DIVERSITY CHALLENGES: ARTICLE ANALYSIS

The purpose of this take-home assignment is to read and analyze an article on diversity challenges in community research and action, from a special issue of the American Journal of Community Psychology (June 2006, vol. 37, numbers 3-4). I will hand out the issue’s table of contents for you to review article titles.

Choose one article to analyze for your paper; inform me of your choice by Nov. 30. Have several options ready; I will NOT allow more than two students to choose the same article. Do NOT choose the first or last articles by Bond and Harrell. (In class, we will cover the concepts proposed by Harrell and Bond for analyzing these stories.)

Your paper must be typed, single spaced, and its body should be about four pages long. Include a title page containing only the full reference in APA style for the article that you are analyzing. Put your name only on the back of the paper, NOT on the title page.

You are welcome to discuss your ideas with other students, but make sure that the ideas in your final paper are in your words. If papers are too similar, I will investigate them for plagiarism.

I will grade your paper on how complete, specific and original your essay is; how well you apply community psychology concepts; and the organization, clarity, citation and referencing, and grammar and spelling of your paper.

When you quote or paraphrase the article that you are analyzing, cite the page number only in parentheses. If you quote or paraphrase any other source, including the textbook or another student’s idea, you must cite that source in your paper in APA style, and include a references page in APA style. See the textbook for examples of APA citation and referencing style.

Divide your paper into four sections, with the headings as I indicate below.

Article Summary
Describe the persons, setting(s) and cultural group(s) described in the article. Indicate which dimensions of diversity were involved in the article (see the list that begins Chapter 7 of the text, or choose other dimensions).

In a further paragraph, explain in detail the principal topics, themes or findings of the article.

Article Author(s)
Describe the status and activities of the author(s) during the period covered in the article. Describe in detail one lesson that you believe the author(s) of the article learned from their experiences. Indicate why that lesson is interesting or significant.

Difference and Power
Describe in detail one important difference, challenge or conflict in the community or setting described in this article. Explain the forms of power involved (from Chapter 12 of the textbook, or others mentioned in the article). Explain how historical, cultural, societal, political or organizational forces were involved. Explain how the community dealt with this difference/challenge/conflict.

Personal Revelations
Define and describe in detail (one paragraph each) two personal revelations or things that you learned from reading this article. Explain how or why these ideas were interesting or significant for you. (This section is similar to the Revelations sections of Reaction Papers during the semester.)