2.6 Shedding Light on Color

Objectives
Develop an awareness of the groups subsumed under the phrase “people of color.”
Analyze factors that determine a person’s inclusion under that heading.

Materials needed
Pen and paper or copies of the handout
Possibly, reference materials

Time needed
Thirty to sixty minutes; ten to twenty minutes for variation

Instructor directions
Ask your students to develop definitions of the phrase.
Encourage them to analyze relevant components of the definition and to identify the diversity of groups included in it.
Collect the individual writings or encourage group discussion.

Variation
Have your students create group definitions for the term “people of color” and follow the first two steps listed.
2.6 Shedding Light on Color Handout

Directions
Write a definition of the phrase “people of color.”

Do you think this phrase is appropriate? What does it imply? What does it omit?

Expand your definition using two of the following techniques:
Description by geographical location
Analysis by cultural practices
Comparison/contrast between several ethnic or cultural groups
Examples that demonstrate the specific items in your definition

Variation
Work in groups to create your definition for “people of color.” Follow the first two steps above.