

Questions to consider with the Timeline

The questions below relate to the timeline of prejudice and discrimination covered in one of your lectures for this week. From what you have covered so far in your lectures and readings you should be able to start to address each of these questions. In your group spend about 10 minutes per question considering the answers.

<1920s

1. What do we mean by 'scientific prejudice'?
2. What were some of the key prejudices and discriminations carried out (that we know of)?

1920s/30s

3. What was Lipmann's argument about how a stereotype works? Was it accurate? If not, why not?
4. What difficulties do you think Lipmann had in convincing people that stereotyping was an issue that needed to be considered relating to people?

1930s/1940s

5. What are psychodynamic theories and how would you use them to explain why someone might discriminate against someone else? Give an example
6. Do the psychodynamic explanations such as ego defence still stand up to scrutiny today or were they mistaken?

1950s

7. What impact do you think World War 2 had on our thinking and understanding of why people have prejudices? Give examples for your reasoning.
8. What were the key points that Allport made in his 1954 book? Do they still stand up today? Are there any that don't?

1960s

9. Why were the 1960s such a pivotal point in society in the UK and the USA for social change?
10. With what you know about minority group influence from previous years in social psychology, what tactics could/did minority groups use to gain acceptance and rights?

1970s

11. What do we mean by 'structural racism' and 'systemic racism'? Give examples.

12. You have covered SIT in previous years – what are the basic principles of SIT and how may they affect people's prejudices and discrimination?

1980s/90s

13. Pettigrew and Meertens have argued that prejudice has changed from blatant to subtle. What do you think they mean by this, and give examples?
14. Why did this change occur in the late 70s/80s/90s and not before?

200s>

15. Politics has been considered far more relating to prejudice and discrimination in the last 20 years than it ever was previously. Why do you think this is? Give examples of how politics and prejudice may interact.
16. Emotion is also considered as a key driver relating to prejudice and discrimination in the last 20 years. Why might emotion play a role in this? Give examples.