

NOWALLS MINISTRY

The Terminology of Race

Race:

1. a group of persons related by common descent or heredity.
2. a population so related.
3. *Anthropology*.
 - a. any of the traditional divisions of humankind, the commonest being the Caucasian, Mongoloid, and Negro, characterized by supposedly distinctive and universal physical characteristics: no longer in technical use.
 - b. an arbitrary classification of modern humans, sometimes, esp. formerly, based on any or a combination of various physical characteristics, as skin color, facial form, or eye shape, and now frequently based on such genetic markers as blood groups.
 - c. a human population partially isolated reproductively from other populations, whose members share a greater degree of physical and genetic similarity with one another than with other humans.
4. a group of tribes or peoples forming an ethnic stock: *the Slavic race*.
5. any people united by common history, language, cultural traits, etc.: *the Dutch race*.
6. the human race or family; humankind: *Nuclear weapons pose a threat to the race*.¹

Race:

1. A local geographic or global human population distinguished as a more or less distinct group by genetically transmitted physical characteristics.
2. A group of people united or classified together on the basis of common history, nationality, or geographic distribution: *the German race*.
3. A genealogical line; a lineage.
4. Humans considered as a group.

Usage Note: The notion of race is nearly as problematic from a scientific point of view as it is from a social one. European physical anthropologists of the 17th and 18th centuries proposed various systems of racial classifications based on such observable characteristics as skin color, hair type, body proportions, and skull measurements, essentially codifying the perceived differences among broad geographic populations of humans. The traditional terms for these populations—*Caucasoid* (or *Caucasian*), *Mongoloid*, *Negroid*, and in some systems *Australoid*—are now controversial in both technical and nontechnical usage, and in some cases they may well be considered offensive. (*Caucasian* does retain a certain currency in American English, but it is used almost exclusively to mean "white" or "European"

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rather than "belonging to the Caucasian race," a group that includes a variety of peoples generally categorized as nonwhite.) The biological aspect of race is described today not in observable physical features but rather in such genetic characteristics as blood groups and metabolic processes, and the groupings indicated by these factors seldom coincide very neatly with those put forward by earlier physical anthropologists. Citing this and other points—such as the fact that a person who is considered black in one society might be nonblack in another—many cultural anthropologists now consider race to be more a social or mental construct than an objective biological fact.²

Prejudice:

1. An adverse judgment or opinion formed beforehand or without knowledge or examination of the facts.
2. A preconceived preference or idea.
3. The act or state of holding unreasonable preconceived judgments or convictions.
4. Irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion.
5. Detriment or injury caused to a person by the preconceived, unfavorable conviction of another or others.³

Racism:

1. The belief that race accounts for differences in human character or ability and that a particular race is superior to others.
2. Discrimination or prejudice based on race.⁴

Discrimination:

1. an act or instance of discriminating.
2. treatment or consideration of, or making a distinction in favor of or against, a person or thing based on the group, class, or category to which that person or thing belongs rather than on individual merit: *racial and religious intolerance and discrimination.*
3. the power of making fine distinctions; discriminating judgment: *She chose the colors with great discrimination.*⁵

Reparations:

1. the making of amends for wrong or injury done: *reparation for an injustice.*

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3 The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 11/09/09.

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2. Usually, *reparations*. compensation in money, material, labor, etc., payable by a defeated country to another country or to an individual for loss suffered during or as a result of war.
3. restoration to good condition.⁶

Bigot:

One who is strongly partial to one's own group, religion, race, or politics and is intolerant of those who differ.⁷

Affirmative Action:

A policy or a program that seeks to redress past discrimination through active measures to ensure equal opportunity, as in education and employment.⁸

Reverse Discrimination:

The unfair treatment of members of majority groups resulting from preferential policies, as in college admissions or employment, intended to remedy earlier discrimination against minorities.⁹

Quota:

1. A proportional share, as of goods, assigned to a group or to each member of a group; **an allotment**.
2. A production assignment.
3. A number or percentage, especially of people, constituting or designated as an upper limit: *a country with strict annual immigration quotas*.
4. A number or percentage, especially of people, constituting a required or targeted minimum: *a system of quotas for hiring minority applicants*.¹⁰

Social Justice:

1. The distribution of advantages and disadvantages within a society¹¹
2. Redistribution of wealth

⁷ The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 11/09/09.

⁸ The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 11/09/09.

⁹ Dictionary.com Unabridged Based on the Random House Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2009, accessed 1/5/2010.

¹⁰ The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 2/26/2010.

¹¹ Dictionary.com's 21st Century Lexicon. Retrieved December 26, 2009, from Dictionary.com website: [http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/social justice](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/social%20justice).

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Socialism:

1. Any of various theories or systems of social organization in which the means of producing and distributing goods is owned collectively or by a centralized government that often plans and controls the economy.
2. The stage in Marxist-Leninist theory intermediate between capitalism and communism, in which collective ownership of the economy under the dictatorship of the proletariat **has not yet been successfully achieved.**¹²

Intolerance:

1. lack of toleration; unwillingness or refusal to tolerate or respect contrary opinions or beliefs, persons of different races or backgrounds, etc.
2. incapacity or indisposition to bear or endure: *intolerance to heat*.
3. abnormal sensitivity or allergy to a food, drug, etc.
4. an intolerant act.¹³

Tolerance:

1. The capacity for or the practice of recognizing and respecting the beliefs or practices of others.
2. Leeway for variation from a standard.
3. The permissible deviation from a specified value of a structural dimension, often expressed as a percent.
4. Physiological resistance to a toxin.¹⁴

Stereotype:

A generalization, usually exaggerated or oversimplified and often offensive, that is used to describe or distinguish a group.¹⁵

Assimilation:

The process whereby a minority group gradually adopts the customs and attitudes of the prevailing culture.¹⁶

Inclusion:

1. the act of including.

¹² The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed on 2/27/2010.

¹³ Dictionary.com Unabridged Based on the Random House Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2009, accessed 11/09/09.

¹⁴ The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 2/26/2010.

¹⁵ The American Heritage® New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, Third Edition, Copyright © 2005 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 1/14/2010.

¹⁶ The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition Copyright © 2009 by Houghton Mifflin Company, accessed 2/26/2010.

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2. the state of being included.¹⁷

Absolute Poverty:

1. is when people lack the necessary food, clothing, or shelter to survive¹⁸

Relative Poverty:

2. is the inability of a citizen to participate fully in economic terms in the society in which he or she lives.¹⁹

Welfare as defined in 1828:

1. Exemption from misfortune, sickness, calamity or evil; the enjoyment of health and the common blessings of life; prosperity; happiness. (applied to persons)
2. Exemption from any unusual evil or calamity; the enjoyment of peace and prosperity, or the ordinary blessings of society and civil government. (applied to states)²⁰

Welfare as defined in 2010:

1. is aid in the form of **money** or necessities for those in need.
2. an agency or program through which such aid is distributed²¹

Entitlement:

1. The right to guaranteed benefits under a government program, as Social Security or unemployment compensation.²²

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<http://www.ask.com/bar?q=Define+Absolute+and+Relative+Poverty&page=1&qsrc=6&dm=all&ab=0&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.talktalk.co.uk%2Freference%2Fencyclopaedia%2Fhutchinson%2Fm0021818.html&sg=EJj4LWBEvnS4ikHghcimBULBsensi1pAUSXPCURk09I%3D&tsp=1268861608143>, accessed on 3/17/2010.

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<http://www.ask.com/bar?q=Define+Absolute+and+Relative+Poverty&page=1&qsrc=6&dm=all&ab=0&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.talktalk.co.uk%2Freference%2Fencyclopaedia%2Fhutchinson%2Fm0021818.html&sg=EJj4LWBEvnS4ikHghcimBULBsensi1pAUSXPCURk09I%3D&tsp=1268861608143>, accessed on 3/17/2010.

20 American Dictionary of The English Language, Noah Webster 1828.

21 <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/welfare>, accessed on 3/17/2010.

22 Dictionary.com Unabridged Based on the Random House Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2010, accessed 4/5/2010.

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Right:

2. That which is due to anyone by just claim, legal guarantees, moral principles, etc.: *women's rights; Freedom of speech is a right of all Americans.*²³

²³ Dictionary.com Unabridged Based on the Random House Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2010, accessed 4/5/2010.