Exclusion within Inclusion: The Alienation and Retention Effects of Black Students on Campus

Aaminah Long, Psychology
Research Mentor: Kristina Riedel

Abstract

While many universities have taken the initiative to diversify campus enrollment, some still contend issues of maintaining the population. This is especially true for predominantly white institutions, where severe underrepresentation of Black students is common. Such institutions require access to psychological and socio-cultural dimensions to address low retention rates of Black students. This research analyzes the phenomena of alienation affiliated with Black students described at a predominantly white, elitist post-secondary institution. Through a series of interviews and review of existing data, this study aims to assess the psychological nature of alienation and academic satisfaction among Black students at post-secondary institutions.