PREJUDICE
and International Education

Conrad Hughes
PREJUDICE
and International Education

1. What is it?
2. Theories of the way prejudice develops
3. Can it be measured?
4. Schools and prejudice
5. International education and prejudice
6. How can prejudice be reduced?
1. What is it?

*praecjudicium* – “precedent”

Strong generalisation rationalises “beliefs held on irrational grounds [to protect] a deep-seated system of emotions” (Thouless, 1930, p. 150)

“will to misunderstand” (Shi-Xu, 2001, p. 281)

Fixed mind-set

Tends to be self-gratifying
2. Theories of the way prejudice develops

**Psychoanalytical**

- Frustration aggression theory
  - Dollard et al. (1939)
  - Hovland & Sears (1940)

- Emotional maladjustment
  - Adorno et al. (1950)

- Relative deprivation
  - Runciman (1966)

- Realistic conflict theory
  - Sherif et al. (1954)
2. Theories of the way prejudice develops
Developmental Psychology

“the child’s discovery of his homeland and understanding of other countries is a process of transition from egocentricity to reciprocity”
Piaget & Weil (1951)

Allport’s 3 stage theory of prejudice formation (1954)

Pregeneralization (middle childhood): children are generally aware of differences but do not categorize others or have strong feelings toward other groups.

Early puberty: total rejection of outgroups peaks.

Stage three (late adolescence): adolescent’s thinking becomes more differentiated and less generalized.

Frenkel-Brunswick, 1948; Radke & Sutherland, 1949; Remy, Nathan, Becker & Torney, 1975; Aboud, 1988; Doyle & Boud, 1995; Aboud & Amato, 2001; Cushner, 2008
2. Theories of the way prejudice develops

Social psychology/Sociological

Belief Congruence Theory
Rokeach (1960, 1971)

Black Skin White Masks
Frantz Fanon (1952)

Social Identity Theory
Tajfel & Turner (1986)

Social Reflection
Bandura (1977)
3. Can it be measured?

Implicit Association Test
Greenwald, Banaji, Nosek (1998)

Clark & Clark Doll Task (1954)
(Trait Attribution)

The Robbers Cave Experiment
Sherif et al. (1954)
3. Can it be measured?  
The problem of culture

Social categories are
(1) perspectival,
(2) historical,
(3) disrupted by the movement of people, and
(4) re-constitutive of the phenomena they seek to describe.

Gillespie, Howarth and Cornish (2012)
3. Can it be measured?
The problem of culture

the assumption that at some level all forms of cultural diversity may be understood on the basis of a particular universal concept, whether it be `human being', `class' or `race', can be both very dangerous and very limiting in trying to understand the ways in which cultural practices construct their own systems of meaning and social organisation. (Bhabha, 1990: p. 209)
3. Can it be measured?

The problem of culture

(Tourists) talk about “Ladakhi culture” in terms of the Ladakhis they have met, usually hoteliers, waiters, shopkeepers and mountain guides. They describe these people as having a traditional culture that stands in opposition to the consumerism and alienation of modernity (Gillespie, 2006). However, if one talks to Ladakhi villagers, many of whom have had no encounters with tourists, they will describe the hoteliers, waiters, shop-keepers and mountain guides as not being part of Ladakhi culture, but rather as modern, because they speak English, listen to American music and watch Hollywood movies (Gillespie, 2006).

Gillespie, Howarth and Cornish (2012)
3. Can it be measured?

The problem of culture
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   The problem of culture

Item response model

Pellegrino, Chudowski & Glaser, 2001
4. Schools and prejudice

*Discipline and Punish (1975)*
Michel Foucault

*Ideology and Curriculum (1979)*
Michael Apple

5. International Education and prejudice

• education for peace;
• conflict resolution skills;
• respect for cultural heritage and the environment;
• intercultural understanding (within and between nations);
• global issues and attitudes of solidarity at national and international levels.

UNESCO (1995)
5. International Education and prejudice
Co-orientational models of intercultural competence

Desired External Outcome
Behaving and communicating effectively and appropriately (based on one’s intercultural knowledge, skills, and attitudes) to achieve one’s goals to some degree

Desired Internal Outcome
Informed frame of reference/filter shift
- Adaptability (to different communication styles and behaviors; adjustment to new cultural environments)
- Flexibility (selecting and using appropriate communication styles and behaviors; cognitive flexibility)
- Ethnorelative view
- Empathy

Knowledge and Comprehension
- Cultural self-awareness
- Deep understanding and knowledge of culture (including contexts, role and impact of culture and others’ worldviews)
- Culture-specific information
- Sociolinguistic awareness

Skills
- Listen
- Observe
- Interpret
- Analyze
- Evaluate
- Relate

Requisite Attitudes
- Respect (valuing other cultures, cultural diversity)
- Openness (to intercultural learning and to people from other cultures, withholding judgment)
- Curiosity and discovery (tolerating ambiguity and uncertainty)

Deardorff, 2006
5. International Education and prejudice
Co-orientational models of intercultural competence

Byram, 1997
5. International education and prejudice
Co-orientational models of intercultural competence

Kupka, 2008
5. International education and prejudice
Developmental models of intercultural competence

Bennett, 1986
5. International education and prejudice
Developmental models of intercultural competence

Gulahorn & Gulahorn, 1962
5. International education and prejudice
Relative acculturation extended model

Navas et al., 2005
5. International education and prejudice
Multilevel process change model of intercultural competence

Ting-Toomy, 1999
6. How can it be reduced?

Discussion:

1. How do you address prejudice in your school? (5 mins)

2. Are the IB programmes doing enough to reduce prejudice? (5 mins)
6. How can it be reduced?

Contact

Contact Hypothesis
Allport (1954)

Jigsaw classroom
Aaronson (1971)
6. How can it be reduced?
Empathetic learning

Blue Eyes/Brown Eyes Experiment
Elliot (1968)

Exchanges ... but with superordinate goals
6. How can it be reduced?

**Literature**

Jean Rhys

Ralph Ellison

Ruth Prawer Jhabvala

JM Coetzee
Why have our two consuls and praetors come out today wearing their embroidered, their scarlet togas? Why have they put on bracelets with so many amethysts, and rings sparkling with magnificent emeralds? Why are they carrying elegant canes beautifully worked in silver and gold?

Because the barbarians are coming today and things like that dazzle the barbarians.

Why don’t our distinguished orators come forward as usual to make their speeches, say what they have to say?

Because the barbarians are coming today and they’re bored by rhetoric and public speaking.

Why this sudden restlessness, this confusion? (How serious people’s faces have become.) Why are the streets and squares emptying so rapidly, everyone going home so lost in thought?

Because night has fallen and the barbarians have not come. And some who have just returned from the border say there are no barbarians any longer.
“Logic is real, and it often governs our human relations. Lots of slurs and stereotypes work [...] through fallacious inference” (Nussbaum, 2010, p. 75).
6. How can it be reduced?

Demonstration

"rotated square"
"off-centered diamond"
assimilated to one of the preexisting categories

The human mind must think with the aid of categories....Once formed, categories are the basis for normal prejudgment. We cannot possibly avoid this process. Orderly living depends upon it. (Allport, 1954 p. 20)

http://www.understandingprejudice.org/apa/english/page4.htm
6. How can it be reduced?  

Demonstration

In a study on colour perception, Robert Goldstone (1995) found that the "L" above was perceived as more red than the "8," even though the "L" and "8" were actually identical in hue. Figure reprinted with permission of Blackwell Publishing, Ltd.

differences within groups will tend to be minimized and differences between groups will tend to be exaggerated

http://www.understandingprejudice.org/apa/english/page5.htm
6. How can it be reduced?

Demonstration

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<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Reward Matrix Used in Minimal Group Research
Allen and Wilder (1975)

participants preferred an ingroup/outgroup award distribution of 7/1 points rather than 12/11 points, denying members of their own group 5 points (7 instead of 12) (Allen & Wilder, 1975; Wilder, 1981).
6. How can it be reduced?

Demonstration

Morrongiello, Midgett, and Stanton (2000)

children 6-10 years of age

http://www.understandingprejudice.org/apa/english/page15.htm
6. How can it be reduced?

Discussion

- Rokeach (1971) demonstrated, for instance, that when students spent roughly half an hour considering how their values, attitudes, and behaviours were inconsistent with the ideal of social equality, they showed significantly greater support for civil rights more than a year later.
6. How can it be reduced?

Pitfalls

1. Assuming baseline non-prejudicial thinking
2. A flat, non-development curriculum
3. Regenerating Western universalist assumptions (Western acculturation)
4. Lack of any serious assessment
5. Contact without superordinate goals
6. **Addressing the symptoms and not the causes**
7. Trivia
Summary

- **Prejudice**: categorical generalisation that resists change
- **Theories**: Frustration aggression theory, Emotional maladjustment, Relative deprivation, Realistic conflict theory, Social reflection Developmental, Social identity theory
- **Experiments**: Doll task, Robbers Cave, Implicit Association Test
- **Problems**: social categories are fluid (backwash effect of noble intentions)
- **Schools**: textbooks, admissions policies, structure, ideology can exacerbate prejudice
- **International Education**: models of intercultural competence, critical thinking
- **How can we reduce it?**: empathy, critical thinking, literature, demonstration, discussion, causes and not merely effects
- **Be wary of pitfalls**
Conclusions

1. Problematise
2. Articulate the learning progression
3. Get to the root
4. Revisit

Outstanding Resource

http://www.understandingprejudice.org
References


