

## Chapter 2: Racial Minorities, Assimilation, Acculturation, and Classism in a Democratic Society

### Multiple Choice Questions

1. What are considered mandates of the United States' criminal justice system?
  - a. Competence, equality, and values
  - b. Fairness, equality, and justice
  - c. Positive attitude, assertiveness, and justice
  - d. All of the above

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Discuss cultural competence and why it is important for criminal justice practitioners.

Difficulty Level: Basic

2. What has to be intact for true fairness, equality, and justice to be obtained in the US criminal justice system and is achieved when people work effectively across cultures?
  - a. Cultural competence
  - b. Cultural assimilation
  - c. Integration
  - d. Acculturation

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Discuss cultural competence and why it is important for criminal justice practitioners.

Difficulty Level: Basic

3. An opposing political viewpoint that encourages the minority demographic to retain their cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and religious values, while also receiving the benefits of assimilation is known as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. ethnicity
  - b. integration
  - c. acculturation
  - d. multiculturalism

Answer: d

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

4. High internal control is associated with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. greater social action involvement
  - b. placing greater value on skill-based rewards
  - c. high achievement motivation
  - d. All of the above

Answer: d

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

5. Which of the following is an attribute of individuals believing in the person-centered orientation?
- Individuals believe that the environment is more potent than the individual.
  - Individuals have a difficult time assimilating.
  - Individuals believe that success or failure is related to the individual's skills or personal inadequacies.
  - All of the above

Answer: c

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Learning Objective: Discuss the "melting pot" concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Intermediate

6. In America, the hegemonic group is considered the \_\_\_\_\_.
- minority
  - majority
  - governmental agencies
  - immigrants

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Discuss the "melting pot" concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Intermediate

7. Which of the following is not a sociological process used by the dominant group to deter the non-dominant group from accessing power and authority?
- Disparities
  - Discrimination
  - Stigmatization
  - Racism

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms "discrimination" and "disparity" and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Intermediate

8. Which of the following is not a reason people stereotype?
- To identify people, events, and concepts

- b. To feel superior to others and make themselves feel more comfortable
- c. To simplify life and make things easier
- d. To exemplify tolerance for diversity

Answer: d

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Intermediate

9. \_\_\_\_\_ is when race and ethnicity become the primary means by which law enforcement decides who is searched and arrested.
- a. Racial profiling
  - b. Stigma
  - c. Acculturation
  - d. Assimilation

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Discuss disparities in arrest, sentencing, incarceration, and the death penalty for different racial groups.

Difficulty Level: Basic

10. \_\_\_\_\_ measures the degree of responsibility or blame placed on an individual or a system.
- a. Locus of control/responsibility
  - b. Internal control
  - c. Locus of control
  - d. External locus of control

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

11. Within the United States, barriers to social progression can be directly attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. race

- b. ethnicity
- c. religion
- d. All of the above

Answer: d

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

12. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the sharing of cultural values that occurs when two cultures come into contact.

- a. Integration
- b. Acculturation
- c. Cultural assimilation
- d. Multiculturalism

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

13. \_\_\_\_\_ are inequalities that exist between people of different races, sexes, ethnicities, and religions.

- a. Prejudices
- b. Stigmas
- c. Disparities
- d. Discriminations

Answer: c

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

14. Approximately \_\_\_\_\_ of black males between the ages twenty-two and twenty-nine are under correctional control.

- a. one-half
- b. one-third
- c. one-fourth

- d. three-fourths

Answer: b

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Difficulty Level: Basic

15. Many impoverished, criminally dangerous communities have a vested interest in keeping criminal activity in their communities.

- a. True
- b. False

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Explain how issues of race and racism have impacted society, in general, and the criminal justice system, in particular.

Difficulty Level: Basic

16. \_\_\_\_\_ is a political response that encourages the minority demographic to adopt the customs, values, and language of the dominant culture in order to receive the benefits of social integration.

- a. Acculturation
- b. Assimilation
- c. Multiculturalism
- d. Diversity awareness

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

17. A high external locus of control is associated with greater attempts at mastering the environment.

- a. True
- b. False

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

18. Which minority group is informally referred to as the “Model Minority” in some circles?

- a. Latino Americans
- b. Asian Americans
- c. Japanese Americans
- d. African Americans
- e. Native Americans

Answer: b

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Learning Objective: Explain how issues of race and racism have impacted society, in general, and the criminal justice system, in particular.

Difficulty Level: Basic

19. Situation-centered or system-blame individuals believe that the environment is more potent than the individual is.

- a. True
- b. False

Answer: a

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Learning Objective: Explain how issues of race and racism have impacted society, in general, and the criminal justice system, in particular.

Difficulty Level: Basic

20. The idea that the United States holds a special position among nations because of its unique status as the first modern democracy is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. patriotism
- b. the just-world hypothesis
- c. American exceptionalism
- d. ethnocentric
- e. None of the above

Answer: c

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

### Fill In The Blank Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are frequently used interchangeably because both terms are socially constructed concepts that define the group a person belongs to.

Answer: Race, ethnicity

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

2. Many minorities, individuals of lower socioeconomic status, and women score significantly \_\_\_\_\_ on the external end of the “locus of control” continuum, and therefore, have a more difficult time assimilating into the U.S. culture.

Answer: higher

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

3. According to the social dominance theory, the dominant group maintains power over the dominant group with sociological forces such as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: individual discrimination, 2. institutional discrimination, 3. behavioral symmetry of subordinate group

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

4. In American culture, the dominant group has long been identified as \_\_\_\_\_ of English heritage.

Answer: Protestants

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

5. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are some disparities that draw minorities to criminal activities.

Answer: Limited opportunities, low education levels, prevalent crime

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Difficulty Level: Basic

6. \_\_\_\_\_ measures the degree of responsibility or blame placed on an individual or a system.

Answer: Locus of control/responsibility

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Difficulty Level: Basic

7. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the sharing of cultural values that occurs when two cultures come into contact.

Answer: Acculturation

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Difficulty Level: Basic



8. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to social disapproval based on personal characteristics or behaviors that deviate from what has been determined as normal society.

Answer: Stigma

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

9. Researchers have studied the propensity to have an “us against them” mentality and to create in foreign groups of people the fearful concept of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: Evil Other

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Learning Objective: Identify the terms “discrimination” and “disparity” and discuss their differences within the criminal justice system.

Difficulty Level: Basic

10. A social system that discriminates based on skin pigment is called \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer: Pigmentocracy

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Basic

## Essay/Discussion Questions

1. Explain why there is a dramatic disproportionate share of African Americans and Hispanics incarcerated in American prisons. Describe the environmental factors and the increasing bias that occurs at each stage of the criminal justice process that contributes to these disproportionate numbers. Provide solutions that will decrease the disparities of incarcerations for minorities in the United States.

Answer:

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Learning Objective: Discuss disparities in arrest, sentencing, incarceration, and the death penalty for different racial groups.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

2. Describe the term disparate recidivism rate. What are some services that the American criminal justice system needs to provide for the incarcerated in effort to decrease the recidivism rate?

Answer:

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Learning Objective:

Explain how issues of race and racism have impacted society, in general, and the criminal justice system, in particular.

Difficulty Level: Difficult

3. List and explain in detail four ways in which the dominant group maintains power through common sociological processes.

Answer:

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Learning Objective: Discuss the “melting pot” concept, social dominance theory, and skin tone/pigmentation theory.

Difficulty Level: Intermediate