Racism and Immigrants Living in Samoa

John Doe

University of Hawaii West O’ahu

1 **NOTE: This literature review has been entirely fabricated to provide students with an idea of how a literature review should be formatted and structured. The contents within this review are entirely made-up. The reason for creating this review was to focus on a certain group of people and show how various sociological factors are increased or decreased based on a particular variable. Since most reviews are conducted on an ethnic group within the United States, this review specially focused on a different nation in order to remove the scope away from common groups that are reviewed by West O’ahu students. The contents within this review are NOT meant to cast a negative light on any ethnic group. Rather the goal of this review is simply to show readers how a literature review should be structured. Again, the contents and situation within this review are entirely MADE UP. The research (including names) is fake, and the cultural climate and relationship between these two different ethnicities is entirely made-up. **
Racism and Immigrants Living in Samoa

Many studies agree that the racism is an active phenomenon in relation to immigrants living in Samoa (Charmichael and Tegafu 2014; Burns 2014; O’Fantima 2001; Harrison 2015; Tualaulelei 2014). While statistically there is a relatively low margin of immigrants in Samoa, Charmichael and Tegafu (2015) find that racism within this nation still leads to bias attitudes towards many Tongan immigrants. Biasness is commonly defined in literature as having prejudice for or against a person or group (Miller 2009). This has occurred in the form of bullying, marginalization, and racism as Samoans and Tongan immigrants interact within various communities in Samoa (Perali 2008; Smith 2014). Immigrants are personified in literature as a migrant with the intention of permanent residence (Kiko 2013). And Burns (2014) finds that racism towards immigrants is commonly viewed as discrimination of a dominant group towards a non-native group; in that the dominant group views the non-native group as subordinates. This literature review examines the relationship between racism and Tongan immigrants in Samoa.

BIAS ATTITUDES

Racism in prior studies can be separated into micro and macro levels of biasness. Smith (2014) argues that prior to 1986, studies focused on biasness were narrow in scope and did not provide an accurate indicator of the real attitudes present in communities. Similarly, in her study, Burns (2014) surveyed a sample group of both Tongan and Samoan peoples. Through her study, she discovered that the constraints of attitudes were much more layered than were once thought (Burns 2014). In contrast, Charmichael and Tegafu (2015) argue that bias attitudes have decreased rather than increased in the recent decade than compared to previous years. Ultimately, research provides mixed results concerning bias attitudes within Samoan communities.
MARGINALIZATION

According to Burns (2014) racism has been a significant problem in Western Samoa in regards to the Samoan and Tongan communities. Due to cultural tradition, the Tongan community has been marginalized within the community. Charmichael and Tegafu (2014) also support Burns (2014) study, the scholars find that there is marginalization within the Tongan community living in Samoa. Often time’s school children are teased because of their ethnicity in school (Charmichael and Tegafu 2014). Contrastingly, Jenkins (2013) argues that the Tongan community in Samoa is not marginalized because of their race. He states that the community is treated fairly and justly, and that this new generation of Samoans and Tongans live harmoniously. Hence, research provides mix-results in regards to racism between Samoans and Tongans living in Western Samoa.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Rural Locations

In rural locations, studies find that Tongans have the most instances of racism and prejudice attitudes (Masland, and Lease 2013; Ryan 2001). One study focused on the effects of racism in contrast to other research that focused primarily on the influences in social interactions such as school setting and the workplace within rural locations (Masland, and Lease 2013). Sims (2014) found that those attending public school were more likely to be marginalized by peers. Another study found that Tongans working in agricultural positions were more likely to be marginalized rather than in office settings (Ryan 2001). Nevertheless, research suggests that racism increases in rural locations within Samoa.

City Locations
With a large integration of various ethnicities, communal locations offered within a city climax are areas in which racism towards immigrants tends to decrease (Kim et al. 2010). Perali (2008) indicates that marginalization decreases with educational settings and city locations. The reason being, in cities there is more of a multicultural blend of immigrants and indigenous groups. Interestingly, Tualaulelei (2014) also finds that sports is a key factor that assist in decreasing marginalization as the realm of sports seems to be an all embossing communal event. Within cities, sports teams, especially rugby contains a large mix of Tongan and Samoan members (Tualaulelei 2014). The unification of sports provides a unique bond, which in turn seems to decrease marginalization between Tongans and Samoans (Tualaulelei 2014; Perali 2008).

CONCLUSION

Smith (2014), Fatu (2010), and Harrison (2015) all agree that racism does exist between the Tongan and Samoan community within Samoa. However, Perali (2008) indicates that marginalization decreases with educational settings and city locations. Tualaulelei (2014) also finds that sports is a key factor that assist in decreasing marginalization as the realm of sports seems to be an all embossing communal event. One suggestion for further research is to focus studies on more rural areas and analyze the relationship between females and marginalization.
References


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