



Heralding Plurality and Celebrating Diversity in Research on Minorities: An Imperative!

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The importance of historically underrepresented populations in transforming societies and economies cannot be understated. The variety, diversity, and idiosyncrasies that they present, when unveiled through research, cools the cauldron of societal ignorance and bias, and actually challenges us to tackle issues about serious and continuous disparities, discrimination, marginalization, and oppression.

Further, the outcome of scholarly research unearths the existence of heterogeneity within historically underrepresented populations, even within subgroups of such populations. Past findings on minorities, at least some of them, have sought to portray, at least tacitly, dominant discourses of minorities as applicable to all minorities. As a result, we find irony and paradox. Given the contexts of power and power relations, policy actions have been created and implemented based on such research findings, and the outcomes have perpetuated discrimination, marginalization and oppression loathed by minorities. Such policy actions have merely extended the reach of socioeconomic injustices by oppressors from outside the boundaries of minorities and have vicariously ingrained injustice.

Contemporary research on historically underrepresented populations or minorities must focus on their diversity, variety, and idiosyncrasies so as to spotlight significant nuances reflecting their manifold subcultures. Research-based policy actions might then be tailored toward tolerance and the celebration of plurality within the milieu.