

Yisroel Cahn | Diversity Statement

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are important to me because they create dynamic spaces where critical thinking and engagement thrive.

In my classroom I promote inclusion by discussing economics as it applies to diverse communities. For example, minimum wage may affect disadvantaged ethnic and social groups in different ways. Derenoncourt and Montialoux (2020) found that minimum wage significantly reduced earning differences between black and white workers in the United States over the course of time. This type of discussion attracts the attention of a broad range of students and encourages them to see the social implications of economic policy. Furthermore, it allows students of different backgrounds to see how economics can affect them.

I am delighted when students approach me for assistance with research projects concerning important social issues. For instance, when a student consulted me about research on gender income disparities, I directed their attention to relevant literature. In addition, I gave the student advice about how to compellingly determine causal factors using econometrics methods, providing them with a deep understanding of synthesizing theory with empirics that they only received because of our discussions.

When approached by students looking for research topics, I have frequently recommended that they study issues that affect historically marginalized groups. I think it is crucial to promote inclusion in ways that increase awareness of issues that are often neglected.

Above all, it is important to me that students are treated fairly and feel included in the curriculum. All students deserve a world-class education.

References

Derenoncourt, E., & Montialoux, C. (2020). Minimum Wages and Racial Inequality. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136(1), 169–228.