JOURNAL PROMPT #1

PSY 494 – PSYCHOLOGY OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION

For prompt #1, begin by responding to Dr. Kendi’s question, “What’s the problem with being ‘not racist’? (p. 9)” and explain the distinction that he makes between being ‘not racist’ versus ‘anti-racist’ as the opposite of ‘racist’. Then, review and reflect on what he shares about his own experience and personal growth with racist thinking on the second to last pages of the introduction (p. 10, beginning with “THE GOOD NEWS”). How does his honesty help give us space to acknowledge and name our own racist behaviors and attitudes? Describe an example from your own life or that you have seen in the media that illustrates this type of change. If you can’t think of any examples, that’s okay; instead, reflect on and discuss some of the potential reasons why nothing comes to mind?

# KEY POINTS TO ADDRESS:

* Respond to the question author’s question “What’s the problem with being ‘not racist’?”
* Explain the distinction that the author makes between being ‘not racist’ and ‘anti-racist’
* How does his honesty help give us space to acknowledge and name our own racist behaviors and attitudes?
* Describe an example from your own life or that you have seen in the media that illustrates this type of change.
  + If you cannot think of an example, instead, discuss some of the potential reasons why nothing comes to mind.