Participa City



A simulation game to learn about discrimination

GLOSSARY

https://participa-city.eu

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Anti-Muslim racism

Islam- or anti-Muslim hostility describes a dismissive attitude and behaviour towards Muslims. While the term “Islamophobia” refers to existing prejudices, the concept of anti-Muslim racism focuses more strongly on the structures underlying such attitudes. Muslims are racialised: they are ascribed certain characteristics that go far beyond their religion and are regarded as a homogeneous group.

Antisemitism

The term was coined at the end of the 19th century by German antisemites who sought to justify their hostility towards Jews in pseudo-scientific and racist terms. “In modern usage,” notes the scholar of antisemitism Wolfgang Benz, “the term refers to the entirety of anti-Jewish statements, tendencies, resentments, attitudes, and actions, regardless of whether their motives are religious, racist, social, or otherwise.”

Antiziganism/Antigypsyism

The term refers to a dismissive and hostile attitude towards Sinti and Roma. As formulated by the Society for Antigypsyism Research: “The consequences of antigypsyism range from internal prejudices to open rejection, exclusion, expulsion, physical violence, and even the systematic annihilation of Sinti and Roma under National Socialism.”

Critical Whiteness

The concept of Critical Whiteness aims to raise awareness of the privileges associated with being white. It seeks to foster sensitivity to power structures that may not yet be fully recognised, which lead to the disadvantage of people in society. For example, those who are not directly affected can consciously engage with the experiences of discrimination faced by Black people in society.

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Discrimination

Discrimination is the unequal, disadvantageous, and exclusionary treatment of groups and individuals. It can manifest itself in the avoidance of contact, disadvantage in access to goods and positions, or in personal denigration. The term refers both to the process and to the outcome. The enforcement of discrimination generally presupposes social, economic, political, or media power.

Empowerment

The term was coined by the US civil rights and self-help movement in the 1960s and stands for self-empowerment. It refers to a process in which disadvantaged individuals develop their own strengths and use their abilities to participate in political and social decision-making processes and to contribute to changes in societal conditions.

Ethnicization

When differences between groups of people are reduced to ethnic distinctions, this is often referred to as ethnicization. Self-ethnicization is the self-description based on ethnic categories and can serve the advancement of one's own interests or identity politics. External ethnicization leads to people being grouped as a minority and perceived as a homogeneous group.

Ethnocentrism

The term, coined by the American sociologist William Graham Sumner, refers to the evaluation of other groups, ethnicities, and cultures from the perspective of one's own group and its associated value standards. This can lead to an exaggeration of the ingroup through the selection and emphasis of certain information. An example of this is the debate over the headscarf.

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Exoticisation

Exoticisation refers to the process by which aspects of people and cultures perceived as foreign are represented in a superficial and stereotypical manner. Often, one's own desires or fantasies are projected onto other cultures. This is, for example, the case when "fiery southerners" are invoked. Erroneously, this form of racism is often perceived as positive and not recognised as such.

Group-focused enmity

Group-focused enmity refers to a dismissive and derogatory attitude towards individuals on the basis of their ascribed membership in a social group. Such hostility may, for example, be directed against homosexuals or migrants and can lead to discrimination and violent actions.

Hate speech

Hate speech refers to derogatory statements specifically directed at certain individuals or groups of people. Hostile expressions (e.g., homophobic, racist, antisemitic) are used to insult or threaten people. Such hate can be reflected, among other things, in spoken or written contributions as well as in comments on social media.

Heteronormativity

Heteronormativity refers to the idea that there are only two genders, each associated with certain physical characteristics and social roles. Only relationships between men and women are considered natural. These notions are then established as the norm, taking into account that even this classification has developed historically and within society.

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Homophobia

The term homophobia describes negative feelings or hostility towards homosexuality, which often lead to the rejection or discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender people. However, it is not a classical phobia, whose source is fear. Negative attitudes towards homosexuals are usually based on existing notions of gender roles, which are challenged by the presence of homosexual individuals.

Institutional Racism

The term refers to racism that is reflected in the institutions, norms, and laws of a society. An example of this is the disadvantage experienced by people with a migration background in education or in the housing and labour markets.

Intersectionality

The term intersectionality refers to the analysis of the interdependence and interaction of various categories of difference and dimensions of social inequality and exclusion. To gain a comprehensive understanding of discrimination, the different forms (such as racism, sexism, or homophobia) should not be considered in isolation. For example, when examining feminist movements, it is important to also consider the additional disadvantages that women may face due to their social status or origin.

Multiperspectivity

Multiperspectivity is a concept applied in didactics across different disciplines. It involves adopting multiple viewpoints when addressing a topic or event. For example, in history lessons, various sources can be used to examine events from as many different perspectives as possible.

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Orientalism

The term Orientalism was coined by Edward Said and refers to the Western perspective on the so-called Orient, which usually includes the Near and Middle East. An example of this is the adventure novels of Karl May, which present a distorted image and rely on numerous clichés.

Othering

Othering involves dividing people into “us” and “them.” Positive attributes are ascribed to one’s own group, while the other group is perceived as less emancipated, enlightened, tolerant, democratic, educated, etc. Fundamental differences are constructed, which are negatively evaluated and emphasised. When the other party, through constant exposure to these ascriptions, gradually internalises them unconsciously, they effectively become the so-called Other, having conformed to the image of and about the Other.

Paternalism

The term describes a relationship in which one party positions itself above the other and takes a paternalistic approach. An example of this would be a volunteer seeking accommodation for a refugee without taking the refugee’s interests into account, instead assuming that they know better and thereby disregarding those interests.

Racism

Racism is the process in which people are portrayed, negatively judged, and excluded as a homogeneous group on the basis of actual or perceived physical or cultural characteristics (e.g., skin colour, origin, language, religion). Classical racism asserts an inequality and unequal value of groups of people based on alleged biological differences.

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Sexism

Sexism is understood as any form of discrimination against individuals based on their gender, as well as the ideology underlying such phenomena. Sexism is evident in prejudices and worldviews, in social, legal, and economic regulations, in forms of actual violence (such as sexual harassment, degrading treatment and language, rape, and human trafficking of women), and in the justification of such structures of violence by reference to an allegedly natural gender difference.

Transphobia

Transphobia describes negative feelings or hostility towards transgender, transident, and transsexual people. This can manifest, among other ways, in the disadvantage or aggression towards trans individuals. Trans people are also discriminated against through a heteronormative worldview, which suggests the existence of only two genders and is reflected in numerous societal practices.

White supremacy

White supremacy refers to racist ideologies and assumptions according to which human races exist, and white people are superior to others. According to the proponents of these ideologies, this superiority must be defended. An example of this is the notion of an Aryan master race, promoted during the Nazi era and still upheld by right-wing extremists today.

Source: Eden Mengis, Ansgar Drücker (2019): Antidiskriminierung, Rassismuskritik und Diversität. 105 Reflexionskarten für die Praxis. Beltz Juventa. Own translation from German.
https://www.beltz.de/fachmedien/sozialpaedagogik_soziale_arbeit/produkte/details/51146-antidiskriminierung-rassismuskritik-und-diversitaet.html

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