2016

Psychology Assignment

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Professor: Nicole E. Rossi, Ph.D.
Course: PSYC 460: History and Systems of Psychology

#blacklivesmatter Due Dates Outline

For class on Tuesday, 2/23:

Read *Introduction to African American Psychology* by Belgrave and Allison (2014)

Read *Racial Identification and Preference in Negro Children* by Clark and Clark (1947)

Submit **2** discussion questions total to Blackboard on Belgrave and Allison (2014) and/or Clark and Clark (1947) by **8:30pm on Monday, 2/22**.

During class on Tuesday, 2/23 - discuss articles.

For class on Thursday, 2/25:

Read *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* by Tatum (1997)

Complete and upload your completed IAT assignment to the Assignments section of Blackboard no later than **Thursday, February 25 at 8:00am**.

Submit **2** discussion questions total to Blackboard on Tatum (1997) and/or connecting any of the #blacklivesmatter readings to one another by **8:30pm on Wednesday, 2/24**.

During class on Thursday, 2/25 – discuss articles and IAT assignment

Wednesday, March 2 from 4:30-6pm

Town Hall Meeting, DPAC

Purpose: In conjunction with our unit on #blacklivesmatter, the purpose of this assignment is to examine your implicit attitudes about race through the completion of the Implicit Association Test (IAT) online. Implicit attitudes are positive and negative evaluations that occur outside of our conscious awareness and control. In everyday life, people frequently do not verbalize what they are thinking; perhaps they are unwilling to do so. For example, someone might report smoking a pack of cigarettes per day because they are too embarrassed to admit they smoke more. Another reason is that they are unable to do so. A smoker may truly believe that he/she smokes a pack a day, or simply might not keep track. The difference between being unwilling and unable is the difference between *purposely* hiding something from someone and *unknowingly* hiding something from yourself. The IAT measures attitudes and beliefs that people may be unwilling or unable to report on a variety of topics, such as age, gender, religion, weight, sexuality, race, etc…. Please read the guidelines below to complete the assignment.

Guidelines:

1. Go to the following website: https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html
    This will bring you to the Project Implicit website. Next, read the section entitled "Preliminary Information" and click "I wish to proceed" at the bottom of the webpage. The next page will have a number of IATs. Scroll down the webpage to the "Race IAT" and click on it. Next, follow the instructions to complete the Race IAT. The test will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

2. Make a note of your score at the end of the test.

3. Answer the four questions below in complete sentences and in paragraph format.

4. Upload your completed assignment to the Assignments section of Blackboard no later than **Thursday, February 25 at 8:00am**. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Note: If you are interested in learning more about the IAT, either click "general information about the IAT" in the "Preliminary Information" section or click "Education" at the top of the webpage.

Questions:

1. What was your score on the IAT? Were you surprised at all by your score on the IAT? Why or why not? Explain.

2. At the beginning of the IAT you were asked to select the statement that most closely matches your explicit (publicly-expressed) attitudes about race. What do you think it means if the answer choice you selected and your actual implicit attitudes do not match?

3. One possible interpretation of the work on implicit attitudes is that we are naturally wary of those who look unfamiliar. Looking suspiciously at those who do not work and live alongside us may have been an adaptive trait a thousand years ago. We knew everyone by first name that lived and worked near us and there was no need for last names. Today, we pass people constantly who we do not know. In a multicultural and diverse society, is it adaptive to distrust those who look unfamiliar? Why or why not? Explain.

4. The IAT has been taken by a considerable number of people of all races, sexes, and ages, and often the results suggest that implicit biases exist among people of all types. Based on this activity, do you believe that implicit biases will always be commonplace or do you see a way to reduce them?