

Vocabulary term

Definition

Race	A social construct that artificially divides people into distinct groups based on certain characteristics such as physical appearance (particularly skin color) ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, ethnic classification.
Ethnicity	A social construct that artificially divides people into smaller social groups based on characteristics such as shared sense of group membership, values, behavioral patterns, language, political and economic interests, history, and ancestral geographical base.
Nationality	The status of belonging to a particular nation by origin, birth or naturalization.
Prejudice	Preconceived notion or opinion formed beforehand without knowledge of the facts; injury or damage resulting from some judgment or action of another in disregard of one's rights especially detriment to one's legal rights or claims.
Racism	The systemic subordination of members of targeted groups who have relatively little social power in the United States by the members of the agent group who have relatively more social power; subordination is supported by the actions of individuals, cultural norms and values, and the institutional structures and practices of

	society; Prejudice + Institutional Power.
Sexism	Attitudes or behavior based on traditional stereotypes of gender roles; discrimination or devaluation based on a person's sex or gender.
Ableism	Discrimination of and social prejudice against people with disabilities based on the belief that typical abilities are superior. At its heart, it is rooted in the assumption that disabled people require 'fixing' and defines people by their disability; classifies entire groups of people as 'less than' and includes harmful stereotypes, misconceptions, and generalizations of people with disabilities.
Nativism	The policy of protecting the interests of established inhabitants against those of immigrants.
Privilege	The concrete benefits of access to resources and social rewards and the power to shape the norms and values of society which people receive, unconsciously and consciously, by virtue of their skin color in our society.
Classism	Unfair treatment or negative opinions about someone based on their economic and social position, especially because they are thought to be from a low social class.