

Two Models of "Difference"

A Contrast

Mono-cultural

Difference is a deficiency or abnormality

Being different is negative - The other is considered different, not me

Difference and subsequent marginalization resides in the individual, and therefore is their responsibility

The remedy for marginalizing differences is assimilation and normalization of the individual

The agent of remedy is the individual

Multi-cultural

Difference is a fact / reality

Being different, in itself, is neutral. The mainstream is not viewed as being central and THE point of comparison for all others

Difference and subsequent marginalization derives from the interaction between the individual and society

The remedy for marginalizing difference is a change in the interaction between the individual and the society

The agent of healing CAN be the individual, an advocate, or anyone who affects arrangements / interaction between the individual and society