

### The Trouble with the Trouble, No More Peck O' Corn

In chapter five, Allan Johnson names five reasons the dominant group doesn't see privilege as a problem and three solutions to end privilege, developed by the human resource managers. In order the 5 reasons of dominant denial are "Because they don't know it exists in the first place. Because they don't have to. Because they think it's a person problem. Because they want to hang on to their privilege. Because they're prejudiced"(Johnson, 69,70). Johnson goes on to name the three solution he provides to change the situation minority groups are currently in, the tin cup approach, the business case, and breaking down barriers the dominant group has created.

Oblivious is bliss. Education is the key to many problems of the world, including social problems. Honestly I never realized how much privilege whites had until taking this ethnic study class, which I believe should be a requirement. Second, privilege doesn't affect the dominant group in a negative way so they won't realize the problems it creates without people pointing it out. I believe people are afraid to bring up the problems along with privilege, because it could make them uncomfortable like Johnson says "If the teacher or the boss won't talk about privilege and oppression, the sub trying to learn the ropes and get ahead is unlikely to take the risk of making powerful people uncomfortable, which will lead to failure"(Johnson, 64). Third, if whites are not recognizing privilege as a problem, they may present it as a personal problem of the person complaining. In this manner I would side in the dominant group, I believe that homeless people should work for food instead of begging at a corner. You get what you work for. Fourth, whites trying to keep the privilege they already have. going on what I said before, Would a working family be willing to give up their house(everything they've worked for) to a complete stranger because they have less than themselves? Fifth, most of the us population is prejudiced,

we judge people and categorize them before getting to meet them. There is no stopping this problem, because it is part of our programming, part of how we think. The same part of our brain that realizes a homeless person needs help, so we do what we can.

There are three methods to stop the problems with privilege. First, "appeal to privileged people's sense of decency and fairness, their good will toward those less fortunate than themselves"(Johnson, 71). This method is faulty though because it relies on generosity. Peoples generosity fluctuates depending on the mood they're in at the time. Second, "The business case can appeal to fear or greed or both"(Johnson, 74) In this method you do whatever is best of the business. for example, by treating everyone the same a fair competition is created. the moral is boosted. I believe this method will fail in the long term because it has a narrow time period of effectiveness. People that share this mindset will eventually move on, without continuing the ideology. Third, "remove the barriers that keep well intentioned members of dominant groups stuck in a place where they don't see themselves as part of the solution"(Johnson, 75). There needs to be a constant change in power in order to keep balance. I think that privilege won't be solved anytime soon. In today's society, everyone is trying to obtain more objects than others, which results in a comparison of objects. I only believe privilege will be solved by a communist society, such as that of the Soviet Union.