VARIOUS FORMS OF RACISM

UNAWARE RACISM AND WHITE PRIVILEGE: (Implicit Bias) One of the most insidious forms of racism simply because it is unconscious, unintentional and involuntary. Despite one’s lack of awareness when perpetrating these subtle acts of discrimination, these slights cause emotional, psychological and physiological harm to people of color. All people of European descent are susceptible to it without exception, simply by living in this society. Virtually all White people growing up in this society or immigrating here and trying to fit into the dominant culture have been exposed to misinformation and conditioned to racist notions. *White privilege arises from the systemic advantage of one group over others.*

INTERNALIZED RACISM: A form of racism that is particularly tragic -- when victims of racism believe the lies, the stereotypes, the misinformation or no information it all turn it inward, feeling inferior, placing limitations on themselves and taking out the anger, hurt and frustration on themselves and members of their own group.

CULTURAL RACISM: Another aspect of the problem which affects everyone. Through it the history and culture of targeted groups are ignored or devalued and misrepresented. The standards and definitions of beauty, art, music and all cultural forms are those of the dominant group. The result is a lack of self-knowledge, pride and self-esteem for the targeted groups and a devaluation and perpetuation of negative stereotypes of these groups by the dominant group and a great loss and deprivation for society as a whole.

STEREOTYPES: Are a preconceived notion, especially about a group of people. Many stereotypes are racist, sexist, Islamophobic or homophobic. Stereotypes are very powerful images. They are very persistent and shape people’s gut level feelings. They shape the thoughts and feelings not only of the dominant group, but the targeted group about themselves.

INSTITUTIONALIZED RACISM: When the institution of society (economic system, educational system, legal and justice system, health care system, etc.) are in the hands of one group and operate on the basis of misinformation, whether consciously or unconsciously, we have institutionalized racism.

STRUCTURAL RACISM: Structural Racism in the U.S. is the normalization and legitimization of an array of dynamics- historical, cultural, institutional, and interpersonal - that routinely advantage whites while producing cumulative and chronic adverse outcomes for people of color.

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM: Is a term to describe environmental injustice within a racialized context. In some western nations, environmental racism refers to socially marginalized racial minority communities which are subjected to a disproportionate exposure of pollutants, the denial of access to sources of ecological benefits (such as clean air, water, and natural resources), or both.