

RE-CENTERING EDUCATION



Throughout the years, the United States has centered its educational system around White students, which in turn is not taking into account students of color. As diversity continues to increase in the United States there are more racially minoritized students. This is why it is vital to act now and make a difference so that all students feel accepted and valued in educational settings.



Racism

The first and most important thing to acknowledge is how racism functions. Racism functions as personal conscious or subconscious acceptance of racist views, biases, and stereotypes of one's own cultural group (Jackson et al., 2021). Internalized racism can impact students of color which can also affect the way that they not only look at themselves but how they are conceptualizing their education due to the overlapping ideologies of white supremacy.



Approaches to Counter Marginalization

1. Educators can choose to not address privilege and oppression in their courses.
2. Educators may create lessons that address one specific issue at a time so that students can understand the issues that were presented to them fully.
3. Many educators and activists have also created intersectional theories and pedagogies to help decenter Euro-Centric ways of teaching.
4. Students need to reflect on their own hidden assumptions and biases and doing this can help create a greater awareness of their own unique social location.
5. Allow students to feel that their classroom is a safe space and they are allowed to share their ideas and perspectives.



Important to Know

Native American and Alaska Native students have the highest dropout and lowest achievement rates (Kyle, 2022).

The negative impacts of U.S. Policies have created a major impact on the educational system of our country.

U.S. Policies have affected Native American and Alaska Native students due to them having to endure Euro-Centric curriculums as well as high faculty and staff turnover rates.

English Language Dominance

In California, public schools did not want Spanish to be the main language that children spoke in school.



One of the main concerns with this is that it proves that America does not want to change its ways. While also demonstrating the fear of not having English as America's primary language. This brings the term Racist Nativism to light.

Racist Nativism describes the ways contemporary xenophobia functions and manifests within U.S. immigration discourse broadly and within educational institutions in particular (Huber, 2011).



Lack of Diverse Faculty

There is a lack of racially and ethnically diverse faculty in U.S. Schools. It is valuable to have teachers of color because they offer a wide range of benefits to American Schools and society.

It is important for students of color to be able to have teachers that understand their perspectives and resemble them.

Students of color made up 45% of the PK-12 population whereas teachers of color made up only 17.5% (Childs, 2019).



Sources :

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Jackson, T. O., Kazembe, L. D., & Morgan, L. (2021). Internalized racism and the pursuit of cultural relevancy: Decolonizing practices for critical consciousness with preservice teachers of color. *Theory Into Practice*, 60(3), 291–300. <https://doi-org.snc.idm.oc lc.org/10.1080/004058 41.2021.1 911577>
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