The Unattainable Mirage of Equality in American Teacher Education Programs: My Experience

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I came to this country with an open mind to pursue the American dream. It did not take me a long to recognize racial disparity as a student and even more so when I became a faculty member in various teacher preparation programs. While I try to evade discussion on race, it is inevitable to talk about it because it seems to be the criteria upon which faculty are recruited, hired, retained and promoted. While at personal levels many people recognize overt discrimination and other unfair treatments, institutional racism has continued to be prevalent in many teacher preparation programs. This is because it is perpetuated in stealthy manner by those in power. In this article, I discuss my personal experiences in these programs.