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Not always blissful

Ignorance and its effects is explored in both Jelani Cobb's speech "Contingent Citizenship (Race and Democracy in the of Ferguson and Baltimore)" and Neil deGrasse Tyson's essay "The perimeter of ignorance". Both authors speak on the topic in a similar sense with a bit of variation between the angles they are coming from.

Cobb is a writer with a focus on race, so I think it makes sense that he bases his speech on the premises of racism. Cobb gave this speech in the year 2015, when Obama was still president, and Cobb's intention is to make the audience see that Obama's presidency didn't mean that racism had vanished from America. Cobb cites India as an example to drive his point. He reminds his audience that the country has had quite a number of female head of states, but in India today, sexism is still an issue. Cobb further explains that the progress of something should not be measured by the amount of work that had been accomplished, but rather by the amount that is yet to be accomplished. He argues that America still has a long way to go concerning the issue of racism, but Americans are ignorant of this because they think having a black person as president automatically relinquishes racism.

Tyson's approach is more focused on scientists and scientific discoveries. He delves into the studies of renowned scientists such as Newton and Galileo. Tyson soon discovers that in Newton's researches, whenever Newton found himself in a position where he couldn't explain

a theory or phenomenon, he was quick to conclude it was God's doing. On the other hand, Galileo was able to clearly distinguish between the spiritual powers of God and science by researching more and making more findings. Tyson's argument on ignorance is that it makes us become lax and unwilling to push ourselves to get a more valid answer. He argues that if ignorance is embraced, it will most likely decrease the human thirst to gain knowledge and the future of generations to come will be damned.

Both writers come to the same conclusion that ignorance isn't something we should allow to be seeped into the society. It will do more harm than good to the people.

Works Cited

Tyson, Neil deGrasse. "The Perimeter of Ignorance." Natural History. Nov. 2005. Web.

Cobb, Jelani. "Contingent Citizenship (Race and Democracy in the Age of Ferguson and Baltimore)"– <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A34fHpnBc3c>.