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Foundations of Racism

Racism dates back to the beginning of time, yet we are still battling it. The ultimate goal for minorities across the world is equality. Racism exists in more places than just on Twitter; it's found in the foundations of America. There are three dehumanizing forms of racism that need to be stopped and held accountable for: systemic racism, internalized racism, and individual racism.

First, systemic racism needs to stop, and the systems need rebuilding. Systemic racism exists in a multitude of places but is primarily found in highly dense populations in which minorities live. Systemic racism dates back to long ago and was used as a tool to keep minorities oppressed. Systemic racism plays a significant role in getting jobs and education. According to David Roos, "Black students are 3.8 times more likely to be suspended from school than their white peers" (Roos). When these students are victims of an unfair system, it places an educational barrier there, whether that be a loss of interest towards that school or towards the people in that school. In a racist system, it is almost impossible for minorities to get jobs when in competition with white people. William Kasko states, "Black Americans with college degrees are actually unemployed twice as much as other graduates" (Kasko). The reason behind this is simply because of the racial prejudices employers have. Systemic racism can be controlled by increasing funds towards black communities for education.

Second, Internalized racism is prevalent in more places than recognized and plays a massive role in society and the government. One of the most common places internalized racism

is found in the criminal justice system. Internalized racism within the criminal justice system is most common when a police department is under investigation for a controversial occurrence by a white cop. The black police officers within the police department are expected to lie by the white officers even if they disagree. Internalized racism is a problem because “racism as a system of oppression has targeted racial groups who have relatively little social power in the United States” (Garvey). This means that internalized racisms attack the people who do not have much support to fight it. Internalized racism can be fixed by spreading awareness because, in most cases, minorities are unaware of when internalized racism is occurring.

Lastly, Individual racism is the most well-known form of racism, yet it still occurs. Individual racism serges on social media, in stores, and households across America. This form of bullying causes depression, anxiety, and many other disorders. Individual racism also causes a barrier between different races because of stereotypes. Individual racism occurs most commonly when offensive terms are used to oppress a minority. Recently a teenager from Minnesota posted on popular social media platform ‘Tik Tok’ a video with racial slurs directed toward one of her black classmates. According to NY Magee, Niya (The victim of the racially motivated bullying) said, “that’s when it all really hit me and how personal it was to me. That was just really hard because I just had this wave of emotions” (Magee). Individual racism is often personal and directed toward a particular person or persons. Individual racism can be stopped by holding racists accountable for what they say and holding your friends accountable for what they say.

In conclusion, racism originated long ago and is still here. The only way to rid America of racism is through equality and accountability. The racism that is found deep in the foundations of America needs to be abolished. Systemic racism, internalized racism, and individual can not be tolerated any longer.

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