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ASSIGNMENT - Structural Analysis Reflection Assignment

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ASSIGNMENT

Structural Analysis Reflection Assignment

3–5 pages maximum—please use Times New Roman, 12pt. font

In this essay, you will explore ONE of four concepts—power, social structure, culture, OR identity—that scholars in Ethnic Studies use to examine problems related to social inequality.

Choose a contemporary issue facing racially minoritized communities (e.g., gentrification, affirmative action, poverty, segregation, healthcare access, deportation, criminalization, land theft, incarceration, environmental racism, imperialism, political disenfranchisement, historical erasure, climate change, redlining, etc.) and analyze the issue by answering ONE (1) of the following sets of questions:

I. POWER

Broadly put, power is the ability to control others. How do you see power working in the issue you have chosen to analyze? Who has authority to control people, and how do they do this?

OR

II. SOCIAL STRUCTURE

This term refers to how power is produced and reproduced by complex social forms such as governments, the family, human languages, universities, hospitals, business corporations, and legal systems. In your analysis, what is/are the most important structures in the issue you're analyzing?

OR

III. CULTURE

Culture is: represented by values, traditions, social and political relationships, worldview, shared by a group of people, and bounded by a combination of common history, geographic location, language, social class, religion, sexual orientation, and other dimensions. Where do we see examples of culture in the issue you're analyzing?

OR

IV. IDENTITY

How are people grouped according to different identities? How are the various ways people are identified in terms of race, class, gender, sexuality, nationality, and so on relevant to the issue you're analyzing?