Microaggressions in Everyday Life: Manifestation, Dynamics and Impact

DERALD WING SUE, Ph.D.

12-1pm | Thursday, June 12, 2014
OHSU Auditorium (Old Library)

Derald Wing Sue, Ph.D., is internationally recognized for his research on microaggressions: the everyday verbal, nonverbal and environmental slights, snubs or insults – whether intentional or unintentional – which communicate hostile, derogatory or negative messages to target persons based solely upon their marginalized group membership.

New research on the manifestation, dynamics and harmful impact of microaggressions on socially devalued groups have become of high importance to health sciences, mental health and education. In many cases, these hidden messages may invalidate the group identities or experiential reality of target persons, demean them on a personal or group level, communicate they are lesser human beings, suggest they do not belong with the majority group, relegate them to inferior status and treatment, and have an adverse impact on their psychological and physical well-being.

Dr. Sue’s talk will identify the hidden manifestation of microaggressions; describe their relationship to unconscious bias and prejudice; outline how they detrimentally impact psychological and physical health; and discuss how they create disparities in health care, education and employment. He will also explore the coping mechanisms used by targets of microaggressions, and suggest solutions on individual, institutional and societal levels.

Dr. Derald Wing Sue, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology and Education in the Department of Counseling and Clinical Psychology at Teachers College and the School of Social Work, Columbia University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. He was the Co-Founder and first President of the Asian American Psychological Association.

For more information, or to request accommodation, contact cd@ohsu.edu or call 503 494-5657.