Who you calling racist?

OER’s role in addressing institutional discrimination.

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Jasmine Roberts
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I have a friend who works really hard and makes $370 dollars a day.
Her son just got into a really good school and his textbooks are like $400 each
I mean, his mom has to work 2 days just to afford 1 book for her son ...
Institutional Discrimination

Definition
Policies and practices favorable to a dominant group and unfavorable to another group are systematically embedded in the form of norms in the existing structure of society.

Open Education Sociology Dictionary
Forms of institutional discrimination

1) Institutional racism.
2) Institutional sexism.
3) Neglecting to account for other elements (e.g., class, gender, sexual orientation) that distance students from one another.
Institutional Racism

Inequalities are built into an organization, system or process

*Structural racism*—the normalized and legitimized range of policies, practices, and attitudes that routinely produce cumulative and chronic adverse outcomes for people of color, especially black people—is the main driver of racial inequality in America today.

Tricia Rose
Racism
Classroom Racism
As many as 1,000 students are regularly dropped from major university rolls over an inability to pay $900

Classroom Racism

Student’s comment on course evaluation:

I SUCCEEDED! My first A in college.

Not being able to afford textbooks & paid licenses for course materials in my three other classes, I had to wing it. That meant Cs and Ds.

Thank you for leveling the playing ground for me
Active Learning Activity

Think--Pair--Share

How does a non-OER educational system promote institutional racism and discrimination?
NAACP: EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITIES
For too many years, too many children, particularly African American, other minorities, and poor from all groups have been subjected to lesser educational opportunities, leading to lesser opportunities for success in their personal and work lives.

A major contributing factor to the disparities continues to be the lack of appropriate instructional materials. One effective solution becoming widespread nationally is the use of open educational resources (OER).

More Americans graduate high school and go on to college than ever before. But as the country becomes more diverse — the Census Bureau expects that by 2020 more than half of the nation's children will be part of a minority race or ethnic group — are colleges and universities ready to serve them?

Source: Report "Separate & Unequal" from the Georgetown Center for Higher Education and the Workforce.
While inequalities of race and class overlap quite a bit, race has a distinctive negative effect. Even after controlling for academic achievement in high school, black and Latino students attend selective institutions at far lower rates and dropout of college more often.

Source: Report "Separate & Unequal" from the Georgetown Center for Higher Education and the Workforce.
How Do We Effect Change?

- Discrimination is a system problem
- Understand the system and its processes
- Work with process owners
How Do We Effect Change?

- Provide not only the vision, but also the method for change
- Act to hold the gain
How Do We Effect Change?

Successful Institutions:

● Use OER to help overcome institutional barriers that prevent certain students from succeeding.

● Conduct comprehensive data analysis that includes much more than graduation rates.

● Consider student experiences in real time to understand who is succeeding and who is not.
How Do We Effect Change?

Your ideas?
Thank you!

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