

## 4.7: Key Terms

### KEY TERMS

**amalgamation**

the process by which a minority group and a majority group combine to form a new group

**antiracist**

a person who opposes racism and acts for racial justice

**assimilation**

the process by which a minority individual or group takes on the characteristics of the dominant culture

**colorism**

the belief that one type of skin tone is superior or inferior to another within a racial group

**culture of prejudice**

the theory that prejudice is embedded in our culture

**discrimination**

prejudiced action against a group of people

**dominant group**

a group of people who have more power in a society than any of the subordinate groups

**ethnicity**

shared culture, which may include heritage, language, religion, and more

**expulsion**

the act of a dominant group forcing a subordinate group to leave a certain area or even the country

**genocide**

the deliberate annihilation of a targeted (usually subordinate) group

**institutional racism**

racism embedded in social institutions

**intersection theory**

theory that suggests we cannot separate the effects of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and other attributes

**minority group**

any group of people who are singled out from the others for differential and unequal treatment

**model minority**

the stereotype applied to a minority group that is seen as reaching higher educational, professional, and socioeconomic levels without protest against the majority establishment

**pluralism**

the ideal of the United States as a “salad bowl:” a mixture of different cultures where each culture retains its own identity and yet adds to the “flavor” of the whole

**prejudice**

biased thought based on flawed assumptions about a group of people

**racial profiling**

the use by law enforcement of race alone to determine whether to stop and detain someone

**racial steering**

the act of real estate agents directing prospective homeowners toward or away from certain neighborhoods based on their race

**racism**

a set of attitudes, beliefs, and practices that are used to justify the belief that one racial category is somehow superior or inferior to others

**redlining**

the practice of routinely refusing mortgages for households and business located in predominately minority communities

**scapegoat theory**

a theory that suggests that the dominant group will displace its unfocused aggression onto a subordinate group

**sedimentation of racial inequality**

the intergenerational impact of de facto and de jure racism that limits the abilities of Black people to accumulate wealth

**segregation**

the physical separation of two groups, particularly in residence, but also in workplace and social functions

**social construction of race**

the school of thought that race is not biologically identifiable

**stereotypes**

oversimplified ideas about groups of people

**subordinate group**

a group of people who have less power than the dominant group

**White privilege**

the benefits people receive simply by being part of the dominant group

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