

Neocolonialism

Neocolonialism is a compound noun that is made of two parts from Greek descent. The prefix neo is defined as new or recent. The last part of the compound noun is colonialism which can be interpreted in many ways. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, it is defined as “domination of people or area by a foreign state or nation.” When the topic of neocolonialism is brought up it combines the prefix of new or recent and the control of people or an area by a foreign state. This has been a topic since the nineteen-sixties and there are hundreds of different examples that can be linked to the term. Depending on your stance on the matter, it can be a two-sided coin that shifts in favor depending on the example. In this paper, you will find that we are going in-depth about its history and future, examples, and different ideological approaches to neocolonialism.

Colonialism has been occurring since the fifteenth century this is about the years of fourteen hundred through fifteen hundred. Earliest records of colonialism are in the late fourteen hundreds when your European nations at the time explored further than before and found routes around Africa into the Indian Sea. Once this discovery was made a ball was set in motion that was not slowing down for hundreds of years. Upon arrival, they were met with resistance to the invaders occupying their land. The new explorers and nations were persistent because they knew what wealth and labor could come from the place of discovery. They quickly made very unfair trade agreements and exploitations of these new land's resources and population. The existing residence had two main points of view on colonialism. One viewpoint is that the new settlers are taking advantage of everything around us even ourselves and such action should be rebelled against. Then there is the viewpoint that they are helping by bringing advanced technologies that were not achievable before in those areas. Many and many wars were fought rebelling these invaders because they were taking their lands by force, and enslaving the people. One of the biggest issues is that the existing residents had no other choice but to comply with what was being forced upon them. An author by the name of Arthur Clarke said in one of his books, “Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.” This quote holds a lot of truth when discussing colonialism because these indigenous inhabitants were first exposed to firearms and fleets of ships. The extent of colonialism and neocolonialism is still happening to this day. The second point of view is more apparent in more recent years. High-income nation industries can be viewed as conducting acts of neocolonialism. They give off the impression that they are providing them with care and job opportunities but only have an interest in the economic or strategic gain from them. This builds a relationship between countries that are doomed to fail, it may not be soon but it will eventually collapse unless it is stopped by another driving force.

These acts of neocolonialism are going to become apparent in the years to come with concerns about climate change.

There are thousands of examples of neocolonialism in our day in age. One thing that comes to people's mind when they think of neocolonialism is the occupation of high-income nations in Africa. They all share one thing in common and it is the resources that can be capitalized on. According to the National Interest Organization, China has essentially donated one hundred fifty billion U.S. dollars to African countries for development. This can be viewed in many different ways. With that money, it is going to build oil drilling facilities and mines all across the African continent to supply their own country with supplies. This was discussed in the news in recent years and many news reporters were calling it the China Africa Project. As stated earlier this will create an unequal trade between the nations. The most valuable asset on earth is land so Africa allowing China to build such things is allowing China to spread its influence on those countries. Africa is seeing a growth in GDP close to one hundred fifty billion U.S. dollars, which is great for those countries, but it will not last. It is inevitable that when these nonrenewable resources cease to exist China will leave because there is no more economic gain. There is a small chance of the presence of China still staying in Africa for strategic military gain, but without any big wars being sought after this is unlikely. There is one thing that needs to be talked about and it is the cultural differences between the two places. They hardly share anything in common so it causes many different problems between each other's people. Many reports have stated that there is a big problem between religious ideals and practices. This has caused big enough problems that each other's government had to make statements about. This is only the beginning of the China Africa project so will we see how things are played out in the not-so-certain future. This is exactly what happened when European countries discovered routes to the Indian Ocean, just in a more modern progressive way. Without the violence that would come from these types of acts, most people are not exposed to the reality that is occurring in many places around the world. One of the biggest things that has been on everyone's minds who lives in the United States is military and economic presence in Central and South America. Many argue that Puerto Rico is a state or should remain a territory, regardless of the dispute we can all agree that the United States presence there is neocolonialism. The country of Puerto Rico was already established hundreds of years ago by Spain. Then the involvement of the United States during the Spanish wars let them lay claim to it. Sometimes referred to as the first wave of colonialism was far over because there was nowhere else to race to claim for nearly six hundred years. These events are fairly recent in human history. Neocolonialism is a new type of colonialism that has a

mixture of many different things that can range from economic growth or foreign affairs. The most recent act of neocolonialism that most people will be able to distinguish is the presence of high-income nations in the Middle East. We hear about these events more often than others because there is life-threatening conflict involved. Some of these events of neocolonialism have yielded some good results that many people can agree on. There will always be a negative connotation with the interaction of high-income nations in foreign affairs to better suit the interest of the said country. This is understandable because many resources and money are being poured into things that are not noticed by the general public. As stated earlier European nations were the founders of colonialism and they are still the forerunners in today's neocolonialism. France and England still had a big presence in northern Africa until the early nineteen sixties. Both of these countries benefit from these places immensely still to this day from the economic growth and power of these places. Despite having their independence from these countries, the exploitation of high-income nations is still present until the present day. This trend will continue to be a thing as far as the future holds. Today's neocolonialism will become categorized as the second wave of colonialism and the future that has yet to be told will take today's neocolonialism's place.

Thousands of different scientists around the world study everything imaginable as big as the existence of the universe or as small as degradable plastic. There are only a few sciences that hold as much curiosity about human behavior as others which as Sociology. All sciences besides this one, in particular, have a definitive end to them, but this field is an ever-evolving timeline of human thought. It is extremely difficult to have an endpoint to explain something in this field because every human is different in the way they think. This is why it is always been fascinating to people to study human behavior because it is the most diverse type of science on the planet. It is not limited to one set-in-stone thing such as other sciences' cause and effect tradition. Sociology and the study of human behavior is one of the oldest sciences to date. Dating as far back as the thirteenth century this makes this research nearly seven hundred years old and far complete. The sociologist has made many conclusions that this will always be changing depending on what is going on in the world at the time of their research. There are some trends and mindsets that carry over from generation to generation. Professionals in this field have made three distinct areas where most people are categorized. Sometimes in both depending on the situation. Those three main categories are the following structural functionalism, conflict theory, and finally symbolic interaction. These are ideological perspectives that have reasonings for things and why they exist. Some scientists have been the most memorable contributors to each perspective such as Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx, and George Herbert Mead. A lot of scientists

have contradicting ideas than others in the field, which is why this makes it a very interesting topic to learn about. Despite the ideals having conflicts with each other when their research is conducted, they come up with things called paradigms. These paradigms are a collection of theories, research, and experimentation to support said theories. When relating the topic of neocolonialism to these theoretical perspectives you will find that they will bring about different results. Not only in the understanding of the situation by the questioning of it will be vastly different. To understand the reason why there is a difference we need to look at each theatrically perspective. Structural functionalism sometimes referred to as functionalism sees the interaction between each part of society and how it provides to the entire collection of the society. When discussing the functionalist approach to neocolonialism they would argue that it needs to continue to allow society to function as a whole. A scientist following the conflict theory approach would see the inequalities of every part of neocolonialism and use that to explain why things are. An example of this is they would see the unfair trade agreement between places and use that as evidence of the effect on the people and the culture in that area. Symbolic interactionism would study individuals in a society that is under the control of neocolonialism and see their points of view and perspectives on life under foreign rule and regulation. Scientists under this approach would do this for hundreds of people to see the relation between them and try to use this to describe what is going on there. All of these theoretical approaches are completely valid and there will never be a right one. It all comes down to your perspective on the matter, there will be individuals who will completely disagree with these three main perspectives and that is okay. This is why the field of sociology can be very interesting because there is no one final answer that will solve the question.

Neocolonialism is the new or recent control of people or an area by a foreign state. There has been more and more evidence of this in the last fifty years all around the globe. Ranging from the tail end of world-spanning empires to neighboring countries. This is an ongoing issue that is far from over. Most of us will see this become apparent all over the internet in the years to come to due rapid climate change. World powers will want to stay on top during climate change and the only way this is achievable is through neocolonialism. We will see countries racing north to spread their influence and capitalize on economic growth and strategic military gain. The history of neocolonialism is only getting started so we will see many more examples in the future. Theoretical perspectives from sociology might change in the future about this topic because of how new it is. So, there might even be new perspectives entirely that come out of the increasing wave of neo-colonialism. Everyone should be aware of the potential dangers and positive results that could come out of neocolonialism.

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