

# Race and Ethnicity

SOC100

Module 3

# Social Construction

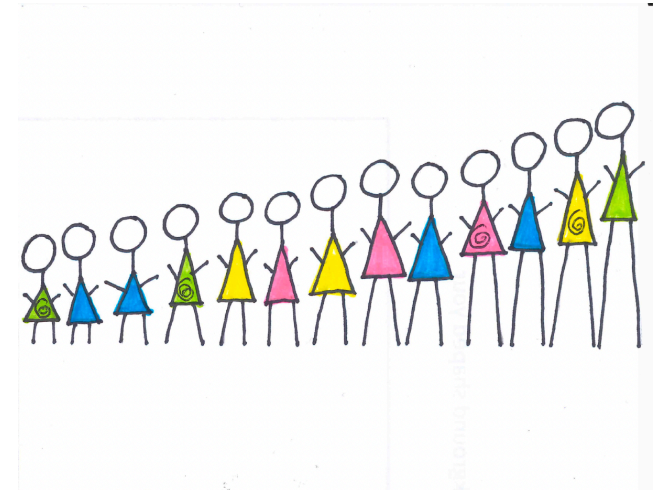
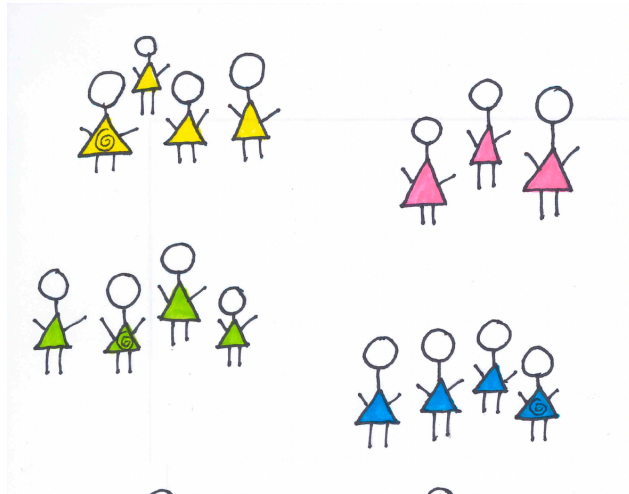
- From Chapter 1:
- “The view that elements of our social world, including such characteristics as race, gender, and sexuality, are products of particular social and historical contexts and upheld by people and institutions.”

# Social Construction

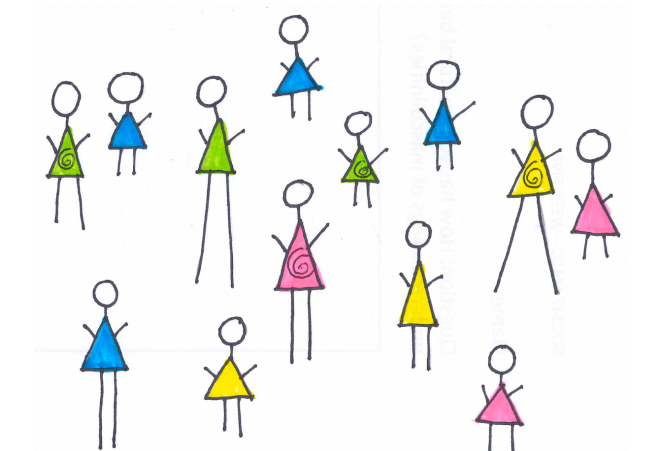
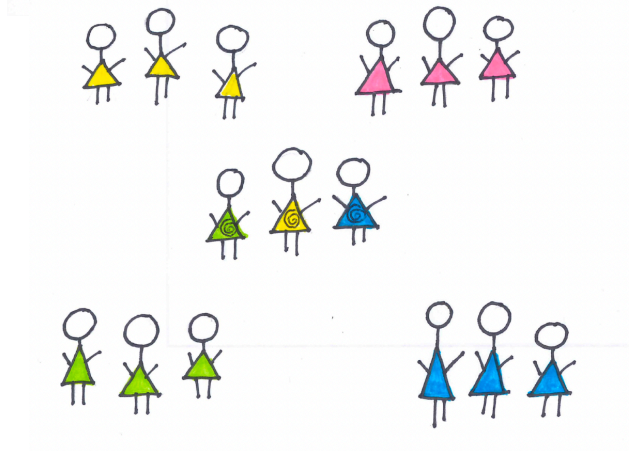
**Society One**

**Society Two**

Time 1



Time 2



# Race & Ethnicity

- Race: “A categorization based on someone’s physical traits, such as skin colour and hair texture, and occasionally based on knowledge of ancestry.”

# A social construct with real implications

- Status cues: “Visual indicators of a person’s social position.” (Brym 2020:83)

# A social construct with real implications

- Prejudice
- Discrimination
  - audit studies
  - red-lining
  - hate crimes
  - implicit bias
  - systemic racism
  - white privilege

# Audit Studies

- Rental housing market in Toronto
- Public transit in Australia (in-person audit study)
- Labour market in Canada (ON and QU)
- Labour market and criminal record (USA) (in-person audit study)

# “White”

- The word “RACE” is not equivalent to “visible minorities” or “non-white”
- “A categorization based on someone’s physical traits, such as skin colour and hair texture, and occasionally based on knowledge of ancestry.”
- “White” is a racial category



# “Racism without Racists”

- Traditional racism: overt and hostile discriminatory actions against racial minorities
- Modern racism: more covert expressions of prejudice

# “Racism without Racists”

Is  
Canada  
racist?

# “Racism without Racists”

- Traditional racism: overt and hostile discriminatory actions against racial minorities
- Modern racism: more covert expressions of prejudice
- Democratic racism: coexistence of egalitarian values and discriminatory practices against racial minorities

# Ethnicity

- Ethnicity: “Shared culture, ancestry, and history, which may also include shared language and religion.”

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Most commonly-reported ethnicities shift:

- immigration
- nature of reporting
  - number of write-in options given
  - examples provided in the census