

Diversity Awareness

Fostering a Climate of Inclusion, Sensitivity, and Respect in the Workplace



Self-Guided Learning Program

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Diversity Awareness: Fostering a Climate of Inclusion, Sensitivity, and Respect in the Workplace

Overview

Overview • 1: Behaviors that Create Separation • 2: Foster a Culture of Inclusion • 3: Lead by Example • Review • Appendix



Introduction

A survey by Korn/Ferry International found that more than 2 million people leave their jobs each year because of unfairness in the workplace, costing employers an estimated \$64 billion a year in hiring costs.ⁱ In addition, people of color were three times more likely than white heterosexual males to say unfairness was the reason they quit their jobs.

What is the source of unfair treatment and differences among people in organizations? Traditional diversity awareness programs have focused on the treatment of women and minorities. However, differences arise from a host of other traits as well including age, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, physical abilities, educational background, whether someone has children, even being an engineer versus being a salesperson. These traits or "profiles" cause people to make inaccurate assumptions, create separation, and yes, treat people unfairly.

The goal of diversity awareness is to promote an inclusive work environment.



Test Your Knowledge

Read the question, then click on the answer.

Subtle stereotyping tends to be characterized by which of the following two traits?

A. Intelligence and skill

B. Personality and sense of humor

C. Warmth and competence

D. Work ethic and sincerity