

Student's Name

Instructor's Name

Course

Date

Skin Color, Gender, and Religious Racism

Introduction

The notion of racism has been existing for a long time. In general, racism is seen as a set of theories, which state the physical and mental disparities of human races based on objective anthropological differences and the decisive influence of racial differences on history and culture. Racism includes the ideas about the original division of people into superior and inferior races, the first of which are the creators of civilization and are designed to dominate other races. In practice, the implementation of racist theories sometimes finds expression in the policy of racial discrimination (Benoist 13). Therefore, racism is a theory that necessarily finds its application in practice. In fact, "racism is a form of practice" (Blaut 289) resulting in particular humiliating and degrading treatment of people, restricting their rights and freedoms and even using of violence and killings in extreme cases. Given this, one can speak not only about the cultural, but also about gender and religious forms of racism observed in the modern world. The current paper analyzes all the three types of racism and discrimination and discloses their contents.

Skin Color and Cultural Racism

Traditionally, racism is understood as the concept that connects all the differences between people (in culture, behavior and perception of the world) with racial characteristics,

ostensibly discovering such physical attributes, as skin color, shapes of a nose and eyes, form and color of hair etc. Moreover, the concept proclaims the eternal inequality of races, insisting on its legal registration. Such racism, generated by the era of colonialism, came from the concept of superior and inferior races. Despite all the scientific data it claimed that it were racial differences that determined the course of history. Racism based on skin color and having a cultural foundation is considered to be one of the most common forms of racism. In general, one can state that such classic racism relies on the following ideas:

- Belief in the real existence of separate races.
- Belief that the races differ in their genetic basis.
- Conclusion that some races have significant advantages over others.
- References to intelligence tests, supposedly proving that whites are different from blacks by advanced mental abilities.
- Statement that the brain of blacks is anatomically underdeveloped.
- Belief that whites are characterized by the ability to create high civilizations.
- Striving to maintain the "purity" of the white race by preventing intermarriage.

This kind of racism also applies to the carriers of different cultures that is, if the black race is regarded as backward, racism is directed towards the culture created by blacks. “Cultural racism blames the victim by attempting to identify cultural aspects of racial-ethnic minorities’ lives that are inferior to the white normative culture (i.e. deviant family structure, lack of effort, wrong values, etc.).” (Byrd 1009).

Gender Racism and Discrimination

Considering racism as oppression and discrimination, which result in limited access to the different capabilities, resources, etc., gender discrimination can also be seen as a kind of racism. In particular, gender discrimination against women is often associated with professional activities. The modern world of work is characterized by the active participation of both men and women. However, various studies show that despite the increase in the number of women in professional employment discrimination against women as a phenomenon in social life continues to exist (Rosigno). Discrimination against women is a kind of a more general phenomenon of a "gender discrimination", involving the restriction of rights on grounds of sex. Economic inequality between men and women is most pronounced in the area of employment. The requirement to review relations established in the field of labor and employment, is caused by the fact that gender asymmetry and inequality between men and women often takes place in this important area of human life support. The main manifestations of gender inequality in the labor and employment are the following:

- Sex discrimination in employment, which includes: discrimination on wages, in hiring, dismissal, promotion and in advanced training.
- Occupational segregation by gender.
- Performing by women both professional and family responsibilities.

Gender discrimination in employment is a process, when the employees having the same characteristics on the basis of performance are treated differently because they belong to different gender groups. Gender discrimination in employment is most common in the hiring process and reducing personnel. One of the types of employment discrimination is discrimination at the level of preference when employers are recruiting mostly men. They motivate their

behavior by the idea that female workers are unreliable because they have frequent outages associated with the birth of children or caring for them. They do not want to work overtime, as they have a large number of family responsibilities. A significant place in the preferences of male employers belongs to a belief that a man should be the breadwinner in the family while a woman should stay at home. It is important to note that the women themselves, recognizing that they have a large number of family responsibilities, do not believe that these responsibilities prevent them from work as well as men work.

Religious Racism

One should also recognize the existence of religious racism in a form of religious discrimination. Like any other form of discrimination, religious discrimination is primarily based on the persecution of minorities and non-traditional religions by a religious majority. "Religious discrimination is experienced through, for example, prejudice, unfair treatment, harassment or forms of violence based on a person's religion or belief" (Religious Discrimination and Legal Protection 2). Religious discrimination has the following various forms of manifestation:

- Refusal to provide land for construction of houses of worship and other religious facilities.
- Procrastination or failure to transfer (or return) previously seized religious buildings and church property.
- Exclusion from the community of newly built or purchased religious buildings.
- Abuse of authority by law enforcement officers.

- Holding public events organized by some religious (or public) associations in order to ban legitimate activities of other religious (or public) associations.
- Publications in media of the materials containing false or unverified information leading to the incitement of religious hatred and intolerance.
- In addition, religious discrimination might use persecution of believers in order to prohibit their visits to houses of worship, observance of religious rituals and ceremonies, and celebration of religious holidays.

The main reason of religious discrimination can be seen in various misconceptions and stereotypes against certain religions, their customs and traditions. For example, in Roman times the early Christians were persecuted in particular, for the reason that they were considered to be cannibals, since the rite of Communion was seen as similar to cannibalism. In addition, religious discrimination can also be caused by fear of losing political or social authority. The history of Christianity can also confirm that Christians were persecuted also because of the spread of Christianity among non-Christians.

Conclusion

The existence of racism is possible not only in the classic version, based on humiliating and degrading attitude towards representatives of black or colored races, but also in the form of gender and religious discrimination. Having a variety of reasons for their occurrence, each of these types has the characteristics of racism, namely, the presence of negative stereotypes and prejudices, the desire to limit the rights and freedom, including physical violence and destruction. Thus, the problem of modernity is to fight against the three kinds of racism and discrimination, which can still be observed.

