Microaggressions In Everyday Life: Race, Gender, And Sexual Orientation
Synopsis

Praise for Microaggressions in Everyday Life "In a very constructive way, Dr. Sue provides time-tested psychological suggestions to make our society free of microaggressions. It is a brilliant resource and ideal teaching tool for all those who wish to alter the forces that promote pain for people." —Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, ABPPPresident, American Psychological Association

"Microaggressions in Everyday Life offers an insightful, scholarly, and thought-provoking analysis of the existence of subtle, often unintentional biases, and their profound impact on members of traditionally disadvantaged groups. The concept of microaggressions is one of the most important developments in the study of intergroup relations over the past decade, and this volume is the definitive source on the topic." —John F. Dovidio, PhD Professor of Psychology, Yale University

"Derald Wing Sue has written a must-read book for anyone who deals with diversity at any level. Microaggressions in Everyday Life will bring great rewards in understanding and awareness along with practical guides to put them to good use." —James M. Jones, PhD Professor of Psychology and Director of Black American Studies, University of Delaware "This is a major contribution to the multicultural discourse and to understanding the myriad ways that discrimination can be represented and its insidious effects. Accessible and well documented, it is a pleasure to read." —Beverly Greene, PhD, ABPP Diplomate in Clinical Psychology and Professor of Psychology, St. John’s University

A transformative look at covert bias, prejudice, and discrimination with hopeful solutions for their eventual dissolution Written by bestselling author Derald Wing Sue, Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Race, Gender, and Sexual Orientation is a first-of-its-kind guide on the subject of microaggressions. This book insightfully looks at the various kinds of microaggressions and their psychological effects on both perpetrators and their targets. Thought provoking and timely, Dr. Sue suggests realistic and optimistic guidance for combating and ending microaggressions in our society.

Book Information

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Everybody feels they know about racism, and most people reading a book on racism are looking for someone who will repeat what they already think and what they want to hear. Derald Wing Sue just doesn’t do that. He takes a rather abrasive approach of “telling it like it is,” which is often confrontational and sometimes accusatory, but which is, by and large, right. Sue has written on the topic of microaggressions before, and where this book differs from the others is that (1) it is more academic and less practical (I do miss the practical “where do we go from here” type sections that I have seen in some of his other works); (2) for the first time, it deals with multiple reactions to microaggressions instead of the “this can be harmful” type of platitudes from his previous works; (3) it acknowledges the diversity of experience and culture WITHIN racial groups (something which has been largely ignored in other of Sue’s works that I have read); and (4) it still provides plenty of examples of how seemingly common interactions can be received very differently by different groups, but in this work, Sue goes much farther in explaining WHY that is. Some of the shortcomings of other works are still there. For example, Sue does very little talking about the unseen prejudices that become unearthed as one is revealed as a “minority”—perhaps because he generally discusses race which is kind of apparent. Another shortcoming is the claim that microaggressions are unintentional but then using words which belie that unintentionality—such as talking about minority “targets.” If the aggression were unintentional, then the minority couldn’t be a “target.” “Targeting” implies intent.

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