

## 1: Stephanie: Johnson- Privilege, Power, and Difference (Chapter 4)

*Privilege, Power and Difference by Allan Johnson Group 4 Chapter Assignment EDF - Professor Susan Carson. Reading Roles: Summarizer - Chelsea Bashore Clarifier - Whitney Lane Facilitator - Bailey Leasher Researcher - Audrey VanDokkumburg Chapter 4 - Making Privilege Happen Summary: 1.*

Tuesday, September 11, Johnson: Johnson states that capitalism has been the predominant and virtually the only economic system around since the demise of the Soviet Union. The capitalists did this by employing people to work for them for low wages. The employees had no choice in how much they earned, they were just lucky enough to have a job. So because capitalists profited from the difference of the cost of producing the good and the cost that they sold it at, they wanted to higher the cheapest labor they could get. Also capitalism not only produced a large amount of money it also produced a very large inequality between classes. The rich got richer, the poor got poorer, and more middle class people moved down to the lower class. So not only did capitalism separate the population into classes based on wealth, it started white privilege with the direct connection of the enslavement of Africans as a source of cheap labor Africans, Chinese, Japanese any labor they could get that was cheap so they could profit from their labor. To justify their forms of imperialism and oppression, whites developed the idea of whiteness They used this idea to control white workers. This racial division became an effective way to divide the different segments of working class against each other. This is still present today with the idea of affirmative action and the fact that whites find it unfair that other immigrants are getting jobs because they will work for a lower wage. Also capitalism exploits people with disabilities and also shapes gender inequality in the workforce. However, Johnson states the idea of the matrix domination and the fact that people can be privileged and unprivileged at the same time. Such an example would be a black, male, heterosexual. He possesses the privilege of being male and heterosexual however he is unprivileged for being white. So as Johnson asks at the beginning of the chapter, why all the oppression and hostility and violence over something that is made up? Well, as Johnson points out through his argument, racism has been around for a long time and we, as Americans, do not know much different then thinking in this way. Privilege is so prevalent in our society that oftentimes it goes unnoticed. Therefore, racism is something that is not easy to get rid of or forget. It is something that will be a part of our lives forever. Even though it may seem like it is made up, it has become such a large part of what this nation is that it will be nearly impossible to get rid of it. I really enjoyed reading this article and learning how capitalism relates to whiteness and privilege. It truly was an eye-opener to see how it has come about and clears the waters about why it is still around.

## 2: michelle p: Chapter 3- Capitalism, Class, and the Matrix of Domination

*In chapter 4 of Allan G. Johnson's Privilege, Power, and Difference book, he discusses the problems of privilege and oppression that are present in today's society. According to Johnson, "inclusion and acceptance are key aspects of privilege."*

He also talks about the path of least resistance and what it truly means to be involved in oppression and privilege. It also makes us not even acknowledge the existence of privilege because individualism so focused on the individual it fails to consider society's influence. This is why Johnson says the individualistic way of thinking is not correct and we must consider society as an influence in what goes on. Johnson talks about how individuals must play a part in social systems in order for social life to occur. He then brings up the concept of the path of least resistance. To explain the path of least resistance Johnson tells a story about being in an elevator and the fact that we all know to stand and face the front of the elevator in a relatively quiet manner. However, if someone was to stand in an elevator and face the back of the elevator, many people will give them odd looks and wonder what they are doing. Also, people know that there are other paths that exist but they do not choose that route because they are afraid of what will happen if they do. Johnson then goes on to point out that similar dynamics operate around the issue of privilege. People in a corporation tend to promote the people and mentor the people that are most like them, making it difficult for other people to get promoted. And Johnson states that what we experience as social life happens through a complex dynamic between systems such as families, schools, and workplace, along with the choice that people make as they participate in them. And through this process of these systems working together is how social life helps produce privilege and oppression. Johnson states that most of the time we do not even realize that the path of least resistance is there and that is what helps create and maintain privilege. So do people really follow the path of least resistance in most cases still today? Of course they do. The path of least resistance is the path that will cause the least amount of fuss or attract the least amount of attention because that is what we view as socially normal. For instance, when men are sitting around and telling each other jokes, and one man says a very sexist joke and some of the men find it offensive but they just laugh and play along because they do not want to draw attention to themselves. They know that if they bring it up they will either get laughed at and teased or it may start a heated argument so they just take the path of least resistance and laugh along with the rest of the men. Also, school kids may tease one boy for having glasses and the other kids may think it is mean, but they do not say anything because they do not want to get made fun of either. So the path of least resistance is certainly a common path still today in many countless situations. I enjoyed this chapter by Johnson. I feel that he did a good job of using a lot of examples to help explain his ideas better. I like the Monopoly analogy that he used throughout and also the stories he used to describe the path of least resistance. I think he did a very effective job of explaining his topics and his points in this chapter. I also found the concept of the path of least resistance very interesting and it helped me realize how prevalent it is in our society today in some many aspects.

## 3: Chapter 4: Making Privilege Happen by Elijahna Carr on Prezi

*~k ~~ CHAPTER 2 Privilege, Oppression, and Difference The trouble that surrounds difference is really about privilege and power-the existence of privilege and the lopsided distribution of.*

## 4: Privilege, Power, and Difference: Chapter 7 | khamthao

*Privilege, Power, and Difference. Allan G. Johnson. Hartford College for Women of ale. Ullivmily. of Hartford () l,, r!1. Mayfield Publishing Company.*

## 5: Privilege, Power, and Difference

## PRIVILEGE POWER AND DIFFERENCE CHAPTER 4 pdf

*Chapter 4: Making Privilege Happen A Problem for Whom? People in dominant groups suffer negative consequences of privilege too. Avoidance, Exclusion, Rejection, & the Worse.*

### 6: Privilege, Power and Difference - ppt video online download

*1 Privilege, Power and Difference Think Paper #6 \ Privilege, Power and Difference By Allan G. Johnson Chapter 5/6 2 Discuss what Johnson means by, "A Problem for Whom?"*

### 7: michelle p: Chapter 6 "What It All Has to Do With Us

*Chapter 1 We're in Trouble Chapter 2 Privilege, Oppression, and Difference Chapter 3 Capitalism, Class, and the Matrix of Domination Chapter 4 Making Privilege and Oppression Happen.*

### 8: Copy of Privilege, Power and Difference Chapter 3: Capitalism, Class by Siem Yemane on Prezi

*In chapter 4, Johnson defines privilege in a clear precise way. He brings up the point that each individual makes privilege take place in today's society.*

### 9: Michelle Ranly: Chapter 6

*Privilege, Power and Difference Chapter 3: Capitalism, Class, and the Matrix of Domination Bry Ulrick, Siem Yemne, Jafari Williams "We don't get it. If race is.*

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