Sophie Flavio

American Studies

U.S. History

1 September 2020

Core Values of Equality and Diversity in America

Since the founding of our country, people have lived by ideas and concepts of equality, as written in the Declaration of Independence. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." As it stands right now, America is not living up to its core values of equality and diversity.

America is not currently living up to its core value of equality because women are still fighting for political equality. For example, the LA Times wrote that 127 women currently serve



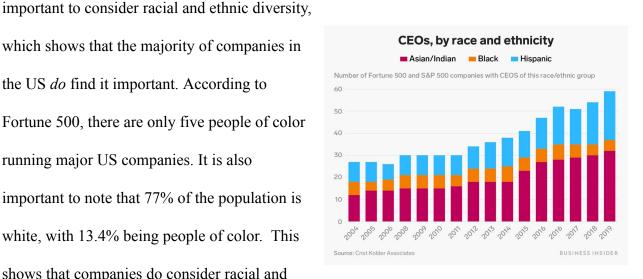
in the U.S. House or Senate. The article also commented that only four female justices have sat on the U.S. Supreme Court. This is important because men have always been more prevalent in politics throughout history and unfortunately, the commonality of this unjust ratio has yet to be fixed. The Founding

Fathers believed that everyone had an equal chance to succeed, prosper, and find happiness; but with the way society has changed today, prejudice and stereotyping run rampant due to certain people's and sexist ideals. Currently, we have a strong female figure, Kamala Harris who is running for Vice President along with Joe Bidden running for President of the United States.

Having her chosen to run for Vice President is the first time in US history, there is a vice-presidential candidate who is a woman of color, which is important to know that she's fighting against minorities that have been oppressed throughout history.

America is not currently living up to its core value of diversity because people in America don't acknowledge the importance of individualism and self-expression. According to the Pew Research Center, several US-based companies strongly consider race and ethnicity during the hiring process and/or promotion opportunities. Only 30% of companies found it

which shows that the majority of companies in the US do find it important. According to Fortune 500, there are only five people of color running major US companies. It is also important to note that 77% of the population is white, with 13.4% being people of color. This shows that companies do consider racial and



ethnic background when deciding who to hire or who to promote. We should also consider the racial and ethnic background of the leadership and top executives at companies in America, as their own background can influence who is hired and promoted.

There are some values that Americans promote that hold more significance than others. We value our freedom, independence, and individualism, but we also forget that as our country was developing into what it is today, people were fighting for our country and sacrificing their lives so that citizens could maintain their equality and "unalienable rights." Equal and have the same rights. Even though America is a very strong and successful country, there is always room for growth, and we should continue to fight for what values we believe in. Looking back on the progress our country has made we can acknowledge that America has collectively grown, but individually, there is still work to be done to achieve what we believe our core values to be as a country.

Works Cited

Wahba, P. (2020, June 15). There are only four black CEOs in the Fortune 500. Retrieved September 03, 2020, from

https://fortune.com/2020/06/01/black-ceos-fortune-500-2020-african-american-business-leaders/

Declaration of Independence

Horowitz, J. (2020, September 04). Americans See Advantages and Challenges in Country's Growing Racial and Ethnic Diversity. Retrieved September 08, 2020, from https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/05/08/americans-see-advantages-and-challenges-in-count rys-growing-racial-and-ethnic-diversity/

Witynski, M. (n.d.). The rise of women in the U.S. politics-from the 19th Amendment to Kamala Harris. Retrieved September 08, 2020, from

https://news.uchicago.edu/story/rise-women-us-politics-19th-amendment-kamala-harris