Student’s Name:

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Course:

Date:

Question and Answer

Question 1

The issue of race is an international concern in the contemporary society. Race is socially constructed albeit some scholars believe that it is biological. Either way, race is an integral concept when it comes to societal development. This paper, therefore, seeks to explore the approaches taken by both the functionalist and conflict models in regard to race.

Factionalism theory is a model that describes the different units of the society in relation to how each unit contributes to the solidity of a society as a whole. According to this theory, there are social institutions in the society which all function together to ensure that the society is stable (Smith 12). Conflict theory, on the other hand, is a theory that asserts that society is at a state of conflict simply because of the competition for insufficient resources. Further, the proponent of the theory Karl Marx argues that to achieve social order, domination and power is the way rather than consensus.

In the functionality theory, race is seen when consensus is emphasized and order on focusing on social stability and shared public values. It further supports the ideas of the status quo and the process of cultural hegemony. It is also stated that functionalism does not support the active role of changing the social environment, even when knowing that it might benefit them. The conflict theory, on the other hand, approaches race in that it accredits most essential progress in human history being egalitarianism and civil rights. It mostly orbits around notions of communal dissimilarity in resource division that exist between classes.

The comparison comes in where the functionalism theory is seen to neglect negative deeds seen in the social order. By all means, it stands by the fact that social stability cannot be changed even when knowing that it is for the good of those in the society (Smith 15). The conflict theory, on the other hand, does not support any negative deed and is ready to regulate the multitudes instead of maintaining social order. It stands against war, revolution, poverty, and discrimination in the society.

Conclusion

It is essential for those in the higher institutions to make sure that the society is in order for smooth existence. At times rules are broken to be made, and making them is for the good of the majority. Conflict theory should maintain what it believes to be the best for the functionalism party to emulate.

Question 2

Prejudice is an affective feeling towards a person’s membership to a group. The feeling is in most cases used on a person and is often an unfavorable feeling in relation to a person’s gender, sex, and social classes (Simpson, George & Milton 20). Discrimination, however, is the treatment of individuals based on their actual membership, race, gender or ethnicity in a specific group and the treatment is in most cases worse. The difference between the two is that prejudice relates to attitudes and opinions of an individual towards another group while discrimination involves behaviors towards another group or individual because of differences in terms of race, gender, culture or disability among others.

Question 3

Assimilation is the process in which an individual adopts the customs and attitudes of the prevailing culture and adapts to their customs. The concepts adapted include language, ways of life, religion and behaviors among others. In the United States, it has worked due to the assimilation of the African Americans who went to the US as slaves during the slave trade. Today, however, the blacks have been assimilated and became part and parcel of the county. For example, African American form a large part of the US populace. This is because after slavery was outlawed, there were significant laws which were made to ensure there was equality (Dee, Dick et al. 560). As such, the new generation that resulted from slavery grew up in the US knowing it was their home and was assimilated. Today, both the whites and the blacks in the US have similar ways of life, a clear indication of how assimilation has worked in the country. Also, immigration has led to the beginning of native-born generations. By so it means that children of immigrants born in America bring forth the second generation. The second generation, however, seems to have adopted the culture of where they are born, and which is very different from that of their parents. The chain continues as the way the third generation behaves is completely different from that of their grandparents.

Works cited

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