



Writing for Change

RAISING AWARENESS OF DIFFERENCE, POWER, AND DISCRIMINATION

2.7 Writing About Racial Identity

Objectives

Develop a perspective on the role of racial identity in people's self images.

Analyze the influences of racial identity in various aspects of people's lives.

Materials needed

Pen and paper or copies of the handout

Time needed

Thirty to sixty minutes

Instructor directions

Ask your students to write a two- to four-paragraph autobiography based on their racial identities.

Have them answer questions about ways it has influenced them.

Collect individual assignments or discuss in large group.

Variation

Have your students write an autobiography based on their religious affiliation.



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2.7 Writing About Racial Identity Handout

Directions

Write a two- to four-paragraph autobiography based on your racial identity. Answer the following questions:

When and how did you become aware of this identity?

What role has it played in your life?

How does it affect you in your social activities?

How does it affect you in your school or your major?

How does it affect you in this class?

In what ways do you benefit from this identity? In what ways do you suffer or miss out?

Variation

Write an autobiography based on your religious affiliation. Answer the questions above.