

How do Communities Fall in Trap of Bias and Stereotype 2025?

Asst. Lect. Zainab Kadhim Ibrahim

Open Educational College, Diyala, 32001, Iraq.

znbkdm@gmail.com

Abstract

This research studies how stereotypes and biases affect judgments and interactions between individuals and the community as a whole. Stereotypes represent basic generalizations about people according to race, gender and nationality, as well as other factors, and they can provoke discriminatory behavior when they remain unchecked. The study investigates the changing nature of stereotyping biases by examining historical elements and psychological as well as social factors that change when individuals acquire new knowledge or experience different social interactions. By analyzing established literature and surveying 76 instructors who teach international students abroad, the study found that stereotyping originates primarily from media portrayals and limited interaction with diverse communities. The research demonstrates that preconceived notions exert a substantial negative effect on relationship dynamics and social unity, which impacts marginalized communities the most. Preconceptions create substantial obstacles to both relationships and social unity across various groups, but exert the most harm on marginalized communities. The research examines potential solutions, including education programs alongside intergroup contact and media representation, to combat Bias. By examining the roots and outcomes of stereotyping and Bias, we can establish inclusive spaces and support actions that eliminate bias between different cultural and social groups. The deep-rooted nature of stereotypes in our cognitive patterns and social systems means that educational programs and legal reforms can mitigate their negative effects and build diverse and harmonious communities.

Keywords: Stereotypes, Bias, social categorization, diversity, socialization.

كيف تقع المجتمعات في فخ التحيز والصورة النمطية 2025

م. م. زينب كاظم إبراهيم

كلية التربية المفتوحة، ديالى، 32001، العراق.

znbkdm@gmail.com

المخلص

يبحث هذا البحث في كيفية تأثير الصور النمطية والتحيزات على الأحكام والتفاعلات بين الأفراد والمجتمع ككل. تمثل الصور النمطية تعميمات أساسية حول الناس بناءً على العرق والجنس والجنسية، بالإضافة إلى عوامل أخرى، ويمكن أن تُثير سلوكًا تمييزيًا إذا ظلت دون رادع. تبحث الدراسة في الطبيعة المتغيرة للتحيزات النمطية من خلال دراسة العناصر التاريخية والعوامل النفسية والاجتماعية التي تتغير عندما يكتسب الأفراد معارف جديدة أو يخوضون تفاعلات اجتماعية مختلفة. من خلال تحليل الأدبيات الراسخة واستطلاع آراء

76 مُدرّساً يُدرّسون الطلاب الدوليين في الخارج، وجدت الدراسة أن الصور النمطية تتبع أساساً من صور وسائل الإعلام ومحدودية التفاعل مع المجتمعات المتنوعة. ويظهر البحث أن الأفكار المسبقة تُمارس تأثيراً سلبياً كبيراً على ديناميكيات العلاقات والوحدة الاجتماعية، مما يؤثر بشكل أكبر على المجتمعات المهمشة. تُشكّل الأفكار المسبقة عقبات كبيرة أمام العلاقات والوحدة الاجتماعية بين مختلف الفئات، لكنها تُلحق الضرر الأكبر بالمجتمعات المهمشة. يدرس البحث حلولاً مُحتملة، بما في ذلك برامج التعليم، إلى جانب التواصل بين المجموعات، والتمثيل الإعلامي لمكافحة التحيز. من خلال دراسة جذور ونتائج الصور النمطية والتحيز، يُمكننا إنشاء مساحات شاملة ودعم الإجراءات التي تُزيل التحيز بين مختلف الفئات الثقافية والاجتماعية. إنّ الطبيعة المُتجذّرة للصور النمطية في أنماطنا المعرفية وأنظمتنا الاجتماعية تعني أن البرامج التعليمية والإصلاحات القانونية يُمكنها التخفيف من آثارها السلبية وبناء مجتمعات مُتنوّعة ومتناغمة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصور النمطية، التحيز، التصنيف الاجتماعي، التنوع، التنشئة الاجتماعية.

1. Introduction

In today's more global, interconnected world, it increasingly happens that social, cultural, and historical conditions regularly influence groups at all levels—local, national, and international. Unfortunately, they are vulnerable to Bias and stereotyping, which have the potential to perpetuate inequality, social fragmentation, and injustice. These stereotypes and biases are too frequently relied upon to exclude, discriminate against, and marginalize specific groups, resulting in a lack of opportunity and compromised social cohesiveness [1]. Stereotyping and Bias are among the prevalent social phenomena that influence how individuals view and treat others. Stereotypes are simplified and overgeneralized concepts regarding a group of people that may be based on such factors as race, gender, age, occupation, and nationality [2]. While cognitive shortcuts help cope with social complexity [3], they tend to stereotype individuals as fixed entities, disregarding their individuality [4]. Bias, on the other hand, is a prejudiced view that can be in the form of explicit [conscious] or implicit [unconscious] likes or dislikes for certain groups [1].

The study of biases and stereotypes has progressed from early conceptions that perceived these attitudes as fixed and unchangeable [5] to modern approaches that acknowledge their fluid and dynamic characteristics. According to recent studies, preconceptions and biases can be modified based on greater exposure, direct experience, and intergroup contact [6]. Yet, the tenacity of these perceptions is cause for serious concern because they may reinforce social distinctions, enable disparity, and cause psychological damage [7]. Comprehension of how stereotypes and prejudices are generated in schools is especially pertinent as these institutions condition people's mindsets and views. Instructors, as prominent figures in education contexts, enter the classroom with their past and present, and these may color their relationships with students from other cultures and countries. Implicit and explicit prejudices of instructors play a significant role in influencing the academic experiences of foreign students, sense of belonging, and psychological well-being. It analyzes foreign teachers' stereotypes and biases towards international students.

The study aims to contribute to the ongoing debate on minimizing prejudice in school settings by exploring instructors' perceptions, reasons behind stereotyping, consequences, and potential remedies. The study utilizes a quantitative strategy through data collection and analysis from 76 respondents via a structured questionnaire administered using Google Forms. The questionnaire is designed to collect data in five general categories: demographic information, general impressions on stereotypes, motivations for stereotyping and Bias, impacts of stereotypes, and proposed remedies for Bias. The focus of this study is to provide comprehensive insight into how teachers interpret and deal with preconceptions and prejudices, shedding light on the broader consequences for educational equity and cultural diversity. The study aims to guide policy formulation, improve teacher training courses, and

build more inclusive and supportive learning environments for foreign students by identifying bias causes and counter-strategies.

1.1 The hypothesis of the study

Educators possess unconscious and/or explicit prejudices and stereotypes toward overseas students, which distort their perceptions and interactions. Furthermore, it is expected that these biases and stereotypes, stemming from restricted personal experiences, media representations, and societal norms, adversely affect these students' health and education. The findings corroborate the primary hypotheses: numerous instructors recognized that preconceptions influence their interactions with students and exacerbate social inequality and exclusion. These biases were frequently associated with cultural indoctrination and restricted exposure to diversity. The positive note is that most participants endorsed interventions such as intercultural training and reflective practices. The research highlights the urgency of sustained efforts to reduce bias in education and foster inclusive, equitable learning environments.

1.2 The objectives of the research

This study analyzes how groups become involved in the trap of Bias and stereotyping, the impact of these behaviors, and how we can actively take steps to confront and minimize their prevalence. This includes knowing the psychological mechanisms of Bias, analyzing sociocultural institutions that propagate preconceptions, and proposing steps to develop more open-minded communities.

2. Understanding Bias and Stereotypes

Stereotyping, according to Yamamoto, is the process of assigning specific characteristics to a group of individuals, institutions, events, or something that is common to many people. That is, stereotypes are naive and general assumptions about a group of people. These beliefs may be influenced by race, gender, age, occupation, nationality, or other factors. Stereotypes frequently limit people to set characteristics, neglecting their individuality [2].

In the words of Allport [5], stereotypes and prejudice were originally thought to be fixed and rigid concepts. Modern conceptions allow for greater flexibility, as they can ebb and flow when more information, exposure, and experience with a social group are gained. For example, one may initially harbor strong prejudices against a group, which may dissipate over time when personal tensions with that group decrease or the number of favorable experiences with that group grows.

Fiske and Taylor [8] frame stereotypes as not fundamentally negative but may be erroneous in certain circumstances. For example, the Dutch are tall, Germans make good cars, and Canadians are polite. [3] commented that they are frequently seen as a natural cognitive process that allows for the preservation of finite cognitive resources. However, in [4] opinion, stereotypes are created via the act of categorizing. Individuals' reactions to preconceptions might be "harmful."

According to Devine [5], Bias refers to a prejudiced worldview or a propensity that might result in unequal treatment of individuals or groups based on factors like "race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic status. It can be explicit [conscious] or implicit [unconscious].

Greenwald and Banaji [9] show that Bias and stereotyping frequently coexist, but either can exist independently [6]. On the one hand, a person may be aware of preconceptions about a group but not endorse or act on them. For instance, refusing to sit alongside a Muslim woman donning a headscarf

or following a young African American boy around a clothing store without offering to help him could be interpreted as prejudiced behavior. However, the person engaging in these activities may not be considering or even aware of the stereotypes associated with Muslims or African Americans.

3. Psychological and Social Mechanisms

Sources shed light on how stereotypes can lead to prejudiced views and how projection serves as a protective strategy for assigning one's bad characteristics to others. Whitley, B.E. Jr., and Kite, M.E. [10] said stereotyping always involves prejudgment based on the stereotype. Thus, stereotyping and Bias are related, but how exactly are they related?

Stereotypes and prejudices, according to social psychologists, frequently emerge from the need 'to construct, maintain, and defend specific self-images and to avoid the aversive feelings that could result from threats to the self', leading to the projection of threatening or undesirable attributes onto other individuals or groups [9].

It has been widely recognized that people have a proclivity to stereotype and establish oversimplified notions about the features that define a person or a group to make the intricacies of their world understandable [5].

Stereotypes are frequently unfavorable, but they are not always bad; there can be good stereotypes as well as stereotypes with both negative and positive implications. It is common to stereotype people who are perceived as being outsiders to a group or community [10].

3.1 Cognitive biases: Humans categorize ideas to make sense of their surroundings. While this aids in the processing of huge volumes of information, it can also lead to overgeneralization, which reinforces prejudices [11].

3.2 Socialization: From an early age, people become integrated into distinct cultural narratives and conventions, which can reinforce prejudices. Media, family, peers, and schools all help to shape these perspectives [12].

3.3 In-group vs. Out-group Dynamics: People favor their group [the "in-group"] and see outsiders [the "out-group"] through a distorted lens. This process is crucial to stereotype formation and persistence [13].

Humans are preoccupied with making sense of their social environment, which includes understanding other individuals [14]. As a result, social categories frequently influence our perceptions of others and the actions we expect them to show. As Contreras, Banaji, and Mitchell said, a stereotype is information that a perceiver identifies with specific types of persons [15].

4. How Communities Can Fall into Bias and Stereotype Traps

Stereotypes are ideas that all members of a social group share certain qualities or behaviors [16]. Stereotyping is more likely to occur when the perceiver is given a wide range of social information about the target and has low cognitive capacity [17].

Stereotyping always involves an evaluative element, and a negative element is known as a stereotypic bias [18]. Stereotypes make it easier and more efficient to make impressions, but they are not always correct [17].

Bias is defined as a disproportionate weight given to or against an idea or item, typically in an erroneous, closed-minded, biased, or unfair manner. Biases can be either innate or taught. People can develop biases for or against a person, a group, or a viewpoint [19].

Bias and prejudice are often seen to be closely related. Prejudice is defined as creating an opinion before learning the relevant facts of a case. The term is frequently used to describe preconceived, typically negative, judgments of people or individuals based on gender, political beliefs, social class, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, language, nationality, or other personal attributes. Prejudice may also refer to unfounded views [20]. Moreover, it may encompass "any unreasonable attitude that is unusually resistant to rational influence" [20].

- **Past and structural factors:** Many societies have been impacted by past events such as colonization, slavery, or systemic segregation, which established biases and preconceptions. These deeply ingrained historical beliefs frequently continue across generations, posing impediments to equality [21].
- **Media and Representation:** The media plays an essential part in propagating stereotypes. Misconceptions can be perpetuated when particular groups are portrayed negatively or one-dimensionally. For example, underrepresentation or misrepresentation of women, people of color, and persons in positions of authority or competence can promote negative preconceptions [22].
- **Education and Lack of Awareness:** Schools and educational systems may not always provide opportunities to confront stereotypes or biases. If curricula are not inclusive or do not address the nuances of other cultures and identities, pupils may develop prejudiced worldviews [23].
- **Social & Cultural Echo Chambers:** In some cultures, social circles or echo chambers emerge in which only identical opinions are exchanged and reinforced. Individuals in these circumstances may not be exposed to alternative viewpoints, reinforcing biased thinking [24].
- **Economic and political factors:** Economic inequality and political discourse can amplify Bias and preconceptions. Politicians and leaders may use societal divisions to acquire power, reinforcing biases through their language and policies [23].

5. The Impact of Bias and Stereotypes on Communities

Humans are predisposed to making hasty decisions based on limited information, a process known as snap judgments. These fast assessments frequently rely on cognitive shortcuts, such as heuristics, which might result in biases and prejudices. For example, people tend to draw snap judgments about others based on their looks or accent and relate these attributes to particular characteristics or behaviors, even without sufficient evidence [25].

According to Fiske and Taylor [10], overgeneralizing may result in discrimination and prejudice, whereby individuals or groups are treated unevenly on the basis of these rapid judgments. Such biases may perpetuate societal conflicts and divisions, resulting in misunderstandings and reinforcing negative stereotypes. To get over such biases, we must exercise self-awareness and critical thinking, challenge our first impressions, and control our fast and slow thinking.

Pettigrew and Tropp [23] are looking for more detailed information about people and organizations. They illustrated how this approach assists in creating a kinder and more accepting society.

According to Moffett and [26], implicit racial bias is a racial prejudice that develops idiosyncratically throughout one's lifespan, and the micro and macro environments shape and structure

these biases. Stereotyping may lead to social conflict and injustice by excluding specific groups from mainstream society. Stereotyping would normally result in unequal access to opportunities, resources, and rights, and therefore continue to sustain poverty, discrimination, and disenfranchisement [26].

Moreover, victims of stereotypes might become withdrawn, diminished in self-worth, and internalize racism or bigotry. The psychological effects involved may have long-lasting implications for mental health and general well-being, in addition to leading to psychological and emotional suffering [27].

Similarly, prejudice and stereotypes are barriers to social unity and collaboration, which can divide communities, thus making them unable to take advantage of the unique abilities, experiences, and knowledge of every individual, eventually preventing collective development [28].

Lastly, the economic effect is significant, as discrimination based on stereotyping can restrict people's access to employment, education, and other economic prospects, and make less innovative and productive societies [29].

6. Proposed Solutions and Interventions

Numerous remedies and interventions can be applied at both the individual and social levels to combat the negative impacts of subconscious racial prejudice and discrimination. These tactics are intended to minimize Bias, increase inclusivity, and strengthen social cohesiveness.

6.1 Education and Awareness Programs: Educational efforts centered on diversity, inclusiveness, and cultural competency can assist individuals in recognizing and challenging their own biases. Schools, companies, and community organizations can all play an important role in spreading these ideals [6].

6.2 Media Representation: The media has a tremendous impact on social opinions, and moving toward more realistic and diverse portrayals of various racial and ethnic groups can help decrease stereotypes. Media producers, advertisers, and news organizations should prioritize representation that represents the range and complexity of real-world experiences, including positive, multidimensional depictions of underrepresented groups [30].

6.3 Intergroup contact: Promoting direct contact between members of various social and racial groups can help to decrease stereotypes and biases. According to intergroup contact theory, positive interactions with people from diverse backgrounds can help to break down stereotypes and build empathy. Initiatives that encourage varied groups to interact and exchange experiences, such as diversity training or community-building activities, can help shift preconceptions and improve understanding [23].

6.4 Implicit bias training: The availability of implicit bias training programs in organizations, schools, and other public sectors can help people identify and overcome unconscious prejudices. It has been proven through research that such programs can enhance decision-making skills and decrease the occurrence of discriminatory behavior [31].

6.5 Institutional and Policy Adjustment: Institutional reforms are needed to address implicit bias. This includes the implementation of policies in favor of diversity, equity, and inclusion in hiring, learning environments, and healthcare systems. Blind hiring methods can be utilized by organizations

to thwart hiring biases. Diverse representation in learning materials and educators can be utilized to avoid stereotypes and expose students to a range of ideas [6].

6.6 Community Discussion and Engagement: Open and respectful discussion about bias and stereotyping within communities can enhance people's knowledge about one another's points of view. Community development exercises that unite various groups can foster empathy and reduce prejudice [32].

7. Linguistic Aspects of Bias in Academic Contexts

Prejudice and bias are deeply ingrained in social interaction and are usually conveyed via language, setting the tone for how individuals perceive and interact with others. Linguistic bias describes how language reflects and creates social inequalities, which are most often reinforcing stereotypical and discriminatory attitudes [33]. Language is not a neutral conduit for communication but a powerful social tool that indexes identity, power relations, and group membership; therefore, it serves as a site where enactments of biases can be made but challenged as well, according to De Costa and Norton [34].

Linguistic discrimination has also manifested as language ideologies—widely held assumptions about varieties of language that bestow social value and prestige on some but not others. Some accents or dialects, however, are devalued as "wrong" or "substandard," which tends to discriminate against speakers from specific racial or ethnic backgrounds [35]. illustrates how accent bias perpetuates social exclusion and restricts opportunities in education and professional life, thereby continuing systemic inequalities.

In addition, the concept of sociolinguistics has emerged as an essential framework for understanding how language practices intersect with race and racism. According to Flores and Rosa [33], linguistic profiling and stereotyping are not merely questions of language but are entangled with racialized perceptions that determine the ways people are socially classified and treated. The approach targets the role of language within racialized power structures rather than just language, making clear how linguistic biases lead to broader social inequalities.

Another aspect of linguistic bias is the absence of engagement with linguistic diversity, which will perpetuate stereotypes. Leeman and Modan [36] observe that minimal exposure to varieties of language tends to lead to fixed and essentialist perceptions regarding linguistic groups, hindering intercultural understanding. Through the absence of interaction, linguistic variations become symbols of "otherness," perpetuating prejudice and misunderstanding in social and educational contexts.

Conversely, educational initiatives that promote translanguaging and embrace linguistic diversity offer promising pathways to counteract bias [37]. Translanguaging refers to the dynamic and fluid use of multiple languages within communicative practices, which challenges rigid language boundaries and recognizes the legitimacy of multilingual identities. By validating diverse linguistic repertoires, such pedagogical approaches can dismantle hierarchies of language prestige and reduce the stigma attached to minority language speakers.

In addition, Creese and Blackledge [38] highlight the significance of developing inclusive learning environments in which various languages and dialects are valued resources and not deficits. Inclusive linguistic policies can promote equity by disrupting prevailing language ideologies and empowering

subordinated students. This is in line with social justice intentions because it tackles the structural causes of linguistic prejudice and enhances respect for all linguistic identities.

Briefly, linguistic biases are multifaceted issues based on social power relations and ideologies that affect one's perception and appreciation of language. Recent literature indicates the importance of understanding these biases not only as linguistic but as aspects of wider social inequalities that intersect with race, class, and identity. Efforts to combat linguistic bias in education and society must therefore focus on promoting awareness, embracing linguistic diversity, and fostering intercultural dialogue, thereby contributing to more equitable and inclusive communities.

8. Methodology

This research explores foreign instructors' biases and prejudices against international students. The empirical part relies on quantitative data collection via a formal questionnaire aimed at giving perspective on how often perceptions, cause, effect, and possible solutions to stereotyping and bias occur.

The questionnaire was made available via Google Forms, making it convenient for participants to access and maintain their anonymity. Electronic dissemination via this tool offered broad geographic reach and convenience for respondents to complete the questionnaire. This method was chosen because it is efficient, cost-effective, and can collect and analyze massive amounts of data in a short period.

The questionnaire was broken into five pieces, including:

1. Demographic data [age, gender, and background].
2. Causes of Stereotyping and Bias [the sources of stereotype creation]
3. Solutions to Stereotypes and Biases [options for combating Bias]
4. The Impact of Stereotypes [Personal Experiences and Social Effects]
5. Common Assessment of Stereotypes [Awareness and Influence].

The research tool was distributed through electronic means [e.g., email, academic networks] to instructors who teach in foreign countries, ensuring diversified participation. The emphasis on teachers was deliberate to understand how their backgrounds and experiences influence their perspectives of international students. A total of 76 replies were received. The data collection process lasted roughly [3 months].

8.1 Sample of the Study

The participant profiling includes a comprehensive demographic breakdown of the 76 participants. Based on the age distribution, 26.32% are between the ages of 25 and 34, 31.58% are between the ages of 35 and 44, 22.37% are between the ages of 45 and 54, and 11.84% are over the age of 55.

The clarification demonstrates that the majority of participants [54%] are between the ages of 25 and 44, indicating mid-career educators with significant teaching experience. Younger participants [8%] represent aspiring educators, whereas the 55+ age group [12%] represent experienced educators with long-term perspectives.

This diversity was crucial. To capture a variety of viewpoints on prejudices and stereotypes in international education settings. Russia, Turkey, India, Iraq, and Egypt were the nations represented

among the participants. Culturally diverse perspectives and experiences on intercultural communication and bias were added to the dataset by this global composition.

International schools and both public and private universities were represented among the respondents. These establishments were situated in nations where English was not the primary language. The study was able to compare opinions across professional stages and levels of intercultural experience because to this segmentation.

Per gender distribution, 39% of the 76 respondents were male, which equals around 29.64 participants. Females accounted for 51% of the 76 respondents, which equals around 38.76 participants. Moreover, this clarifies that the number of respondents is gender-equilibrium, with opinions from both male and female faculty members.

Based on geographical background, urban respondents showed 63% [48 respondents], and rural respondents gave 37% [28 respondents]. The clarification reveals that the majority of responses are from metropolitan areas. This distinction may influence their perceptions of diversity and prejudices; as rural surroundings frequently have less exposure to cultural differences than metropolitan ones.

Participants represented a variety of identities and backgrounds, increasing the diversity of opinions on stereotyping and Bias.

Table 1: Statistical Distribution of the Sample [N = 76]

Demographic Variable	Category	Frequency [n]	Percentage [%]
Age	Under 25	6	7.9%
	25–34	20	26.3%
	35–44	24	31.6%
	45–54	17	22.4%
	55 and above	9	11.8%
Gender	Male	30	39.5%
	Female	39	51.3%
	Prefer not to say	7	9.2%
Geographical Background	Urban	48	63.2%
	Rural	28	36.8%

This chart shows the demographic breakdown of the 76 participants. The most common age bracket is 35–44 [31.6%], followed by 25–34 [26.3%]. The gender split shows a slight female slant, and the largest number of respondents [63.2%] hail from urban areas, which may have an influence on their exposure to diversity.

8.2 Statistical Analysis Tools

In the study, descriptive statistical analysis was the primary method of statistics used since the research aimed to examine general trends, attitudes, and foreign teachers' experiences regarding stereotyping international students. Descriptive statistics like percentages and frequencies were utilized to present data collected using the questionnaire. The methodologies allowed adequate representation of participant demographics and response tendencies across variables such as gender, age, geographic location, and attitude towards stereotyping. Data analysis was conducted using SPSS/24 [Statistical Package for the Social Sciences].

9. Detailed Analysis of Survey Results

9.1. General Observation of Stereotypes

How often do stereotypes influence people's assessments of others?

- Always, 21% [16 participants].
- Often, 39% [30 participants].
- Sometimes, 29% [22 participants].
- Rare, 9% [7 participants].
- Never, 2 percent [1 participant].

Approximately 60% of participants feel stereotypes "always" or "often" influence their assessments. This implies that tutors understand the ubiquitous role of stereotypes in affecting the attitudes of overseas students.

Understanding Community Stereotypes 44% of people were very aware [33], while 38% were somewhat aware [29], and "not aware" was 18% [14 individuals]. About 82% of instructors recognize stereotypes in their societies. This demonstrates a high level of awareness of Bias in educational settings.

9.2. The reasons for stereotyping and Bias

What factors contribute the most to stereotype formation?

- Media portrayal: 72% [55 respondents]
- 56% [43 participants] reported a lack of interaction with diverse groups.
- Cultural traditions and beliefs: 41% [31 people]
- Education, or lack thereof: 38% [29 individuals].
- Peer influence was 33% [25 participants].
- Other: 5% [four participants].

Media portrayal [72%] is the leading factor of stereotype creation. Instructors also report insufficient connection with various groups [56%], implying that personal experience is important in shaping or removing biases.

9.3. The Impact of Stereotypes

Personal Experience with Stereotyping

- Yes: 46% [35 participants]
- No: 54% [41 participants].

Approximately 46% of instructors have personally encountered the impact of stereotypes. This indicates a firsthand understanding of Bias, which may influence their teaching approaches.

Do stereotypes harm intergroup relationships?

- Strengthen them by 8% [6 participants].
- Harm them: 69% [52 participants].
- No impact: 23% [18 subjects].

The majority [69%] believe stereotypes impair intergroup interactions and have negative social repercussions.

9.4. Addressing Stereotypes and Biases

The Most Effective Ways to Combat Stereotypes

- Education and awareness campaigns: 64% [49 participants].
- Promoting interaction among varied groups: 58% [44 participants].
- Holding media accountable: 45% [34 respondents]
- Changing policies or laws: 37% [28 people]
- Other: 4% [three participants].

Education and awareness efforts were found to be the most effective option [64%], followed by fostering interaction [58%]. This suggests that informing and involving people from other cultures is crucial for combating preconceptions.

Willingness to Participate in Bias Reduction Activities 73% [55 people] said yes, while 27% [21 participants] said no. This means that 73% of instructors are eager to participate in bias-reduction programs, demonstrating openness to proactive change.

This practical investigation demonstrates that stereotypes are commonly recognized as impacting judgments and intergroup relationships. Media depiction and a lack of interaction are seen as the main reasons, with education and intercultural engagement emerging as favored solutions. The demographic distribution of participants is displayed in Table 2, and their experiences and perceptions regarding biases are displayed in Table 3.

Table 2: Demographic Characteristics of Participants

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage [%]
Age	< 25	6	7.9
	25 – 34	20	26.3
	35 – 44	24	31.6
	45 – 54	17	22.4
	55+	9	11.8
Gender	Male	30	39.5
	Female	39	51.3
	Prefer not to say	7	9.2
Geographical Background	Urban	48	63.2
	Rural	28	36.8

Table 3: Participants' Perceptions and Experiences Regarding Stereotypes and Bias

Aspect	Category	Frequency	Percentage [%]
Experience with Stereotyping	Yes	35	46.1
	No	41	53.9
Awareness of Stereotypes	Very Aware	33	43.4
	Somewhat Aware	29	38.2
	Not Aware	14	18.4
Causes of Stereotypes [multiple responses]	Media portrayal	55	72.4
	Lack of interaction	43	56.6
	Cultural beliefs	31	40.8

	Lack of education	29	38.2
	Peer influence	25	32.9
	Other	4	5.3
Solutions to Combat Bias [multiple responses]	Education campaigns	49	64.5
	Promote intergroup interaction	44	57.9
	Media accountability	34	44.7
	Policy or legal changes	28	36.8
	Other	3	3.9
Willingness to Participate in Bias Reduction	Yes	55	72.4
	No	21	27.6

10. Conclusion

This study on instructors' prejudices and biases toward overseas students uncovers some important insights regarding the prevalence of stereotyping and its consequences. It emphasizes that stereotypes are frequently developed as a result of limited personal experiences, media portrayals, and cultural customs and that they have a substantial impact on individual and group judgments and relationships. The statistics show that a sizable proportion of instructors recognize the ubiquitous impact of stereotypes on views and interactions, particularly in educational settings. The findings also highlight the negative repercussions of stereotyping, notably in terms of impeding social cohesiveness, causing splits within communities, and perpetuating inequality. Instructors understood that stereotypes could harm intergroup interactions, and a large majority supported educational and intercultural engagement as critical techniques for eliminating Bias and improving understanding. Furthermore, instructors demonstrate a willingness to participate in bias-reduction efforts, indicating the possibility of beneficial interventions through education, media accountability, and increased cross-cultural encounters. The study emphasizes the importance of continuing efforts to combat biases and preconceptions in educational settings to promote a more inclusive, equitable, and informed community.

References

- [1] Devine, P. G., et al. [2012]. Promoting inclusion in organizations: The influence of organizational climate and training on reducing bias. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 42[4], 1013-1034.
- [2] Yamamoto, K. [2022]. Stereotyping and its effects on society. *Journal of Social Psychology*, 45[2], 98-112.
- [3] Macrae, C. N., & Bodenhausen, G. V. [2000]. Social cognition: Thinking categorically about others. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 51, 93-120.
- [4] Tajfel, H. [1981]. *Human groups and social categories: Studies in social psychology*. Cambridge University Press.
- [5] Allport, G. W. [1954]. *The nature of prejudice*. Addison-Wesley.
- [6] Banaji, M. R., & Greenwald, A. G. [2013]. *Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People*. Delacorte Press.
- [7] Williams, D. R., & Mohammed, S. A. [2009]. Discrimination and racial disparities in health: Evidence and needed research. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 32[1], 20-47.
- [8] Fiske, S. T., & Taylor, S. E. [2017]. *Social cognition: From brains to culture* [4th ed.]. McGraw-Hill Education.
- [9] Blair, I. V. [2002]. The malleability of automatic stereotypes and prejudice. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 6[3], 242-261.

- [10] Whitley, B. E., Jr., & Kite, M. E. [2010]. *The psychology of prejudice and discrimination* [2nd ed.]. Wadsworth.
- [11] Newman, L. S., Duff, K. J., & Baumeister, R. F. [1997]. A new look at defensive projection: Thought suppression, accessibility, and biased person perception. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 72[5], 980–1001.
- [12] Czopp, A. M., Kay, A. C., & Cheryan, S. [2015]. Positive Stereotypes Are Pervasive and Powerful. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 10[4], 451–463.
- [13] Jussim, L., McCauley, C., & Lee, Y. T. [1995]. Stereotype accuracy: Toward appreciating group differences. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 4[1], 10–14.
- [14] Tajfel, H., & Turner, J. C. [1979]. An integrative theory of intergroup conflict. In W. G. Austin & S. Worchel [Eds.], *The Social Psychology of Intergroup Relations* [pp. 33–47]. Brooks/Cole.
- [15] Krieglmeyer, R., & Sherman, J. W. [2012]. Disentangling stereotype activation and stereotype application in the stereotype misperception task. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 103[2], 205–224. doi:10.1037/a0028764
- [16] Contreras, J. M., Banaji, M. R., & Mitchell, J. P. [2012]. Dissociable neural correlates of stereotypes and other forms of semantic knowledge. *Social Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience*, 7[7], 764–770.
- [17] Madon, S., Gyll, M., Hilbert, S. J., Kyriakatos, E., & Vogel, D. L. [2006]. Stereotyping the stereotypic: When individuals match social stereotypes. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 36[1], 178–205. doi:10.1111/j.0021-9029.2006.00057
- [18] Gilmour, J. [2015]. Formation of stereotypes. *Behavioural Sciences Undergraduate Journal*, 2[1], 67–73.
- [19] Le Pelley, M. E., Reimers, S. J., Calvini, G., Spears, R., Beesley, T., & Murphy, R. A. [2010]. Stereotype formation: Biased by association. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 139[1], 138.
- [20] Steinbock, B. [1978]. Speciesism and the Idea of Equality. *Philosophy*, 53[204], 247–256.
- [21] Facione, P. A Brief History of Thinking about Thinking Thomas Lombardo
- [22] Bar-Tal, D. [1996]. Development of intractable conflicts: The Israeli-Palestinian case. *International Journal of Conflict Management*, 7[1], 1–24.
- [23] Knobloch-Westerwick, S., Johnson, B. K., & Westerwick, A. [2013]. Media choice and selective exposure theory. In J. Bryant & M. B. Oliver [Eds.], *Media effects: Advances in theory and research* [3rd ed., pp. 423–438]. Routledge.
- [24] Friggeri, A., Adamic, L. A., & Eckles, D. [2014]. Rumor cascades. *Proceedings of the 2014 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work*, 1013–1026
- [25] Pettigrew, T. F., & Tropp, L. R. [2006]. A meta-analytic test of intergroup contact theory. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 90[5], 751–783.
- [26] Tversky, A., & Kahneman, D. [1974]. Judgment under uncertainty: Heuristics and biases. *Science*, 185[4157], 1124–1131.
- [27] Moffett Jr, B. L. [2020]. Influence of implicit racial bias on police officers' decision to use force [Doctoral dissertation, Walden University].
- [28] Whalen, D. A. [2017]. Implicit bias and its role in discriminatory behavior. *Journal of Social Psychology*, 155[5], 431–445.
- [29] Page, S. E. [2007]. *The difference: How the power of diversity creates better groups, firms, schools, and societies*. Princeton University Press.
- [30] Wilson, T. D., & Brekke, N. [1994]. Mental contamination and mental correction: Unwanted influences on judgments and evaluations. *Psychological Bulletin*, 116[1], 117–142.
- [31] Gray, H., & Campbell, K. K. [2007]. *Race and media: The emergence of a critical cultural perspective*. Routledge.
- [32] Devine, P. G., et al. [2012]. Promoting inclusion in organizations: The influence of organizational climate and training on reducing bias. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 42[4], 1013–1034.

- [33] Flores, N., & Rosa, J. [2019]. Bringing race into second language acquisition. *The Modern Language Journal*, 103[S1], 145–151. <https://doi.org/10.1111/modl.12523>
- [34] De Costa, P. I., & Norton, B. [2017]. Identity, language learning, and social change. *Language Teaching*, 50[4], 501–516. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0261444817000303>
- [35] Lippi-Green, R. [2019]. *English with an accent: Language, ideology and discrimination in the United States* [2nd ed.]. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429500482>
- [36] Leeman, J., & Modan, G. [2019]. Language ideology and linguistic discrimination. In J. Tollefson & M. Pérez-Milans [Eds.], *The Oxford Handbook of Language Policy and Planning* [pp. 349–370]. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190458898.013.18>
- [37] García, O., & Wei, L. [2018]. *Translanguaging: Language, bilingualism and education*. Palgrave Macmillan. <https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137385765>
- [38] Creese, A., & Blackledge, A. [2018]. Translanguaging as a pedagogical resource in multilingual classrooms: The different faces of translanguaging. In García, O., Wei, L. [Eds.], *Translanguaging: Language, bilingualism and education* [pp. 103–126]. Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1057/9781137385765_

Appendix

Foreign Instructors' Perceptions of Stereotypes and Biases Against International Students. This is a survey conducted as part of a research study examining the prevalence, reasons, impact, and remedy of stereotypes and biases faced by international students.

Section 1: Demographic Details

- 1 .What is your age bracket?
 - Under 25
 - 25–34
 - 35–44
 - 45–54
 - 55 and older.
- 2 .What is your gender?
 - Male
 - Female
 - Other / Prefer not to say
- 3 .What is your geographical background?
 - Urban
 - Rural

Section 2: Causes of Stereotypes and Bias

- 4 .What factors do you think contribute the most to stereotyping? [Choose all that apply]
 - Media portrayal
 - Limited interaction with diverse groups
 - Cultural practices and beliefs
 - Education or lack of awareness
 - Peer pressure
 - Other _____ :

Section 3: Impact of Stereotypes

5 .Have you ever yourself experienced stereotyping or prejudice as a teacher?

- Yes
- No

6 .In your opinion, how do stereotypes affect intergroup relationships?

- Reinforce them
- Damage them
- Don't affect them

Section 4: Awareness and Perception

7 .To what extent are you aware of stereotypes in your school environment?

- Highly aware
- To some extent aware
- Not at all aware

8 .In your opinion, how much do you believe stereotypes contribute to people judging others?

- Always
- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Infrequently
- Never

Section 5: Solutions and Engagement

9 .What are the best solutions for reducing stereotyping and bias? [Select up to three.]

- Education and public awareness campaigns
- Encouraging contact between groups
- Media responsibility
- Policy or legislative change
- Other _____ :

10 .Would you like to be involved in future activities or programs aimed at reducing bias in education?

- Yes
- No