CIVIC PARTICIPATION OF BLACK CARIBBEAN YOUTH AND ADULTS WITHIN THE UNITED KINGDOM

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Abstract: This study explored the civic engagement of English-speaking black Caribbean adults within the United Kingdom. We situated our work within the literature on segmented assimilation to guide analyses and make interpretations. We used the Citizenship Survey of 2010-2011 (N = 16,966) to conduct our analyses as this database contained a sizeable sample of Caribbean adults (n = 1100). We used descriptive and regression analyses to explore the civic participation of Caribbeans and determined the extent to which sex, age, and generation status mattered. Findings demonstrate that Caribbeans are more likely to enact civic participation rather than activism and consultation. Their main motivational factors for being engaged were to serve the community and make local changes. Finally, female and 1.5 generation Caribbeans were more civically engaged. We discuss our findings in terms of assimilation patterns, ethnic minority integration, and educative strategies communities may take to increase civic engagement among Caribbean adults.

Keywords: Civic engagement, black Caribbeans, United Kingdom, generation status, segmented assimilation

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