

The theory of white supremacy

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Introduction

White supremacy is known as a racist ideology based upon the superiority of one race over another race. This belief came into white people who think of themselves as superior to other people who are not white, and therefore, the dominance goes to white people over others. There are several other movements that are based on similar ideas, including Nazism, which opposes the members of Jews, and Neo-Nazism opposes both other races and Jews. In the United States, this term is particularly used in political ideology, which preaches the dominance of white people in all social, political, institutional, and historical matters. There are examples in history that can help in understanding the mindset of the believers of white supremacy by the trends of slavery in the United States and discrimination towards the African-American people, which is present today. The theory of white supremacy also refers to the structural advantage of white people over other races in every manner, whether collective or individual (Kantrowitz, 5).

Discussion

Even after the Civil War, which devised the whole of America, white supremacy existed till the period of the reconstruction era. The places are from the south side where slavery was at its peak, have the common mindset of perceiving whites as superior to black people, and they were denied freedom after the Civil War, which brought a divide between the north and south sides. In the period 1900 to 1920, racial discrimination came into its legal form. The fear of racial suicide convinced President Theodore Roosevelt to start the movement in which he insisted good citizen types who were white should increase the reproduction of their race to gain the majority from the wrong type of citizen who was not white (Woodson, 11). A better understanding of this racism and considering the whites as superior goes back to the time of early decades when there were not many people to work and cultivate. British, in an attempt to fill the labor gap, brought the blacks to America so they could do that hard labor. They forced those slaves to work double and successfully enslaved their minds, which gave birth to the belief in white supremacy. The white people set the standards for the black slaves, and those standards were that slaves could be bought for their whole lives. These descriptions show the supremacy beliefs of whites (Hovenkamp, 2).

The discrimination was not just limited to black people but to every other race other than white people. This mindset has widely existed among people from different countries, including Germany and the United Kingdom. Germany, by Nazism and Great Britain, was famous for colonialism against other nations that were usually not a white class. This denial in the rights of social and political

existed till the mid-20th century in the United States of America, but after the civil rights movement and its success, the law started to protect those races who were not white. However, the laws in the US still continue to discriminate on the basis of white supremacy. Such laws were immigrant laws before 1965 and the Nationality Act of 1965. The [Immigration and Nationality Act](#) of 1965 was aimed to open the borders, but it was only in favor of white people from other nations rather than all ethnic groups. Apart from these national and international laws, the US even banned interracial marriages in order to protect the white race, but after the *Loving v. Virginia* case, the United States invalidated this law (Dubow, 6). The white supremacy didn't even leave the Native Americans safe from such discrimination, and white people spread violence against them so that natives could not claim their lands and rights (Pulido, 10).

White people also used science to enforce superiority by claiming that the origin of their race was higher than the others. Few of the researchers claimed that whites and blacks are different species, which was widely used to continue the discrimination. Apart from American researchers, the racist mindset also existed in the Swiss land, where Louis Agassiz claimed that white people were the reason for the national prosperity, but if the number of black people increased, the nation would collapse. He used the difference in physical attributes to prove that blacks are a lower species and don't deserve the status of white people. Racists and believers of white supremacy used many other theories to claim that they are superior to others, including Social Darwinism, in which they presented the idea that white people are superior and that giving anything to help blacks is unethical (Treitler, 8).

Conclusions

White supremacy was once quite the issue in many countries, but after the movement of civil rights, it was no longer the bigger issue, and different nations started to recognize the rights of every race. Recently, the mindset has come in the same manner. The news shows that different incidents of violence are taking place against the races who are not white. In 2005, Dylann Roof was shot on the basis of thinking himself superior to other races, especially black. Even after the laws and movements, the belief of white people to think of themselves as higher than others affected people globally. Diversity should be promoted, and co-existence, which is the need of the current time, should be the belief of people lacking. The recent elections in the United States of America were proof that the challenge of this supremacy of white belief exists, and it needs to be eliminated to avoid violence.

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