Defining US

Educator Professional Development

Topic NYU 1 Time to Talk About Racism

SEL Competency Relationship Skills,

Relationship Skills Self-Awareness



Patrick Jean Pierre says, "if we don't have a conversation about race, then we're unable to really target the issues that are occurring in schools around inequity." List some examples that he mentions. Think about your school and list some examples of equity concerns that you are aware of. What are the common issues? What issues are unique to your context?

Maria G. Hernandez says, "the elephant in the room is those set of conversations that we do not actually want to have." Why do you think that educators in general try to avoid conversations about race and implicit bias? In what ways do your thoughts concur with the comments of Dr. Hernandez?

One of the students in the video says, "my teachers have always felt like they were doing me a favor by saying 'wow we were so impressed, she was so smart' but the person next to me could get the same grade and they would never wonder." Why does this student perceive such a comment as racist? Do you believe that educators generally do a good job of considering the perspective of students and how students could interpret their comments differently from their intent? Why or why not?

How well would you rate your teacher education program and your current ongoing professional development program in providing you with the understanding you need to work well with students from all racial/ethnic backgrounds?

Briefly describe some of your personal experiences that you think shaped your perception of issues involving race in your school or US schools in general.