Name:

Instructor's name:

Course:

Date:

Argumentative Essay: My Experience

Individuals tend to exhibit social upbringing issues in society through their actions and interactions with others. I discovered that behaviors in life do not exhibit themselves unless provoked or sometimes just walking away from the challenge. Growing up as a minority group presents a complex psychological and mental problem, especially when the minority is black or Latina. For blacks, you can be associated with vices in the society that include mugging, substance abuse and distribution, unemployment, and homelessness. The major challenge is not associated with societal vices but the psychological trauma that the victims experience throughout their lives. In Staples's case, he presents the challenge by avoiding conflicts of areas that challenge him. The psychological challenge is presented to a person when he is avoided or receives negative comments due to stereotyping or fallacy of generalizations.

Consequently, avoiding alleys and areas that I am not accepted has been my way of avoiding unnecessary confrontation with perceived racists. In some cases, when your help is needed, you cannot give it out because the person requiring the help associates your look with the bad guys. I had an encounter of the same when walking home from college. I met a woman who had some luggage but asked if I could assist. Her first response was a shout, thereby attracting passers-by to come. It was an embarrassment of a sufficient magnitude, and I had to explain myself and leave the scene. At the scene, I could hear racist comments and even suggestions about how the minority group bothers the larger society. I realized that no matter our struggles for equity, there is an inherent challenge that is elusive and still far from realized. Contemporary society is still far from accepting individuals by character and not their looks. A person’s upbringing shapes how he relates to people and reacts to the situation and can be used to test the existing racial discrimination.

For a minority group like me, the focus has been to ensure that I understand my place in society and stick to it even when the situation is terrible. From childhood, I was told never to hit back or be aggressive, which has helped me understand racism in society. Sometimes we are forced to accept racism by not reacting or even walking away. It takes courage to develop self-esteem when constantly being belittled and treated as second-class citizens. It is hard to live life feeling not wanted and unappreciated regardless of the efforts you have placed to fit into society. It is not easy to try to fit in while others rub on your face that you can never fit and even do not belong. It makes life difficult for the young generation, especially in areas where the minority numbers are too low. In such cases, some may opt to drop out of school as a result of bullying. In contrast, others have taken into trying to deny their personality and change to fit into society. Some even feel uncomfortable being linked with their race, like being called a Latina woman or black causes them pain.

Initially, I was so resistant to being referred to using my race but later, when I accepted my personality, and realized it could not change. Therefore, I decided to take a stance on racism by walking away from trouble and improving my worth. It has been a problem trying to make society accept that you are different and accept diversity. Accepting diversity has been a challenge both at the society level and workplace.

In the workplace, there is a feeling that a certain race should do a particular job. When working in a cafeteria, a black man was forced to do a menial job because the owner thought that he was best suited for the job. The problem was that it felt humiliating for the young man because the owner chose him as the only black working in the cafeteria. This created a feeling of hate for the man even when the owner did not look at the situation. It is a challenge because of the psychological factors that are associated with racism. Sometimes innocent action can be interpreted as racism which leads to degeneration of the relationship between individuals. He quit his job the following day for the young man because he felt not wanted despite the owner being sorry for the action. I think such actions create an everlasting impact on an individual and his perception of social issues. It also defines future interactions by either having a withdrawal approach or being aggressive. As a future manager, I believe acceptance of diversity in the workplace will be a massive strength in contemporary society, which has other issues coming up, such as LGBTQ issues. Accepting that we are different is the ultimate step to winning the fight against racial discrimination.