**Social issues Affecting African American race and policies**

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Introduction

The issue surrounding the African American community in the United States dates back to the colonial period when Africans were shipped to the new land ‘The America’ by the Britons who had occupied the land with purpose of making it productive. These slaves faced discrimination from the whites and upon America getting its independence; they continued to face discrimination and other social injustices. Even with consolidated efforts to end Afro-American issues, today remains a bigger challenge as the gap between fairness and justice between Afro-American and Whites derailing the efforts and measures put in place to end these social issues. Black Americans continue to face various social issues that have affected their lives both their freedom and integration (Cooper et al., 2019). However, not all the people from Black community experience the same issues as today most faces police brutality and racial abuses even from the Blacks. Therefore, these issues call for the whole society both Blacks and Whites to address these issues with combination of systemic changes and policy interventions.

**Social Issues affecting African American race**

***Criminal Justice Disparities***

Black Americans today faces a greater challenge especially on the criminal justice because of their color and race. Criminal justice plays a significant role in country that is occupied by people of different colors and race since they must serve with diligence and fairness to all the citizens. However, this is not the case in America as the Black Americans are subjected to unfair treatment from the law enforcement units. In addition, the Black Americans are underprivileged as compared to the White Americans as they are arrested and convicted without following the due processes of law (Mauer, 2018).The Black American communities have in the past being subjected to a disproportionate injustice by the criminal justice system as most of are treated as criminals and planted with fake evidence to receive heavy punishment unlike the white Americans. Besides that, the Black Americans are subjected to receive harsher and longer sentences from the judges compared to their white counterparts for similar offences. Hence, this issues on criminal justice disparities is affecting the Black community as they are also likened and linked to biased policing, system bias and racial profiling from within the criminal justice system headed by the whites favoring the white Americans over Blacks.

***Educational achievement gap***

Education is one of the fundamental tools in unlocking the infinite possibilities to humanity because one of the most sort program today in the world. It is saddening to learn that most Americans today still face an achievement gap in education. The Black American community face a challenge of unequal educational opportunities compared to the White this is because in most of the Black occupied states, the government has had less contribution and attention (Mwangi et al., 2018). The government has had these regions with unequal funding for schools, systematic biases from the ministry of education and lower-quality educational resources which have disadvantaged the Blacks against the Whites. In the past, history dates that, Black Americans were denied opportunities to attend White schools as they considered their formal education only for industrial manual jobs. However, the norm changed with many Blacks securing education, it is deafening to hear this, because today, the Blacks are provided with educational opportunities but with little or no government support which have contributed significantly to disparities in educational achievement gap and outcomes.

***Economic inequality***

Economic inequality among the American people is brought about by many factors that include disparities in education and underdevelopment in Black occupied regions. The end of slavery in American brought fewer changes among the Black American communities in that, little has changed with Black experienced lower wages and higher rates of unemployment. These factors have teamed up to reduce the economic prosperity in the B lacks dominated society as they have limited access to economic opportunities (Boykin, 2020). Inadequate financial capacities among the Afro-American people have led to their economies growing thinner and having fewer members from the community prospering in these fields making them poor and unable to compete with the well-established whites’ economy. The growing economic disparities between the Black and Whites in America are attributed to slavery, racial segregation and ongoing discriminations which has negatively influenced economic growth and advancement in the Afro-American communities.

***Health disparities***

Health sector is fundamental to all humans irrespective of age, gender, race and color. It is blathering to learn that racial and color disparities has played a major role in ensuring that different communities have health disparities. The Afro-Americans have many issues related to health conditions such as heart diseases, hypertension, cancer and diabetes requiring intensive care and attention from the government (Assari, 2018). However, that is not the case; the Back Americans have limited access to healthcare because of the racial biases in health delivery and system. Widening the gap of disparities in healthcare access is that most of Black Americans have weaker economies and low wages limiting their access to intensive healthcare systems as they are very expensive to access.

***Police brutality***

Black Americans have experienced higher rate of police brutality and unprecedented arrests compared to the white Americans. Many cases have been recorded and reported of Afro-Americans receiving more brutal judgments and punishment from police over minor cases. The ever increasing police brutality has been reported on cases where unarmed Black Americans are disproportionately targeted and subjected to brutality such as using excessive force by the police (Feagin, 2020). Therefore, Black Americans feel unsafe and suspects every time they are flagged off by the traffic policies as they are subjected to thorough search and use of excess force even when found unarmed in their residence or cars.

***Housing inequality***

The challenge of housing inequality among the Afro-American citizens is brought by the disparities in wages and income, unequal development programs and unequal economic development in Afro-American occupied regions (Wright & Merritt, 2020). In addition, the housing inequalities have been on the rise among the Afro-American communities because of the discriminatory lending practices that favors Whites over the Blacks and racial segregation which have led to some areas and residents being considered a white dominant region limiting the Black communities from accessing these regions.

**Policies that can be used to end Social issues affecting African Americans**

***Criminal justice reforms***

Afro-American communities have faced many challenges encompassing unfair treatment and limited justice against the whites. However, to overcome these challenges related with criminal justice, the government should introduce some reforms by addressing issues related to sentence disparities, equal or little use of force during arrests. In addition, the government to introduce reforms on mandatory minimum sentences and investing in rehabilitation programs for all inmates incarcerated for various crimes.

***Economic empowerment***

American government can introduce reforms of the economy to promote Afro-Americans and elevate their economic status. The government can improve their citizens’ economy through empowerment where they enact laws and regulations promoting economic empowerment and development in the Black dominated region leading to achievement of regional balance. The government can invest in these regions by developing programs and initiatives that can employ many Black people, programs that can attract investment and empower people to practice entrepreneurship (Bowman et al., 2018). Furthermore, the government can improve on the living standards of Black people by developing affordable housing to these societies. The government should invest in developing housing and promotion of fair lending practices which will ensure these communities can access loans and finance for their living standards. Besides affordable housing, the government should also reduce the gap between the poor and the rich by developing policies addressing racial wealth gap by increasing access to loans from financial institution to Black people and promotion of house ownership among them.

***Systematic racism***

The government should come up with legislation and regulatory reforms addressing systematic racism. The government should improve on police relations with the Blacks by implementing comprehensive police reforms through training on de-escalation tactics, community policing and implicit biases that have ruined relationship of police and the Black communities.

***Education reforms and equity***

The government should implement policies and bring some reforms to address on issues affecting Black society such as underfunding by ensuring there is equitable sharing of resources and provision of quality education to Black communities. In addition, the government should implement a law that ensures promotion of diversity and inclusivity in education sector promoting a unified and equal educational opportunities for all the citizens.

**Conclusion**

Black Americans are the victims of social injustices and racial discriminations in the workplaces and other social place that have led to many of Black people responding to these abuses in a violent conducts. However, it is noteworthy to address these social issues with a comprehensive approach and laws which will ease the burden carried unto the Black Americans. The government need to engage more with these communities and change their policies to have an inclusive society and involve all the parties in decision making as well as policy making processes ensuring that their views are heard and respect by enacting into law. Therefore, with these processes there will be a substantive improvement in Black and White American relationship for the development and growth of the nations’ economy.

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