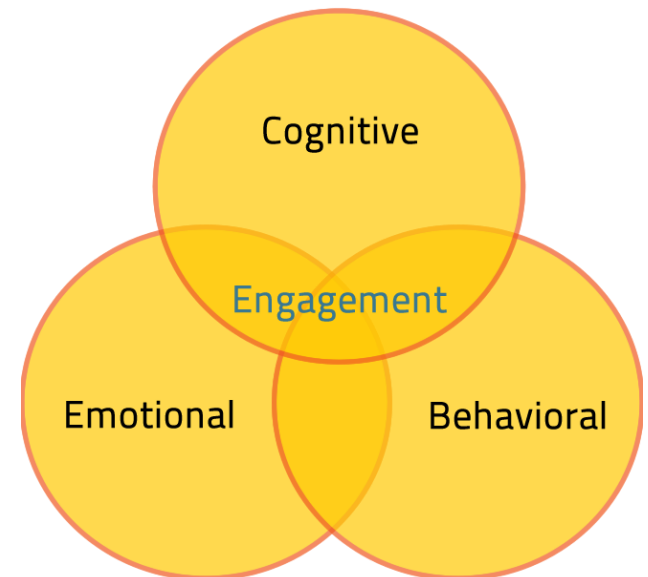


Co-creating a culture of inclusion in working relationships



A sense of belonging is a basic human need that influences thoughts, emotions, and behaviors, and it is often described as a sense of connectedness.

Sense of Belonging



Strayhorn T.L (2012). College student's sense of belonging: A key to education access for all students. Routledge

How does **IMPLICIT BIAS** get in the way to building an inclusive helping working relationship?



How can we address **IMPLICIT BIAS** to build a culture of inclusion and belonging?

4 Agreements

Stay
Engaged

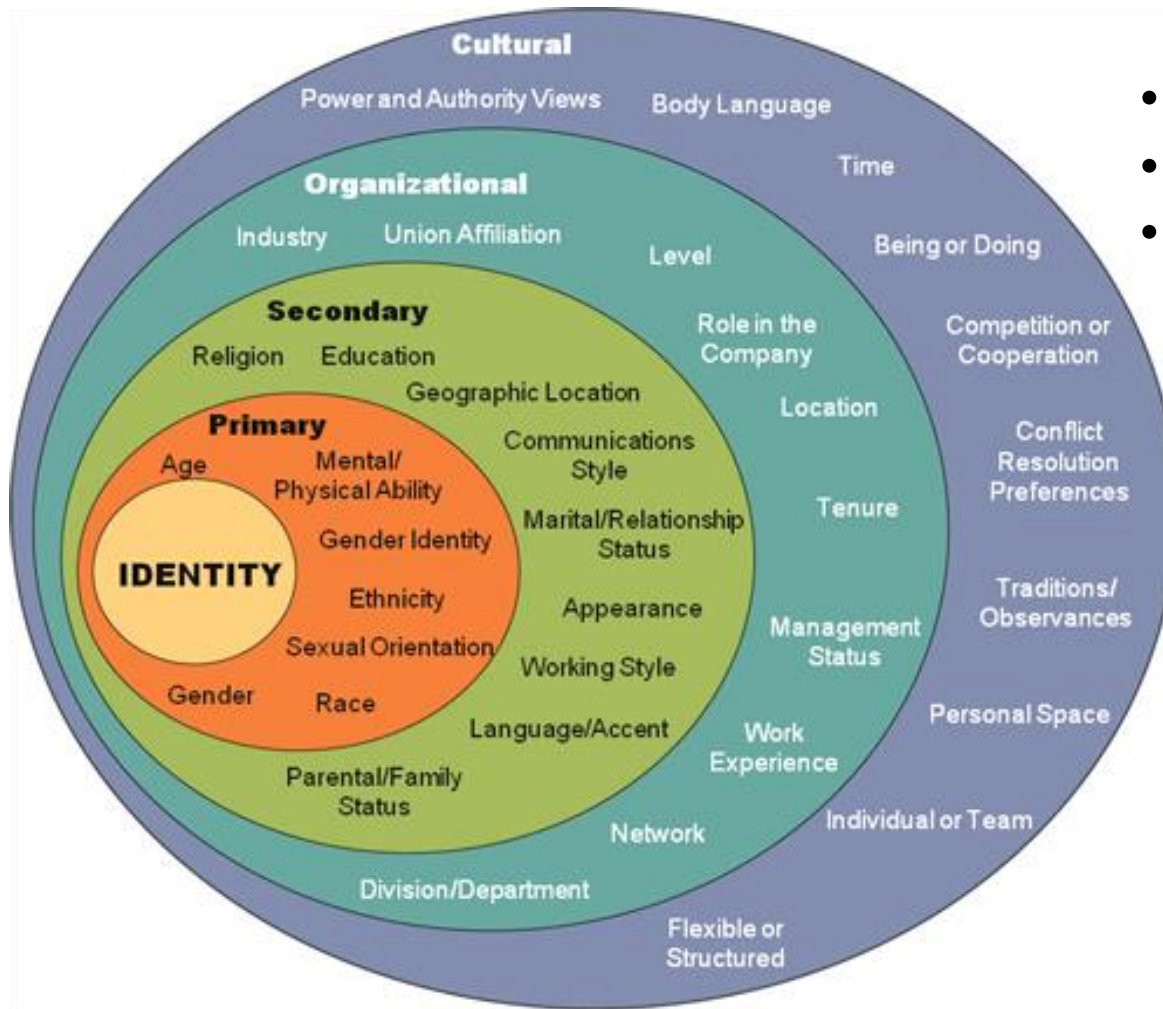
Experience
Discomfort

Speak your
Truth

Accept non-
closure

Adapted from: Singleton, G.E., & Linton, C. (2006). *Courageous Conversations about Race: A Field Guide for Achieving Equity in Schools*. pp. 58-65. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin.

How Implicit Bias and Social Identities interact ?



- Within each of us?
- With each other?
- With society at large?

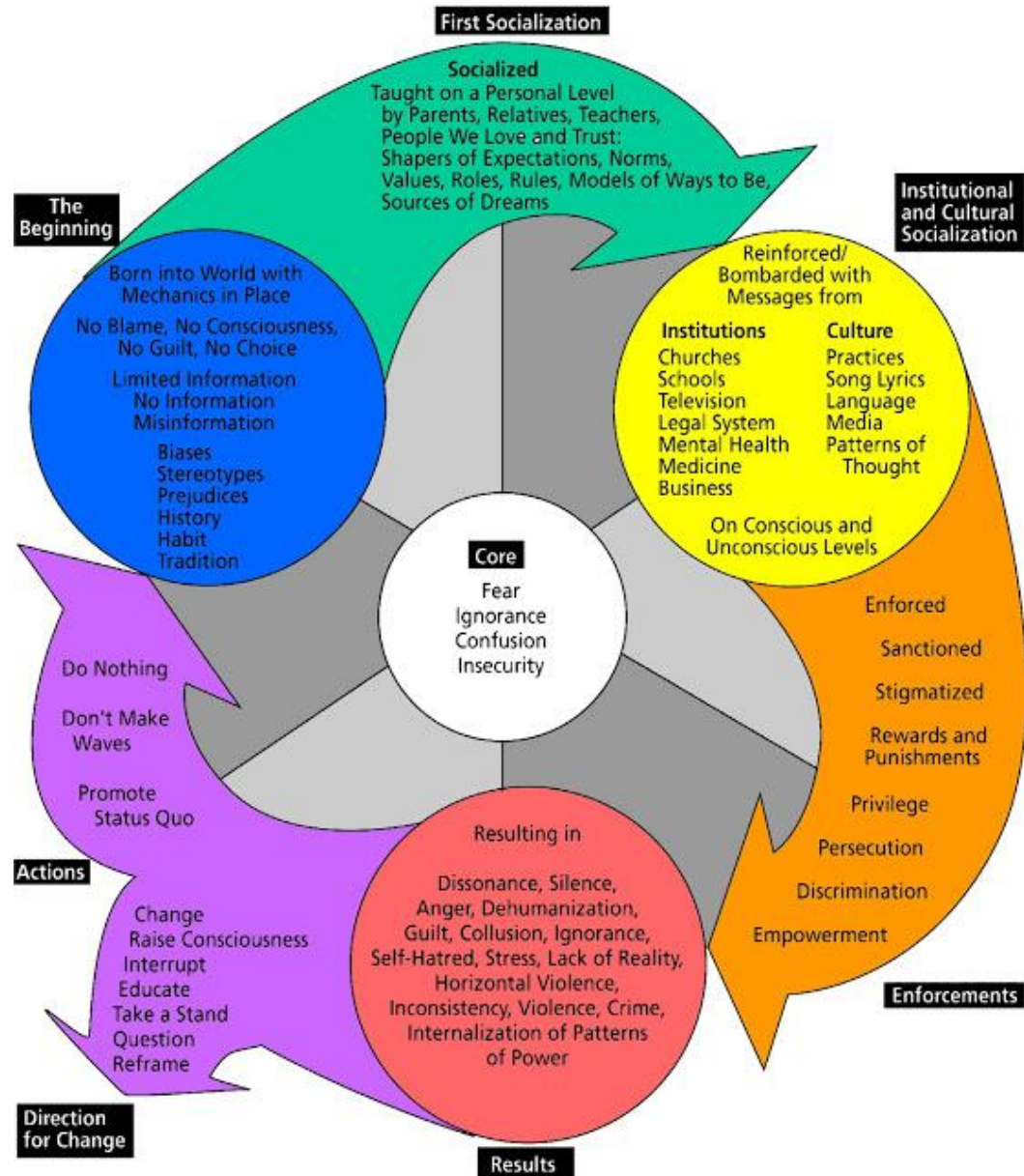
Social and Racial identity

These identities are fundamental elements of our self-concept and their combination in different configuration can have a powerful influence on how we understand our life experiences.



Tatum, B.D. (2000). The Complexity of Identity: "Who Am I?". Tatum, B. D. (2000). The complexity of identity: "Who am I?." In Adams, M., Blumenfeld, W. J., Hackman, H. W., Zuniga, X., Peters, M. L. (Eds.), Readings for diversity and social justice: An anthology on racism, sexism, anti-semitism, heterosexism, classism and ableism (pp.9-14). New York: Routledge.

Cycle of Socialization

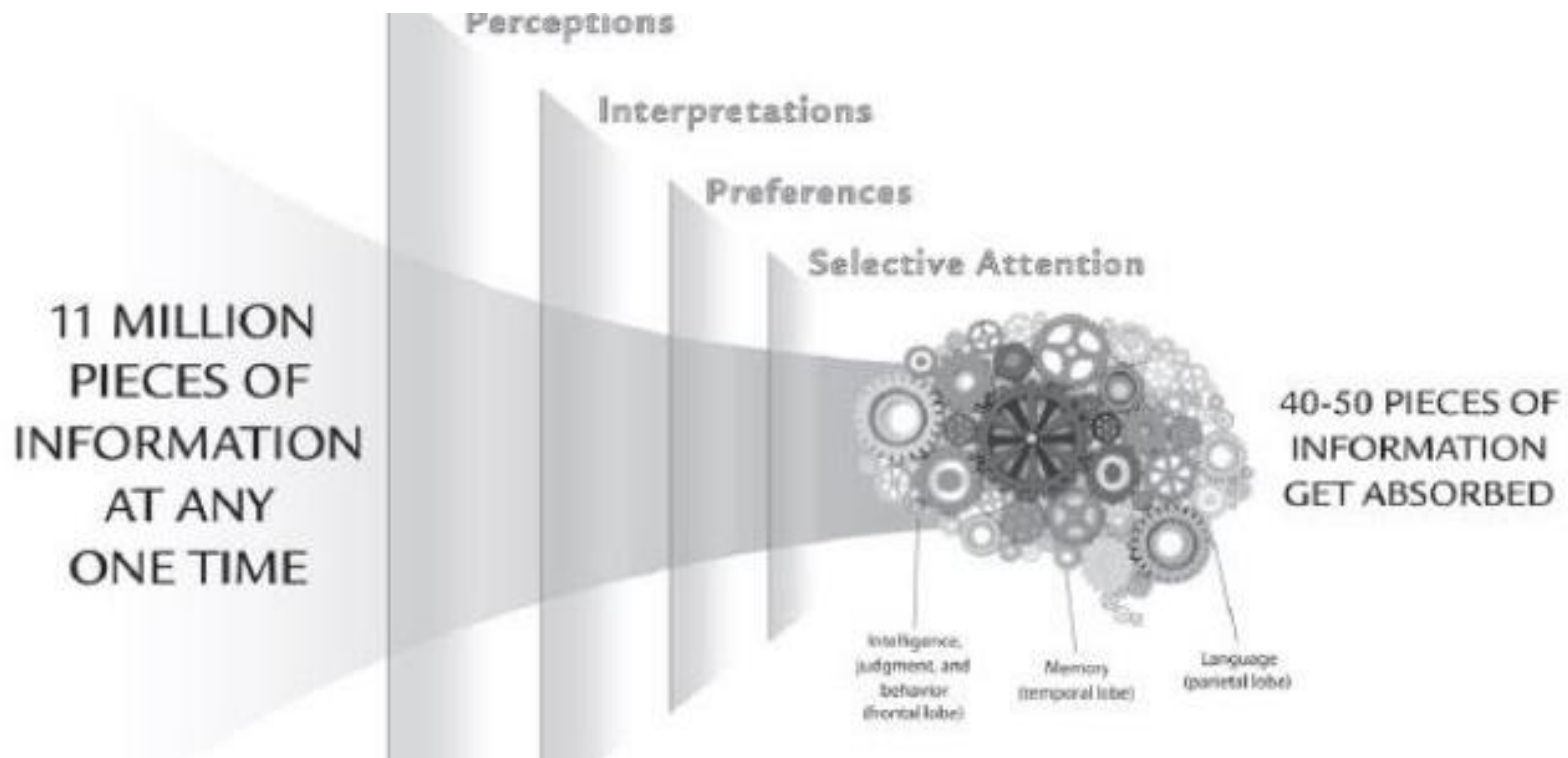




Our Brain receives
up to 11 million
pieces of
information in any
one time

How many pieces of those 11 millions are we able to process in any one time?

- 1) 5 Million
 - 2) 5,000
 - 3) 500
 - 4) 50
-



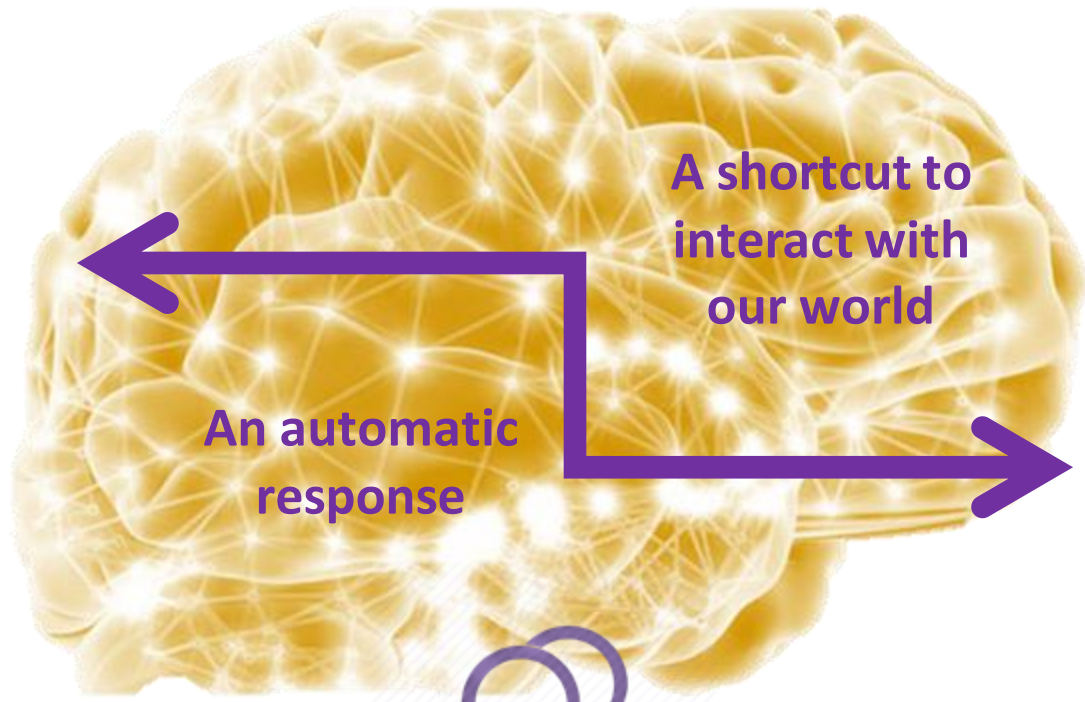
99.999545 %

Information we receive is processed
OUTSIDE of our consciousness

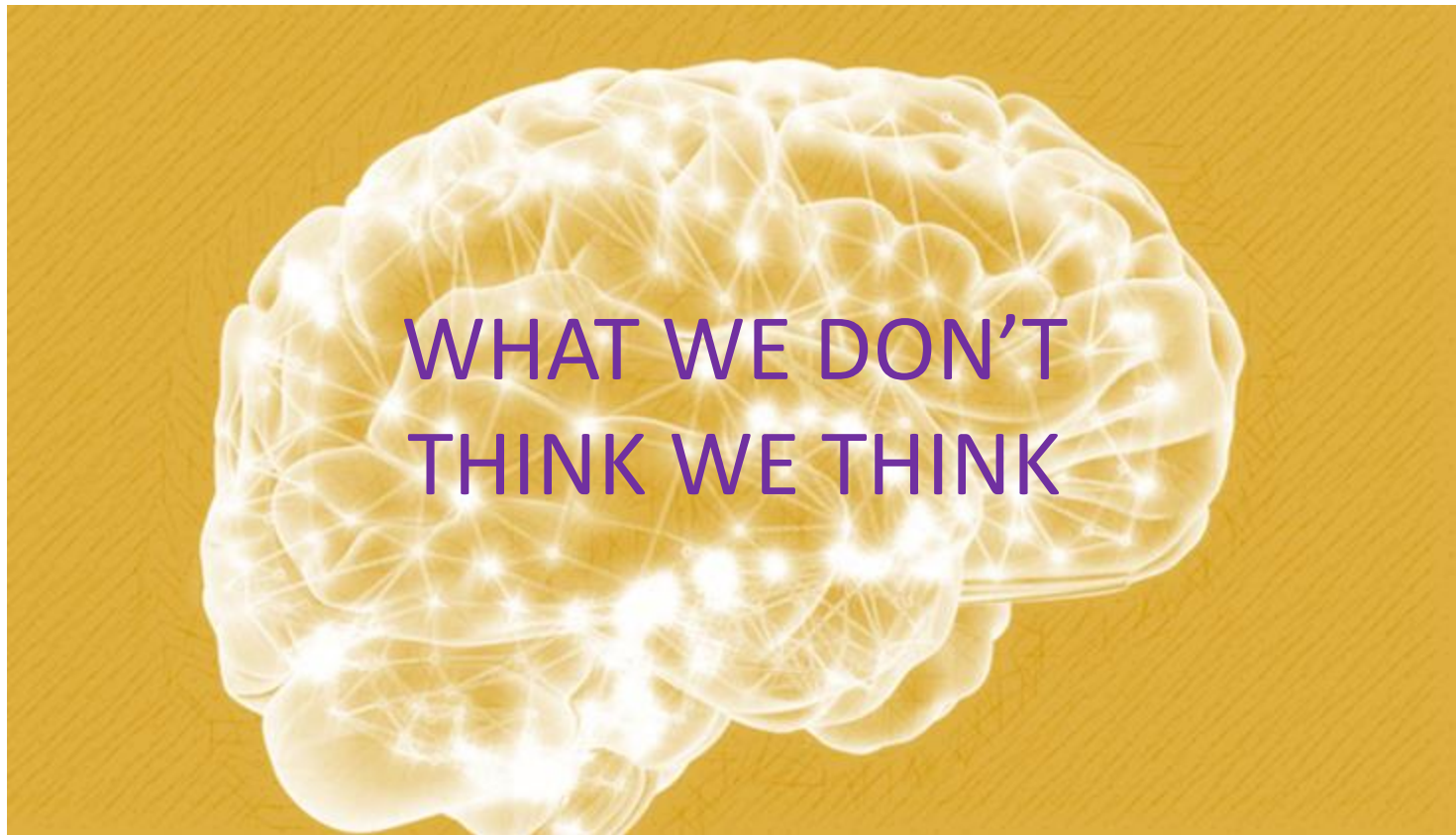


"If you can read this paragraph, it's because our minds are very good at putting together pieces of information in a way that is easy for us to make sense of. Our minds do this automatically, without our conscious control."

What is Implicit Bias?



IMPLICIT BIAS



Unconscious

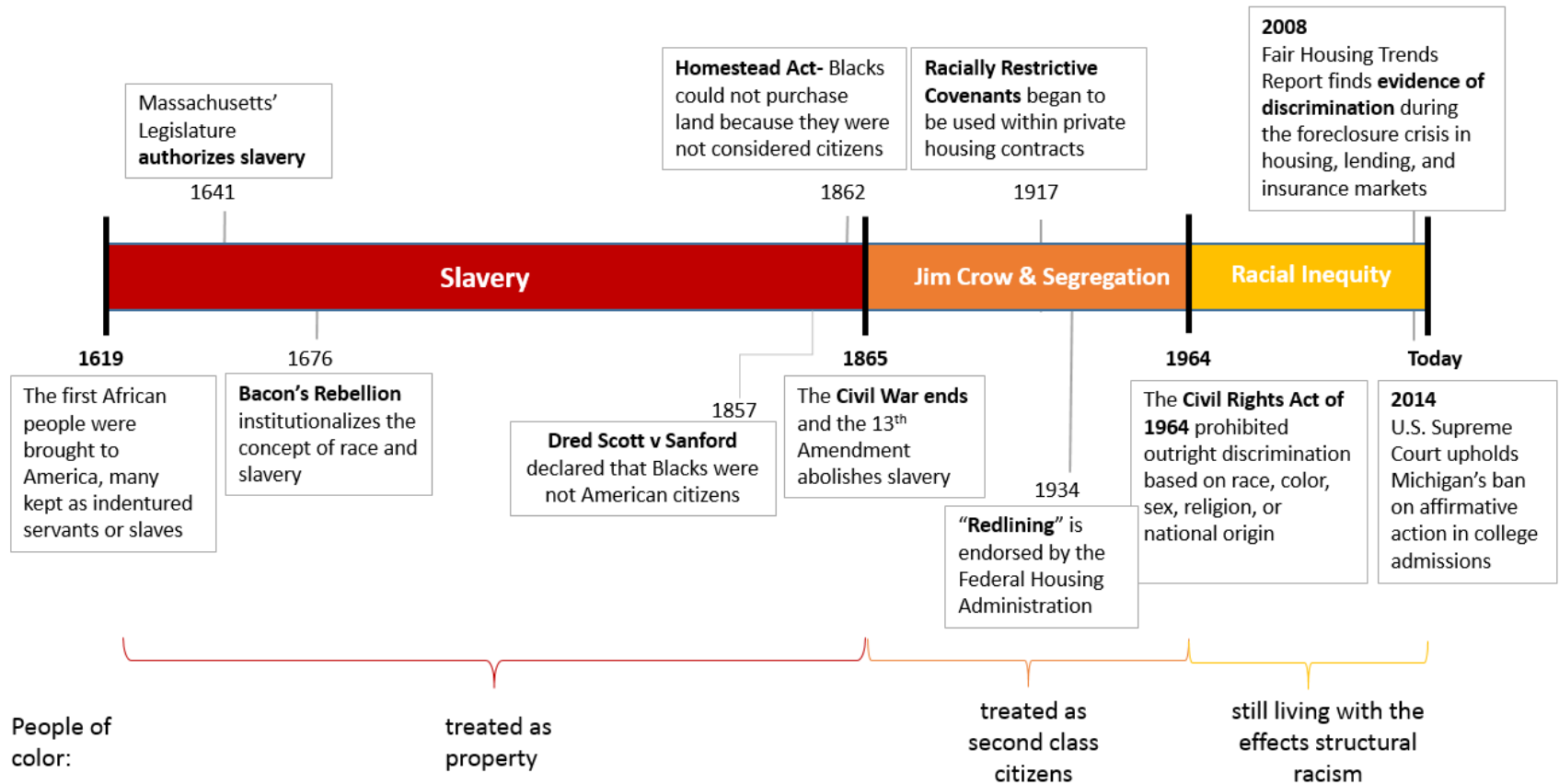
Stereotypes

Beliefs

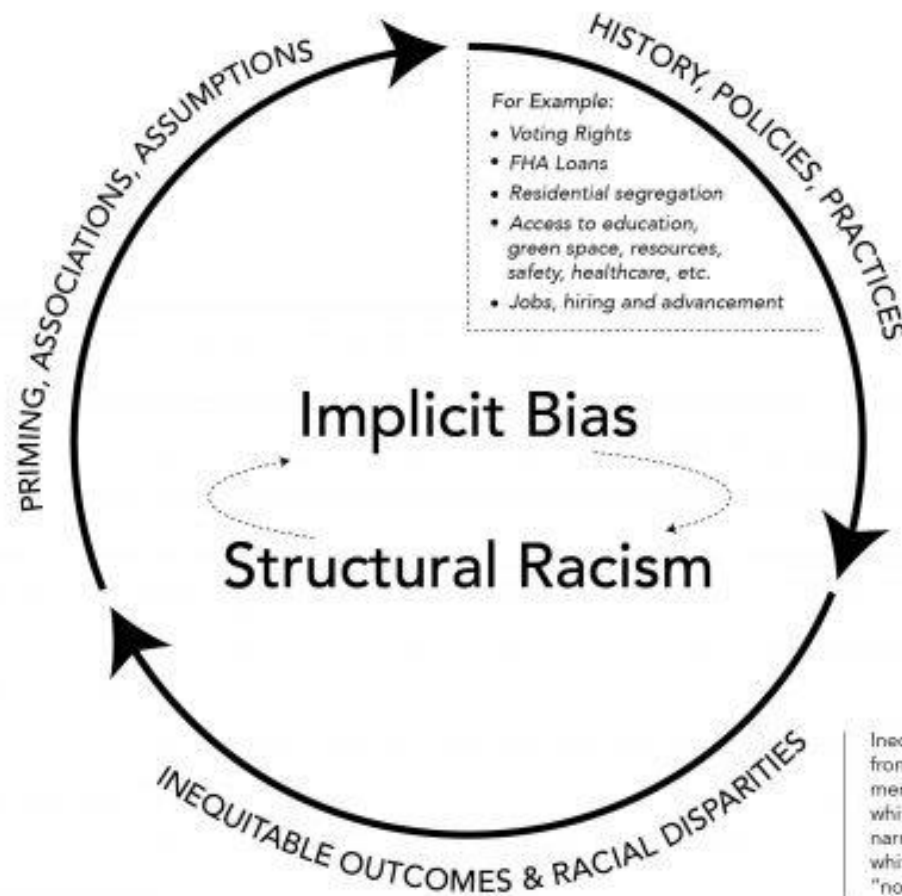


Goldin, C. & Rouse, C. *Orchestrating Impartiality: The Impact of 'Blind' Auditions on Female Musicians*, 2000

Historical Power Built on Structural Racism



Dominant narratives about race (family, media, society) coupled with racialized structural arrangements and differential outcomes by race all prime us to believe that people of color are inferior to white people, create and maintain harmful associations, and lead us to make harmful assumptions, consciously and unconsciously, about people of color.



Race is created to justify enslaving people from Africa (economic engine of country)

Policies and practices that consolidate and protect power bestow unearned economic, social, cultural, and political **advantage** to people called "white," and unearned **disadvantage** to people of color.

National narrative (ideology, belief system) about people of color being "less than" human (and less than white) justifies mistreatment and inequality (white supremacy)

Inequitable outcomes and experiences resulting from policy decisions in health, housing, employment, education, and life expectancy - reinforces white supremacist beliefs and ideology; dominant narrative uses disparate outcomes as evidence of white superiority, promotes whiteness as "normal" and desirable and justifies inequality.

<https://www.nationalequityproject.org/frameworks/implicit-bias-structural-racialization>

The United States has a power structure



Proximity to
Blackness



Proximity to
Whiteness

Social identities

- Not bad, a deficit, or oppressive by themselves
- The source of self-understanding, pride, and sustenance
- Rather systemic practices of different *ISMS* create hierarchies that devalue people based on social group membership



How “ISMS” are Enacted?

Historical



Privilege

Discrimination

PRIVILEGED



TO RECEIVE UN-
DESERVED OR UN-
EARNED ADVANTAGES
AND MATERIAL BENEFITS
IN LIFE DUE TO YOUR
IDENTITY AND SOCIAL

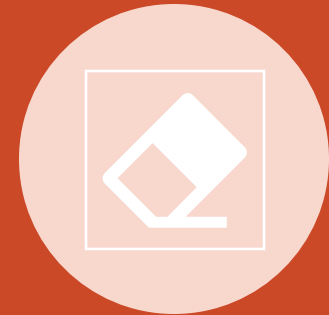
GROUP.

TARGETED



TO RECEIVE UN-
DESERVED PREJUDICE,
DISCRIMINATION,
SUSPICION, MISTRUST,
FEAR, AND HATE FROM
OTHERS DUE TO YOUR
IDENTITY AND SOCIAL
GROUP.

ERASED





TO BE “LEFT-OUT” OF
THE STORY, FORGOTTEN,
MARGINALIZED,
OMITTED SOMEHOW
DUE TO YOUR IDENTITY
AND SOCIAL GROUP.

Dimension of Diversity	My Identity	Power Dynamics	Dominant or Non-dominant
Physical Functioning	Able- bodied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dominant <input type="checkbox"/> Non-dominant	<p>Can go anywhere without considering physical barriers; do not have to plan/call in advance to make sure I can get in a building or access a bathroom.</p> <p>Do not have to negotiate with my employer about the definition of reasonable accommodation</p>


Dimension of Diversity	My Identity	Power Dynamics	Dominant or Non-dominant
Language	Foreign Language Non-English Speaker	<input type="checkbox"/> Dominant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-dominant	<p>Being dismissed by others because of their accent when speaking in dominant language (worry about losing credibility or legitimacy when talking)</p> <p>No being able to understand contracts or instructions when there is no availability in their foreign language.</p>

AT&T 8:55 AM

 **Accent Advisor - American Pronunciation**







Sponsored · 

Want to reduce your foreign accent?
Accent Advisor is the best way to get an
America... See More



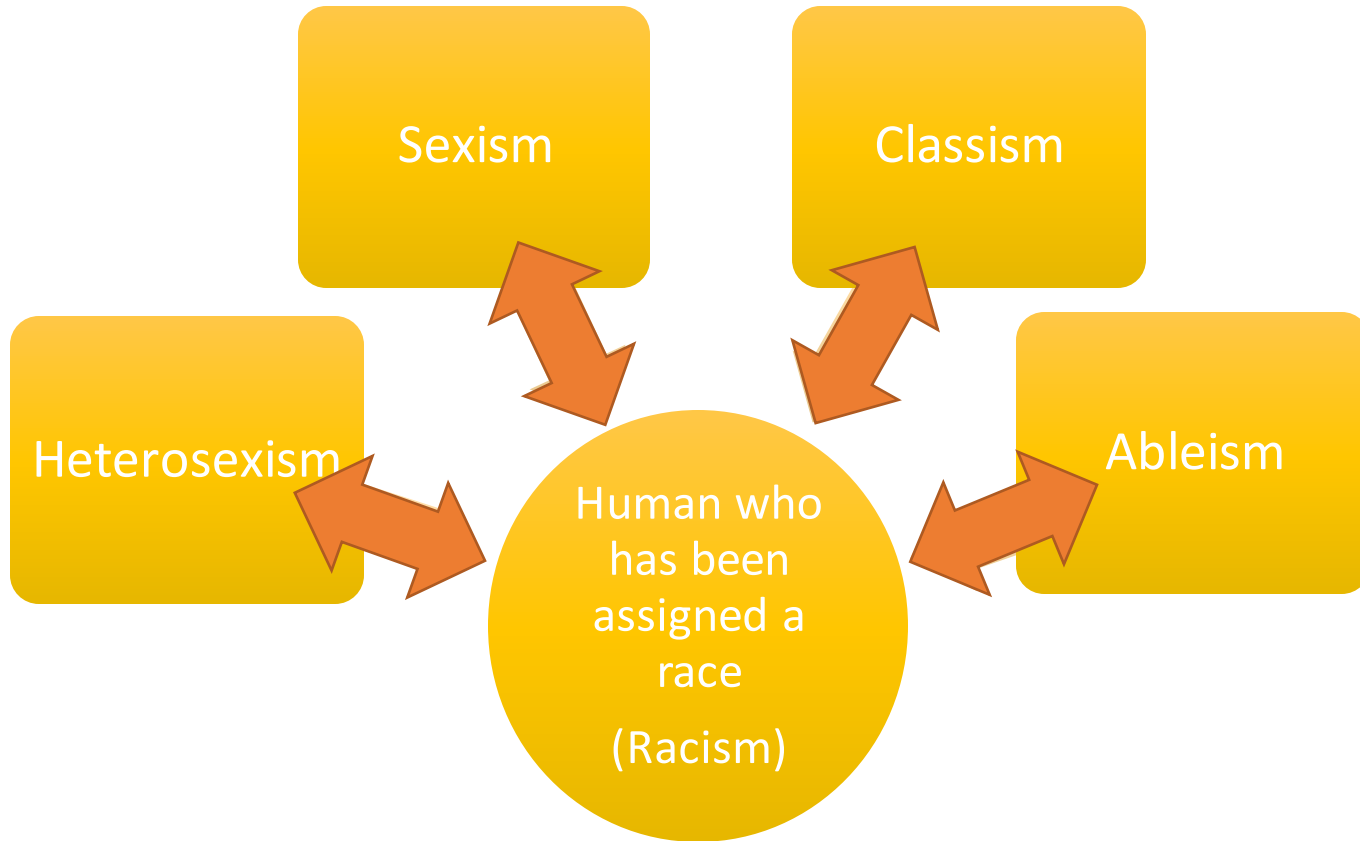
ACCENTADVISOR.COM [Learn More](#)

American Accent Made Easy

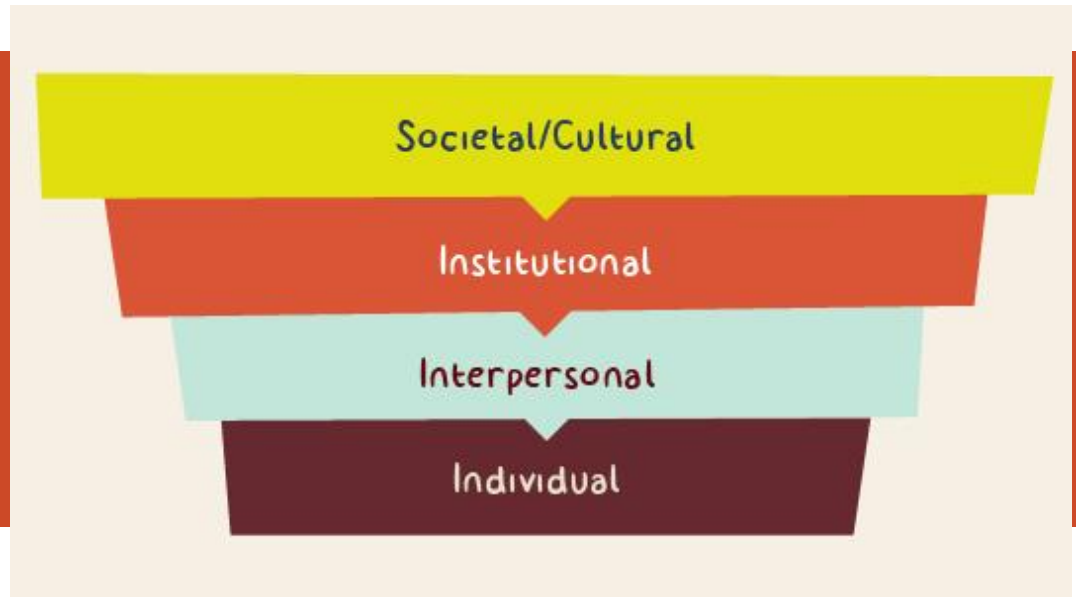
...and then, I get this add on my facebook feed

Intersectionalities



THESE IDENTITIES DON'T ALL HAVE THE SAME WEIGHT

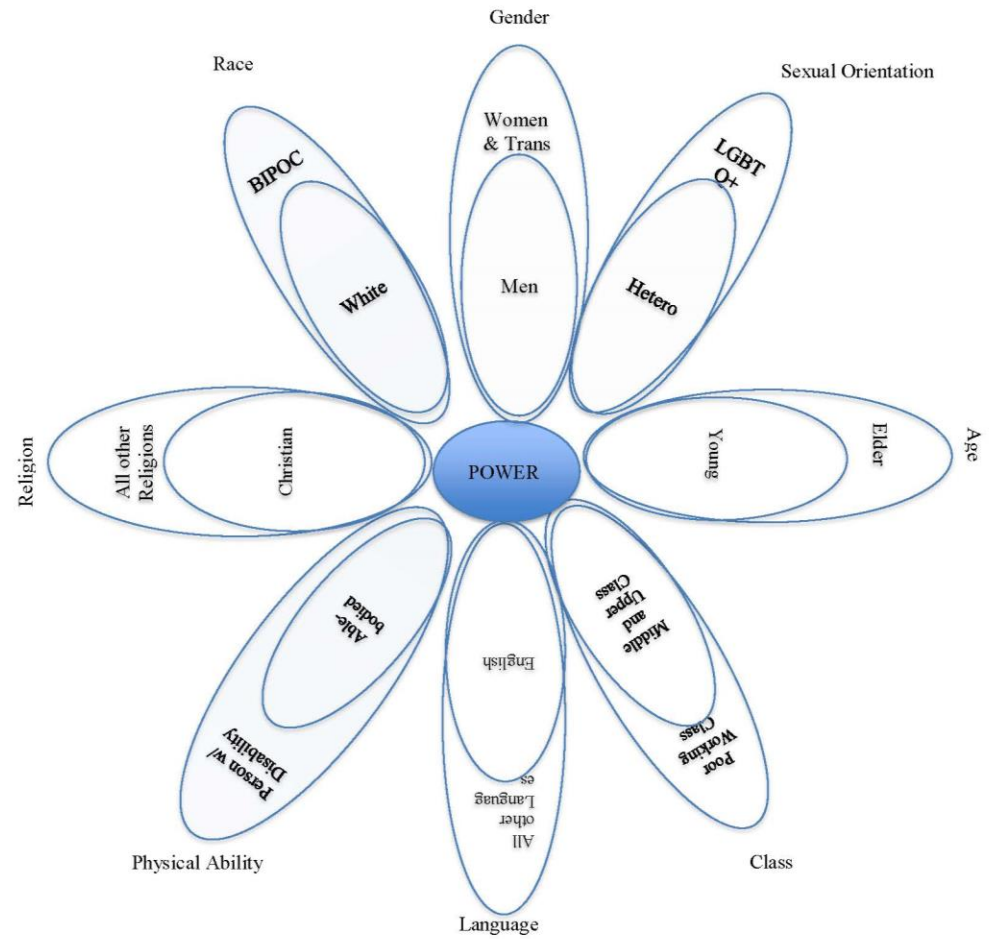
How often do you
have to think
about each of your
identities?



The flower of power

THE FLOWER OF POWER

The Inner-Outer Petals of Oppression



(Adapted from the Educating for a Change by Rick Arnold, Bev Burke, Carl James, D'Arcy Martin, and Barb Thomas, Doris Marshall Institute for Education and Action and Between the Lines Press, 1991)

**A few, slow
Deep breaths
Of Stillness**

Helen Emmerson

#SpaciousBreath

SpaciousBreath.com



Who would you prefer to show up?

FEELINGS, JUDGMENTS, AND REACTIONS







Poll # 2

Who would you prefer to show up?

1



2



3



John Fetterman

Lieutenant Governor, PA
(Previously the mayor of Braddock a suburb of Pittsburgh) – the tattoo on his arm is the zip code!

Has a Master's degree in Public Policy from Harvard

Served in the AmeriCorps

Received international media attention for the economic revitalization programming he started in his community



Chris Watts

Sentenced for
life for inhumane
killings of two
daughters and
pregnant wife

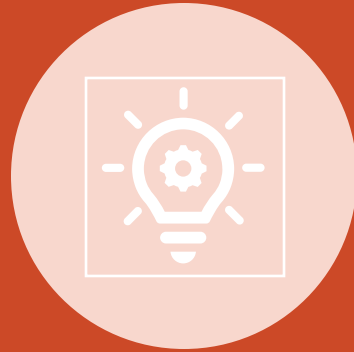


Joseph Semien Jr., MD

Obstetrician/gynecologist
working in Lake Charles, LA



Let's reflect together

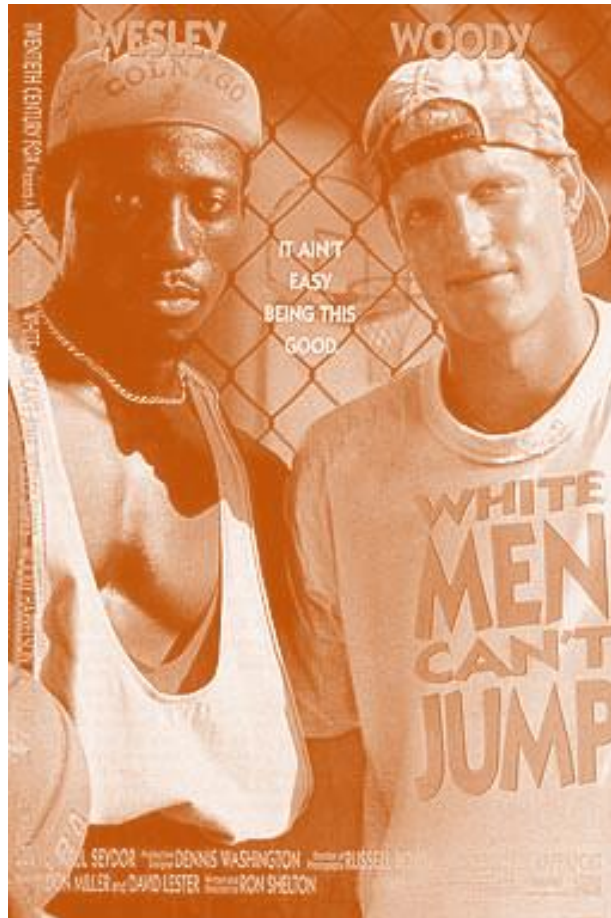


WHAT WAS THAT LIKE
FOR YOU?



WHAT DID YOU
NOTICE OR REALIZE?

Common Social Generalizations



When shown photographs of men with similar athletic abilities, evaluators rated the athletic ability of African American men higher than that of white men

(Biernat & Manis, 1994).

Common Social Generalizations

When shown photographs of people of the same height, evaluators overestimated the heights of male subjects and underestimated the heights of female subjects, even though a reference point, such as a doorway, was provided

(Biernat et al., 1991).





DOMINANT CULTURE NORMS

THE LONGER YOU SWIM
IN A CULTURE, THE MORE
INVISIBLE IT BECOMES

74

Young, I. M. (2000). Five faces of Oppression. In Adams, M., Blumenfeld, W. J., Hackman, H. W., Zuniga, X., Peters, M. L. (Eds.),

Readings for diversity and social justice: An anthology on racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, heterosexism, classism and ableism (pp. 9-14). New York: Routledge.

Dominant Culture Norms (Book of Rules)



Schemas



Karl Dallenbach



Karl Dallenbach



Worldview: Background / Context



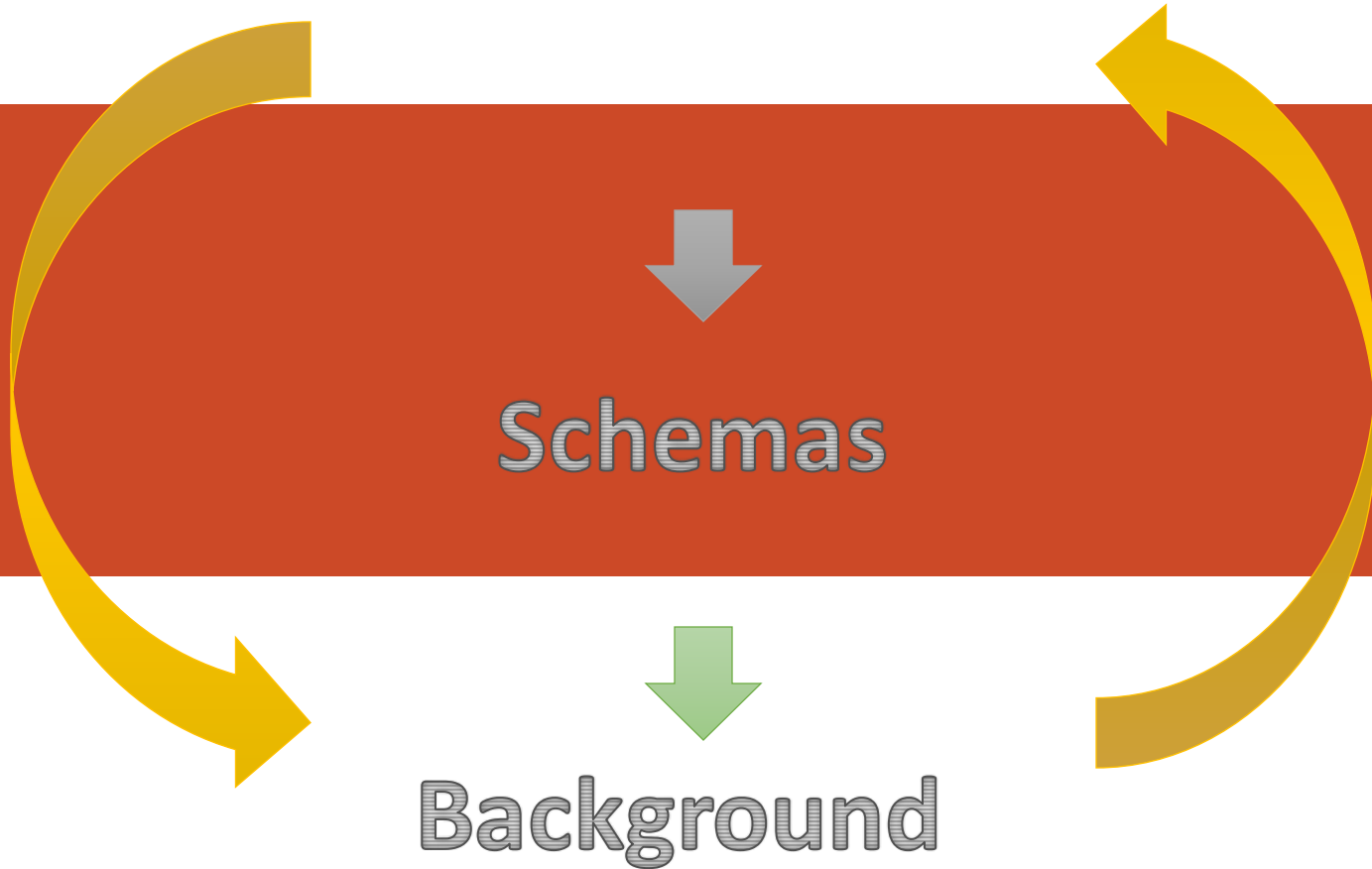
VectorStock®

VectorStock.com/2296386

Worldview: Background / Context



Dominant Culture Norms (Book of Rules)



Dominant Culture Norms

“

If you belong to the dominant culture everything is designed to reflect your Worldview so you never have to explain yourself. Perhaps it is hard to know that, if it is all you have ever experience. Being the person who is not from the dominant culture in the room can mean constantly trying to translate yourself, your worldview, to the room in order to be understood.

-Lynette Wallworth

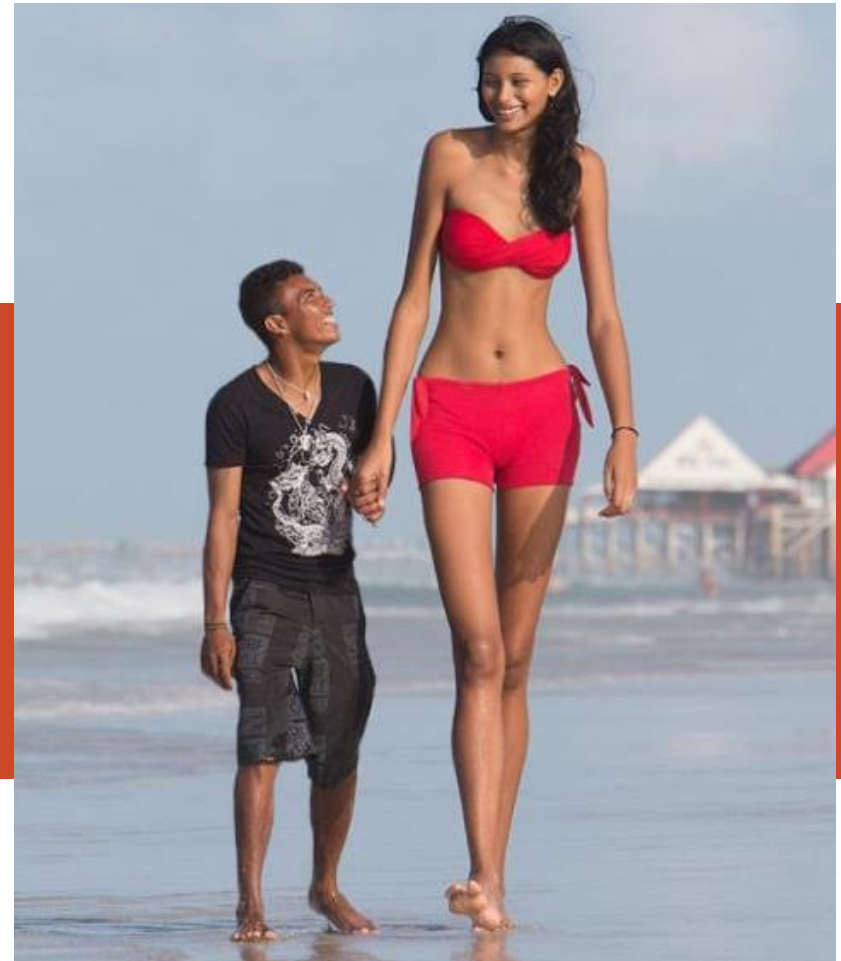
Differences...

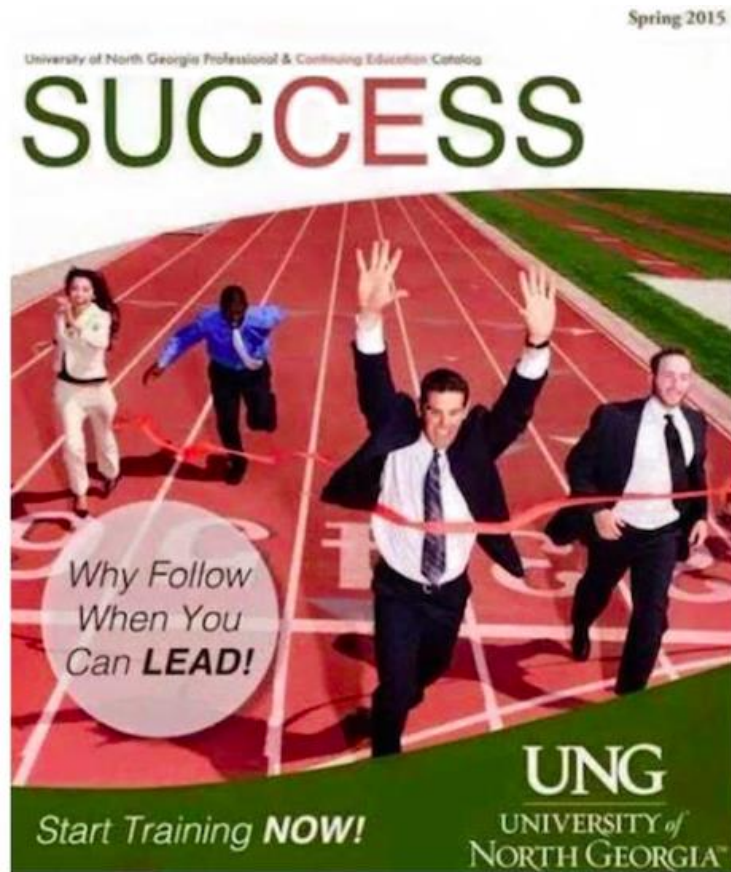
It can be difficult and make us uncomfortable

Challenges what we have come to believe about who we are, how others are, and how the world is.

We don't want to feel guilty/responsible for the injustice

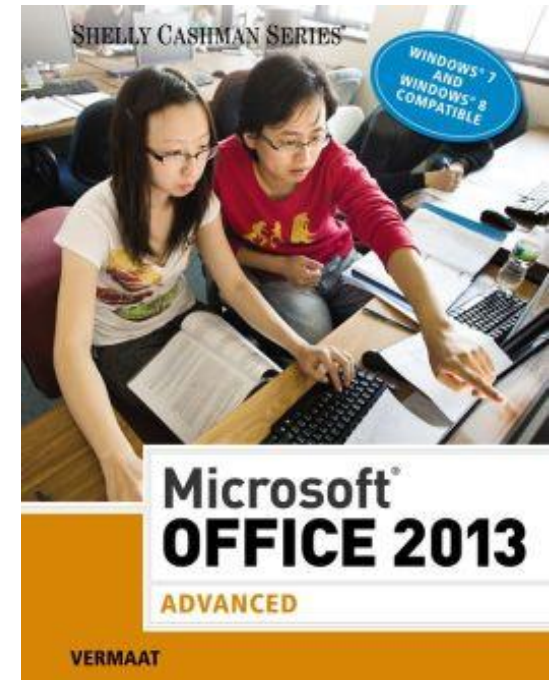
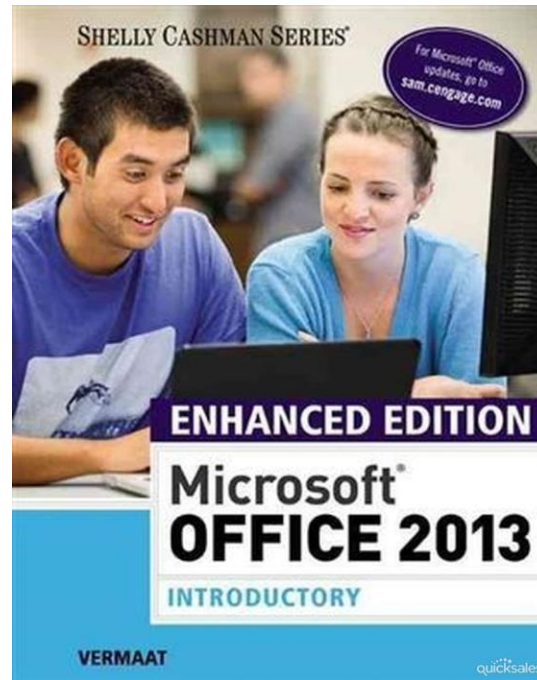
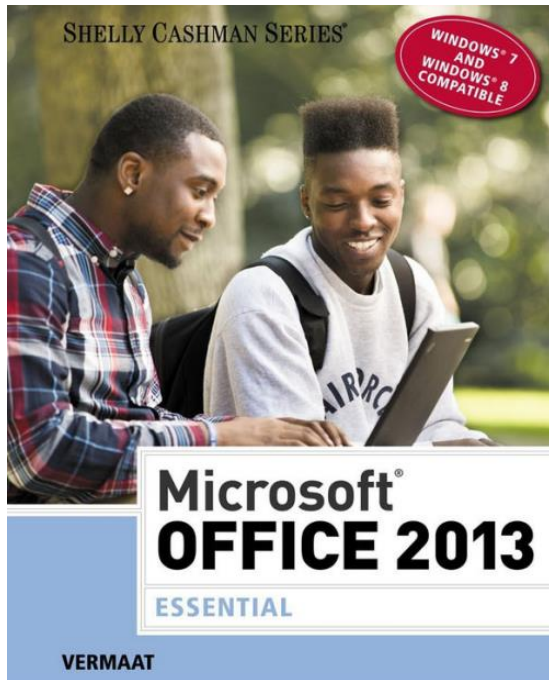
Can seem unnecessary





Differences...
can seem
unnecessary

What do you notice?



HOW DOES IMPLICIT BIAS MANIFEST WHEN INTERSECTING WITH SOCIAL IDENTITIES?



UNCONSCIOUS BIASES



Hidden Beliefs
Ideas
Values



Perception



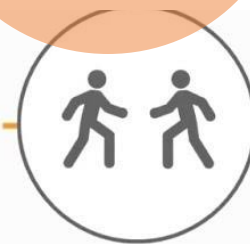
Response



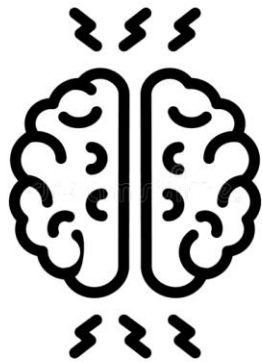
People



Places



Situations



Assessing Implicit Bias



Sexuality IAT

Sexuality ('Gay - Straight' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to distinguish words and symbols representing gay and straight people. It often reveals an automatic preference for straight relative to gay people.

Presidents IAT

Presidents ('Presidential Popularity' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to recognize photos of Barack Obama and one or more previous presidents.

Disability IAT

Disability ('Disabled - Abled' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to recognize symbols representing abled and disabled individuals.

Race IAT

Race ('Black - White' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to distinguish faces of European and African origin. It indicates that most Americans have an automatic preference for white over black.

Age IAT

Age ('Young - Old' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to distinguish old from young faces. This test often indicates that Americans have automatic preference for young over old.

Arab-Muslim IAT

Arab-Muslim ('Arab Muslim - Other People' IAT). This IAT requires the ability to distinguish names that are likely to belong to Arab-Muslims versus people of other nationalities or religions.

Gender-Science IAT

Gender - Science. This IAT often reveals a relative link between liberal arts and females and between science and males.

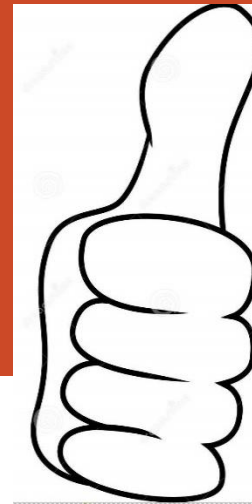
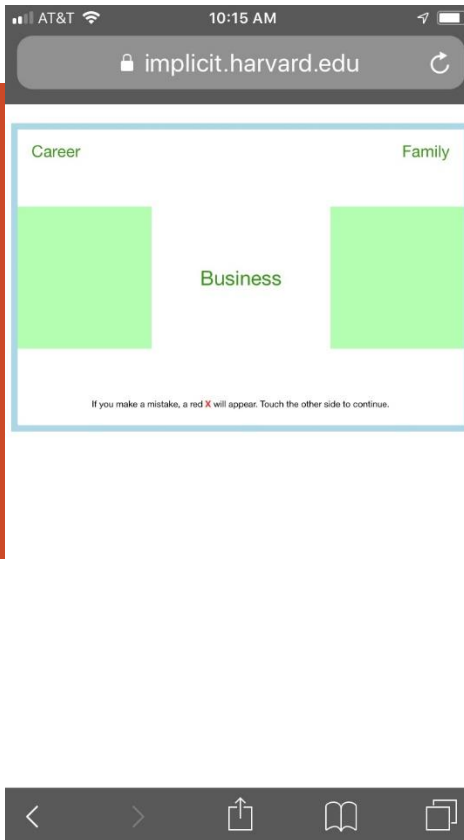
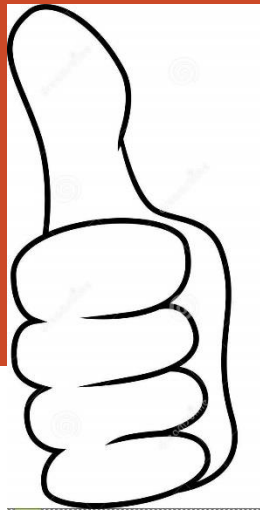
Religion IAT

Religion ('Religions' IAT). This IAT requires some familiarity with religious terms from various world religions.

Implicit Association Test



Implicit Association Test





Gender IAT

76%

More readily associate “males” with “career” and “females” with “family”

Gender-Science IAT

70%

More readily associate “male” with science and “female” with the arts

Race IAT

75%

Have an implicit preference for white people over black people

Disability IAT

76%

Have an implicit preference for able-bodied people

IAT and LGBTQ

A 2015 study based on data from the Sexuality Implicit Assessment Test (IAT) found that heterosexual physicians, nurses, and other health care providers implicitly favored heterosexual people over lesbian and gay people.

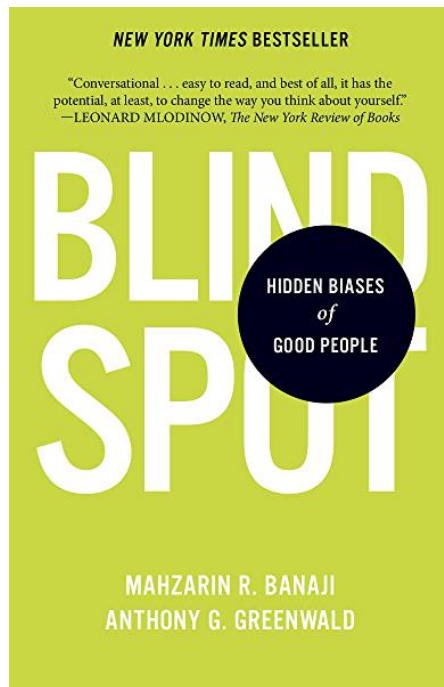
We also know that LGBTQ people can internalize bias against their own group.

In a IAT study, **38%** of lesbian and gay men had implicit preferences for straight people.

Sabin JA, Riskind RG, Nosek BA. Health care providers' implicit and explicit attitudes toward lesbian women and gay men. *Am J Public Health.* 2015;105(9):1831-1841.

Jost JT, Banaji MR, Nosek BA. A decade of system justification theory: accumulated evidence of conscious and unconscious bolstering of the status quo. *Polit Psychol.* 2004;25:881-919.

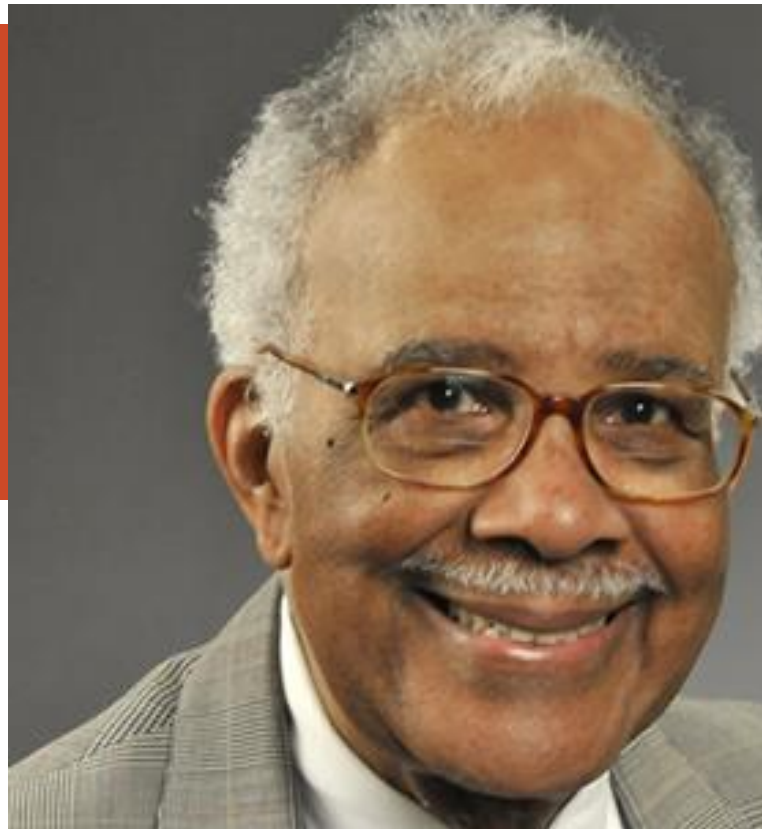
Implicit bias and culture



“Implicit biases come from culture. I think of them as the blueprint of the culture of our minds. Human beings have the ability to learn to associate two things together very quickly—that is innate. What we teach ourselves, what we choose to associate is up to us.”

Dr. Mahzarin R. Banaji

Microaggressions



In 1970, Professor Chester M. Pierce, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Professor Emeritus of Education at Harvard University, coined the term **microaggressions** in reference to the insults he had regularly seen black people experience by non-blacks.

Microaggressions

A subtle but offensive comment or action directed at a minority or other non-dominant group that is often unintentional or unconsciously reinforces a stereotype.

(Sue & Sue, 2010)



These microaggressions are often subtle in nature and can be manifested in the verbal, nonverbal, visual, or behavioral realm; they are often enacted automatically and unconsciously.

(Solorzano, Ceja, & Yosso, 2000).

MICROAGGRESSIONS & HEALTH

- Research on Microaggressions provides strong evidence that they lead to elevated levels of depression and trauma among minorities.
- Microaggressions not only harm mental and physical health, they can also undermine trust in service providers and caregivers.

Torres, L., Taknint, JT., Ethnic Microaggressions. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, (2015) 62 (3): 393-401

MICROAGGRESSIONS & MICROINVALIDATION ON THE LGBTQ

9 out of 10

LGBTQ high school students
report experiencing
harassment at school and
why 2/3 of them say they
feel unsafe

(Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network, 2010).

Torres, L., Tahnint, JT., Ethnic Microaggressions. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, (2015) 62 (3): 393-401



FOR PEOPLE WHO STILL DON'T THINK

Interrupt Microaggressions



Ask for meaning?
That is not Ok.

Reframing
I am not comfortable

What to do so that
this does not happen
Again?

Calling Out:

- When we need to let someone know that their words or actions are unacceptable and will not be tolerated
- When we need to interrupt in order to prevent further harm
- Will likely feel hard and uncomfortable, but necessary
- Allows us to hit the “pause” button and break the momentum

Calling In:

- When there is an opportunity to explore deeper, make meaning together, and find a mutual sense of understanding across difference
- When we are seeking to understand or learn more
- When we want to help imagine different perspectives, possibilities, or outcomes
- Provides for multiple perspectives and encourages paradigm shifts
- Focused on reflection, not reaction
- Is not just a suggestion with an uptick (Don't you think you should...?)



Addressing Unconscious Bias

Implicit Bias



“If you have a brain, you are biased.”

These often conflict with our
conscious attitudes, behaviors, and
intentions



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Implicit Association Test

Like Me Bias

**Here is the list of people
you trust**

1.

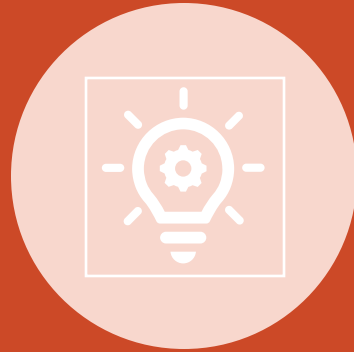
2.

3.

4.

5.

Let's reflect together



WHAT WAS THAT LIKE
FOR YOU?



WHAT DID YOU
NOTICE OR REALIZE?

Ways to Mitigate Your Biases

1. Recognize, accept, and increase awareness about our bias

2. Look for commonalities (common identity formation)

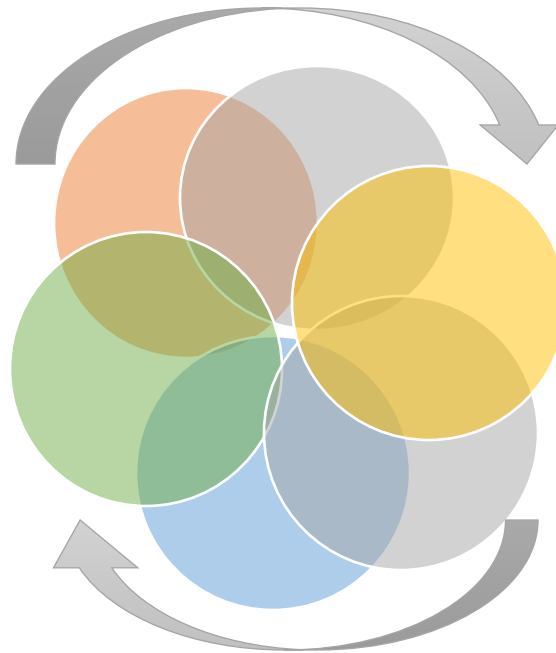
3. Challenge your Experience/Knowledge (perspective taking)

4. Explore awkwardness, and discomfort

“The elephant in the room”

6. Emotional Intelligence

5. Engage with people you consider “others” and expose yourself to positive role models in that group (Counter-stereotypical exemplars)

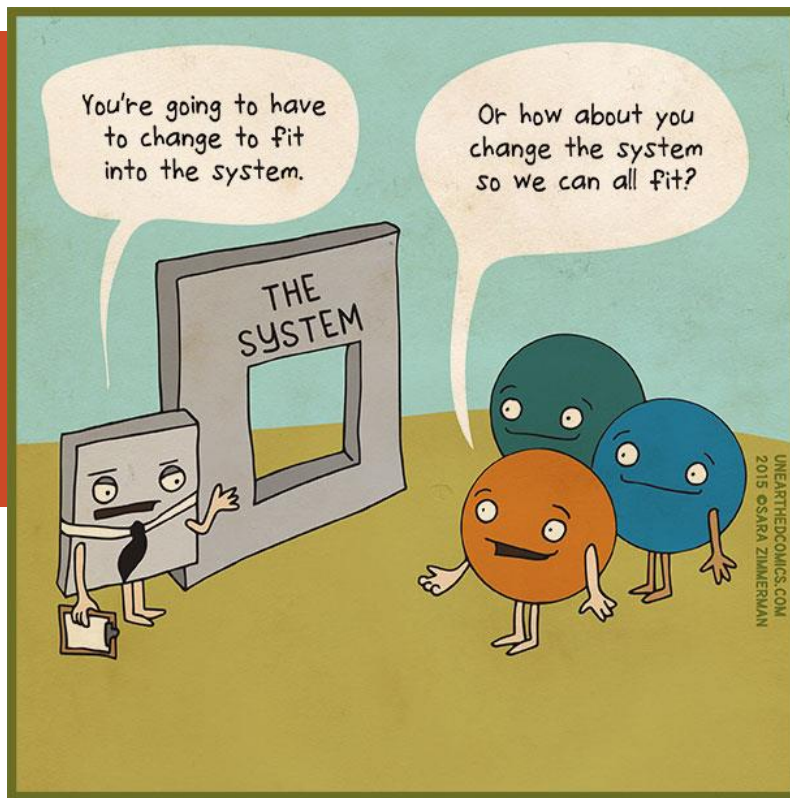


This work is continuous...

it starts
with **me**



This work takes time...



Changing Cultural norms
to change systemic structures





National Hispanic and Latino

MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

References

- Harro, B. (1982). Referenced in Adams, et al. 1997 Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice
- Jost JT, Banaji MR, Nosek BA. A decade of system justification theory: accumulated evidence of conscious and unconscious bolstering of the status quo. *Polit Psychol.* 2004;25:881-919.
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- Sue, D. W. *Microaggressions in Everyday Life. Race, Gender. And Sexual Orientation.* (2010). John Wiley & Sons. Publisher
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Coming Up Next



**Understanding Health Disparities
among the LGBTQ+ community**

June 18th, 2021

12:00 pm Eastern

**Interventions for working with
LGBTQ+ population**

June 25th, 2021

12:00 pm Eastern



National Hispanic and Latino

MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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Director

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