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RACISM QUIZ



ANSWER 1

A Prejudice against people of a different origin

Racism is a prejudiced attitude that a person or group of people of an ethnic origin, skin colour, nationality, culture, mother tongue or religious affiliation that is different to one's own is somehow inferior. Racism, therefore, demeans human dignity.

Racism often stems from an erroneous belief that one group of people is superior or preferable to others. Racism causes inequality and damages not only the people distressed by it but society as a whole.

The equal fundamental rights guaranteed by the Finnish Constitution and the Non-Discrimination Act prohibit both direct and indirect racism and any other discriminatory behaviour.

QUESTION 1

What does racism mean?

- A Prejudice against people of a different origin
- B Megalomania, delusions of grandeur
- C Someone is a recluse
- D Egomania, exaggerated love of self



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ANSWER 2

D There is no single definition

There are many different definitions of racists and racism, and the phenomenon of racism is continually changing. Definitions vary according to whether the phenomenon is considered at the level of an individual, a group, or a society. Criminal law states that an act is racist if the perpetrator had a racist motive.

People who are critical of multiculturalism and immigration sometimes consider themselves to be publicly branded as racists. A person who openly claims to be a racist can be a supporter of racial ideology. Such a stance is rare, however, as few people would want to be considered a racist.

Often, a perpetrator is unaware of the ill effects their activities can cause and how racist their action is. Which is why it is more important to evaluate what makes an action or practice discriminatory, rather than to quibble about whether or not someone is a racist. It can sometimes be difficult for a person of the Finnish white majority to understand that even a gesture or facial expression, a joke, or the unthinking exclusion of someone from a group, can be racist. That is why it is important to ask people who have experienced racism what they feel is racist.

QUESTION 2

What is a racist?

- A A political stamp
- B A criminal
- C A follower of a given ideology
- D There is no single definition



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ANSWER 3

- B Give the dark-skinned person a tissue and commiserate**
- C Rebuke the person who spat**
- D Notify the police**

A significant proportion of racist abuse occurs in public spaces. Ethnic minorities and people who look different to the white majority are particularly vulnerable to direct racist insult or acts in public places.

It is important that we immediately and visibly react to public expressions of racism. For the victim, it can be additionally traumatic if no witness is prepared to protest on their behalf. To stay silent is to tacitly accept and apparently agree with what has occurred. It is wise to have thought about and rehearsed how you might react against public expressions of racism. Having considered beforehand what stance you would take makes it easier to react if you do happen to witness an act of racism. Action does not require heroism. It can take the form of demonstrating your respect for the victim by standing with them and saying something conversational. However, in a threatening situation, you must also take care of your own safety.

QUESTION 3

While walking down the street, you see a passer-by spit in the face of a dark-skinned person. What would you do?

- A Walk past, ignoring them
- B Give the dark-skinned person a tissue and commiserate
- C Rebuke the person who spat
- D Notify the police



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ANSWER 4

B Discriminatory legislation

Activities, practices and structures within society may have features that unintentionally put population group into a disadvantaged position.

This kind of racism is difficult to detect. Structural racism occurs, for example, where the power and right to speak up in society is not equally available to all its members. Ask yourself, whose voice and experience is broadcast through the mass media?

Power structures and structural racism can also affect people's right to define themselves and their background, rather than have an assumed identity ascribed to them.

QUESTION 4

Which of the following is an example of structural racism?

- A Speaking negatively of ethnic minorities
- B Discriminatory legislation
- C Nazism
- D Being anti-Islam



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ANSWER 5

D None of the above

In Finland there is no law or regulation that states that a person residing or staying in the country is required to carry any form of identification.

In accordance with its Constitution, all people are equal before the law and no one should be treated differently – for instance, on the grounds of ethnicity – without acceptable cause. Ethnic profiling by the authorities is prohibited.

QUESTION 5

What should always be carried by anyone who looks foreign in Finland?

- A Passport
- B Their residence permit
- C Their ID card
- D None of the above



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ANSWER 6

No

People who come to Finland as immigrants, and women in general, cannot be assumed to be born carers. However, a deep-seated perception persists that immigrant women are particularly keen on nursing. For example, in the initial training given to people who immigrate to Finland, women are often encouraged to attend training programmes in nursing, and may feel they have little choice but to agree. Women from Africa are often seen to represent community cultures in which it is considered natural for women to care for children and the sick.

Such expectations and the pressure felt by immigrating people to take up a given career are based on prejudice and do not support the equal right of each individual to decide what education or work they want to pursue. Each person should be seen as an individual with their own strengths, weaknesses and plans for the future.

QUESTION 6

Immigrant women love to care for others, which makes them particularly well suited to working as nurses. Is that a valid statement?

Yes/No



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ANSWER 7

- A Discuss the matter with the doorman**
- B Report the crime to the police**
- C Demand to speak to the doorman's supervisor**

In Finland, the Non-Discrimination Act prohibits discrimination according to age, ethnic or national origin, nationality, language, religion, belief, opinion, health, disability, sexual orientation, or for any other personal reason. The law is binding for the authorities, employers, and the self-employed. The wearing of any form of national dress or traditional clothing is not in itself a valid reason for denying a service to anyone.

When reacting to a racist situation it should be remembered that in business, the public services or in the workplace, it is a criminal offence to discriminate against a person or people on grounds of their origin. Such instances of discrimination should be reported to the police or, at the very least, dealt with in some other manner. It is easier to file a report if you have noted down in writing the details of what happened, including the time and place, who the perpetrator was, and whether or not there were eyewitnesses.

QUESTION 7

You queue, dressed in traditional Roma clothes, to get into a night club. The doorman asks to see your ID card. Having seen it, he refuses to let you enter. What do you do?

- A Discuss the matter with the doorman
- B Report the crime to the police
- C Demand to speak to the doorman's supervisor
- D Walk away



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ANSWER 8

- A The nearest adult**
- B A teacher**
- C The police**

racist crime is a criminal offense and should be reported to the police. In reality, the police are only informed of a small proportion of the racist acts that occur. Studies show that, typically, only extreme forms of racist abuse, such as violence, get reported to the police. But you should always tell someone in authority about a racist incident you have either experienced or witnessed, even if it was one of the more subtle forms of racism, such as unspoken discrimination or a verbal insult.

We should all be ready to react to any form of racism. However, deciding what corrective action needs to be taken is the responsibility of adults. People who have experienced racism should not be left to deal with this issue on their own, and should not feel that the responsibility of reaction lies only them.

QUESTION 8

Who should you notify about racist abuse?

- A The nearest adult
- B A teacher
- C The police
- D Nobody, it should be kept a secret



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ANSWER 9

A Racism

A crime committed against a person or group of people is called a 'hate crime' when it is motivated by prejudice or hatred of the victim's perceived or actual ethnic or national background, religious conviction or belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or their disability.

In 2012, a total of 87.6% of the hate crimes in Finland included a racist element. The next most common motive (6.1%) was connected to the victim's religious convictions or belief. In 2012, a total of 957 racially motivated crimes were reported in Finland.

QUESTION 9

What was the biggest motive for hate crimes in 2012 in Finland?

- A Racism
- B Religion
- C Sexual orientation
- D Disability



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ANSWER 10

No

Racism is difficult to eradicate unless we know how to identify and name it. People who study racism advise that the public debate on racism should focus on whether or not an action or words are disrespectful and hurtful to a person's human dignity and what impact it has on an individual.

Discussing racism creates an arena in which victims of racism can talk about their experience. Raising the subject of racism signals to other people that we object to all forms of racism and want to help victims of it so they don't have to fight it on their own nor have to learn to live with it. There is no justification for staying silent about racism – it clearly exists and will not go away on its own.

QUESTION 10

Is it true that racism increases when it is talked about?

Yes/No



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eirasismille.fi/asennetalkoot

For more information, please go to:

eirasismille.fi

equality.fi

keks.fi [Finnish and Swedish only]

police.fi

redcross.fi

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