

TOLERANCE AS A SOCIAL PHENOMENON
IN THE AMERICAN SOCIETY

Tolerance is an important aspect of American society. However, during the recent years in America, there have been several events that prove that the tolerance, Americans are so proud of, has not fully taken root in this society. In this work, the following points are considered: how tolerance reveals itself in the different spheres of American public life and problems caused by tolerance.

First of all, due to recent events the topic of tolerance in the field of politics is relevant. The 2020 United States election and the ensuing riot are further evidence of how deeply divided the country is today. Calls for unity by leaders and institutions are a marked improvement from messages of division. Moreover, institutions can establish inclusive social norms with egalitarian citizenship regimes that allow for differences to be expressed, even if these are only tolerated.

The second point is tolerance towards African Americans. Progress is the largely suppressed story of race and race relations over the past half-century. And thus it's news that more than 40 percent of African Americans now consider themselves members of the middle class.

While the global anti-racism movement has been growing, there is also a parallel discourse on "reverse racism". Their position is that employment equity is a racist institutional practice because white people are unfairly disadvantaged in terms of the likelihood of acquiring employment. Encouraging and promoting awareness of what racism is and what it is not is a necessary requirement for effectively addressing systemic racism in America.

As for the LGBTQ community, the situation is not improving. Research shows that young people are growing less tolerant of LGBTQ individuals. In the same time more and more people identify themselves as LGBTQ members. The

U.S. Supreme Court's decision on June 15, 2020, extending employment protections to LGBTQ workers was a significant victory, as well as the legalization of same-sex marriage nationwide.

The fourth point that deserves attention is feminist community. Unfortunately, despite the struggle for a good cause, many people do not understand the feminist views. Therefore, the issue of tolerance and acceptance is a sensitive subject for the members of this community.

Summing it up, the phenomenon of tolerance has penetrated into all spheres of American society and it is closely connected with the struggle for human rights. If we want to live in a peaceful society, there is no alternative to tolerance.