Reaction paper

Joseph F. Healey in the chapter explains the prevalence of race, class and ethnicity in America. Jim Crow era implemented harsh rules for the blacks and they were treated brutally. I agree with the viewpoints of Healey that survival was difficult for the blacks. They were confined to low-level jobs such as labor. Although they provided numerous benefits to the farm owners including high productivity and profits but they continued to live in segregation. The racial classification of blacks exhibits the darker side of America.

The industrial revolution did not change the status of African-Americans. Minority groups found work only in agrarian communities. Revolution impacted blacks negatively. With the increase in competition, the environment became more hostile for the blacks. Attacks towards minority population also increased. Many firms hired black workers as cheap labor. I agree with the author’s point that a clear line was drawn between the dominant and inferior class. White Americans earned supernormal profits and attained advantage of cheap labor. While on the other hand blacks struggled for basic necessities.

Segregation was apparent in every aspect of America such as schooling and work. The kids of blacks lacked access to education that affected their futures. The chapter also highlights gender inequality. I agree that women in America experienced gender discrimination in work. They had fewer opportunities for growth compared to males. Similarly, they were paid low salaries and remained at middle-positions. Males on the other hand enjoyed wider benefits and pay scale.

I agree that the status of blacks changed from slavery to segregation and there continued to suffer the consequences of discrimination. Majority of the black population engaged themselves in fields work for meager wages. Opportunities were limited in other sectors.

Did civil war ended black segregation or African-Americans continued to suffer racial disparity?