

Yennifer Martinez Ibarra

Ms. Senff

English 9 Honors

20 April 2018

Racial Bias

Race does not define a person's identity. However, racial bias tends to make people assume the worst of individuals. Racial bias doesn't only affect African Americans or Hispanics, it affects everyone. Not one person is immune to this situation. As a society, steps must be taken to correct such biases or else the nation will live with distrust towards people and community members being racially profiled will be angry or upset.

Although racial bias doesn't seem to be a serious problem, racial bias consists of stereotypes, racial profiling, racial slurs, white privileges, and racial microaggressions. "Researchers measured how long infants looked at faces of their own race or another race that were paired with happy or sad music. They found that 9-month-olds looked longer when the faces of their own race were paired with the happy music, which was different from the pattern of looking times for the other-race faces. (Heyman)", racial bias occurs in our infancy which later affects the view a person has for the rest of their lives. If the community was to prevent racial bias from occurring, our community would be more diverse and united. Most people aren't aware of how on the daily bases they're racially profiling an individual. If someone was to ask an individual, "Have you ever been stopped by a police officer?" African-Americans will reply, "yes" at 10 times the rate of people who are not black (USA Today). Ways to stop racial bias

have nothing to do with money, people could simply do little things such as exceed their comfort zone. As normal human beings, at times there have been misunderstandings of people based on their appearance. For example, Hispanics and African Americans tend to be more intimidating than American based on their appearance.

Consequently, there are individuals who live in distrust of their own safety. According to the Robert Hunter, “data has found that nearly 60 percent of those stopped said that they would not feel comfortable asking a police officer for help if they were in trouble,” which significantly shows their distrust towards people because they don’t know how their reaction will be. Other effects of racial bias include the way managers at work places hire employees, police officers stopping a certain race more than others, and even in education. Researchers have found that even teachers have unintentionally stereotyped students which leads to the students going into less challenging classes, reduces their educational opportunities in the future.

From here on, the goal of each day should be to go out and say, “hey” to someone who you would never picture yourself talking too. As they say, “it’s the little things that count,” if each person would better their communication skills with one another, then slowly racial bias would reduce. It’s not only one persons’ fault, that’s why everyone should get involved to slowly, but surely solve this issue. Don’t let people's race determine the opinion or point of view towards an individual. “Among blacks, only 12 percent had a “great deal” of confidence,” according to national polling from NBC News/Marist, the low percentage of trust that people with dark skin reflects upon the affects of racial bias. By reducing the amount of racial bias occurring in the world, every single person would benefit off of this change.

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