

What's Invisible?

Courtesy of Prof. Gwen Davidson

preconceived notions
prejudicial constructs of the dominant culture
ideas for which there seems to be an overwhelming consensus
theories our particular culture holds dear and disseminates in many forms
so-called common knowledge
widespread presumptions
reigning ideologies
prescribed or pre-scripted assumptions
entrenched prejudices of the dominant culture
widespread public opinions or pieties
power relationships (e.g., between men and women, between different cultures, etc.)
dominant mindsets and reasons for them
presumptions about allegedly essential differences
purportedly a priori truths
reasons for subtle biases against specific groups
supposed eternal truths (beyond the laws of nature or logic)
tendencies of thought
persistent and widespread beliefs
gender-based socializations
typical associations drawn
political affiliations and/or repudiations
longstanding opinions
preoccupations (say, with winning)
presumed essentials
historical underpinnings
so-called "master narratives"
intellectual traditions
One of the standard mentalities of American culture
strategy for containing counter-discursive rhetorics
philosophical leanings
understandings of psychology and the mind
fantasies and illusions
prevailing conceptions of the body
typical American sensibilities
dominant attitudes
conformities and codes of conduct
pervasive habits of thought
customary ways of interpreting or reading the world
widespread biases
entrenched prejudices of the dominant culture
socio-economic relations
psychological tensions or pressures

interpersonal or intersocial power relationships
structures of thought
moral assumptions
belief systems (e.g. rise of militias is a sign of the belief in the apocalypse)
deep-seated values
hierarchical assumptions about class
hierarchical assumptions about gender
hierarchical assumptions about race
normative definitions of "femininity"
normative definitions of "masculinity"
identity positions
ethical stances
cultural self-image
cultural identity
social forces
sociological factors
cultural "myths"
key concepts
central ideas of what it means to be American
firmly held convictions
persistent stereotypes
widely held ideals
considerations of what is "natural"
assumptions about codes of conduct and proper behavior
longstanding mores
hegemonic assumptions and beliefs
received wisdoms
notions handed down from generation to generation
commonly held values or world views
messages
ideologies
perceived "virtues"
perceived "evils"
hopes and dreams
desires
norms of American society
dominant attitudes
conventional thinking
what's assumed to be proper
expectations of proper behavior
mainstay of American or Western thought
predominant ideas and ideals
longstanding philosophical positions/traditions of Western thought
religious tenets or doctrinal position
outlook
perception

stances

views

opinions

historical facts or myths