

Oppression

MacDougall, 11/27/23

Oppression

derived from M. Frye, “Oppression.”

- The practice has to be one that “is part of an enclosing structure of forces and barriers which tends to the immobilization and reduction of a group or category of people.” 13.
- From this we can derive a definition:
 - An **oppressive action, practice, institution, attitude**, etc:
 - affects persons by means of their group membership; and
 - is part of a system of social structures that serves to further or maintain the sum of disadvantages for the less advantaged group.

Judging Oppression

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Are any of the following examples of oppression? If so, who is oppressed?

1. finding it difficult to be competitive at basketball because of height disadvantage
2. being unable to find work as a babysitter because you are a man
3. men holding doors for you because you are a woman
4. a jury disbelieving your testimony because you are black
5. facing social pressure to live in a Latino ghetto in LA because you are Latino
6. Being left-handed but forced to drive on the right side of the road
7. Being left-handed but being forced to write right-handed.