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Race & Ethnicity

(Chapter 11)

* Race

- definition - a socially constructed category of people who share biologically transmitted traits that members of a society consider important
- race is socially constructed
- physical traits
- significance of race -

* Ethnicity

- a shared cultural heritage based on common ancestors, language, and religion
- socially constructed
- part of social identity
- both race & ethnicity change over time

* Minority

- any category of people that society sets apart & subordinates
- based on race and/or ethnicity
- distinct identity & subordination are characteristics

* Prejudice

- a rigid and unfair generalization about an entire category of people
- usually supported by little or no evidence

* Stereotype

- an exaggerated description applied to every person of a category
- comedians talk about this