The Lasting Effects of Slavery on People in America and its Contemporary Manifestations

Hoaran, L. (2017). *What Slavery Left to the Modern Society*. Retrieved from https://medium.com/applied-intersectionality/the-reality-about-slavery-69fc58cb8076

My name is Sonalis Muhammad and I am a sophomore social work major from Atlanta, Georgia. The reason why this topic is relevant to my major is because as a future social worker, it is our duty to locate reasons why people may have disparities and find out ways to solve their problems. I know from personal experience that slavery has had a lasting effect on the American nation which has left so many people in poverty and still fighting systemic racism. This topic intrigued me the most because I know that slavery has made a lasting impact on modern society.

What Slavery Left to the Modern Society is written by Hoaran (2017), and it discusses how effects of slavery are still felt now. Early in the article, Hoaran focuses on initial reasons why slavery happened, and he thoroughly discusses the reasoning behind it. The explicit audience are those who have a direct effect of slavery in America. Specifically, black people because we are the ones descendants of slaves. The implied audience are people who want to study the effects slavery has had on modern society, so college students, professors, and aware individuals. Hoaran's primary argument is that the founding principles this country was founded on were corrupt which ultimately would result in a corrupt system now. Hoaran explains how black people must fight so much harder in this society because of the major setback we have had with slavery. "They have to work twice as hard to be at the same level with their white counterparts because opportunities are not available to everyone in the society today" (para. 4). Hoaran also

explains how even after slavery was abolished, it was inevitable that black people would still experience hardships because of racism. (para. 5). Even after slavery was abolished, it proved difficult to find a balance in which African Americans would still get the opportunities afforded to the former, and the same struggle is still present today. The evidence Hoaran employs to prove his points is “African Americans still account for most of the poverty in the United States, given that the unemployment percentage among them stands at 13%.” (para. 4 BBC Worldwide). “Research indicated that blacks and Hispanic students are dominant in poverty-stricken schools that seem to be forsaken by their districts. Such raises issues about the impact of racism and slavery, which brought about this need for classism that is still alive today.” (p. 5, Hoaran). This is not a lengthy article and the claims stated are substantial evidence to prove slavery still has effects in America today. For this reason, the appropriateness of Hoaran’s argument supports my claim that slavery has had effects of black people and minorities in our modern-day society.

Altogether, this topic is very interesting because it allows individuals to understand why certain groups of people are still facing poverty and systematic racism. The classism and financial setback all have a trace back to slavery. This article identified how slavery had had a modern impact on American society. Every time I research facts about my topic, I always find new intriguing facts, but the most intriguing I found from this source is there is substantial evidence that proves that minorities will always struggle in this society, and so we must find a way to curtail this terrible reality.

Questions, comments, discussions?