

MCOD Developmental Stage Model

Stage 1: The Exclusionary Organization

- Openly maintains the dominant group's power and privilege
- Deliberately restricts membership
- Intentionally designed to maintain dominance of one group over others
- Overt discriminatory, exclusionary, and harassing actions go unaddressed
- Unsafe and dangerous environment for subordinated group members
- Monocultural organization

Stage 2: "The Club"

- Maintains privilege of those who have traditionally held power and influence
- Monocultural norms, policies, and procedures of dominant culture viewed as the only "right" way: "business as usual"
- Dominant culture institutionalized in policies, procedures, services, etc.
- Limited number of "token" members from other social identity groups allowed in IF they have the "right" credentials, attitudes, behaviors, etc.
- Engages issues of diversity and social justice only on club member's terms and within their comfort zone

Stage 3: The Compliance Organization

- Committed to removing some of the discrimination inherent in the "Club"
- Provides some access to some members of previously excluded groups
- No change in organizational culture, mission, or structure
- Focus: Do not make waves, or offend/challenge dominant group members
- Efforts to change profile of workforce (at bottom of organization)
- Token placements in staff positions: Must be "team players" and "qualified"
- Must assimilate into organizational culture
- Must not challenge the system or "rock the boat"
- Must not raise issues of sexism, racism, classism, heterosexism

Stage 4: The Affirming Organization

- Employees encouraged to be non-oppressive awareness trainings
- Employees must assimilate to organizational culture
- Provides support and career development opportunities to increase success and mobility
- Actively recruits and promotes members of groups that have been historically denied access and opportunity
- Committed to eliminating discriminatory practices and inherent advantages

Stage 5: The Redefining Organization

- Moving beyond "nondiscriminatory," "non-oppressive"
- Working to create environment that "values and capitalizes on diversity"
- Working to ensure full inclusion of multicultural workforce to enhance growth and success of organization
- Begins to question limitations of organizational culture: mission, policies, structures, operations, services, management practices, climate, etc.
- Actively works towards developing a multicultural organization
- Committed to redesigning and implementing policies and practices to redistribute power, and ensure the inclusion, participation, and empowerment of all members

Stage 6: The Multicultural Organization

- Mission, values, operations, and services reflect the contributions and interests of the wide diversity of cultural and social identity groups
- Leaders and members act on the organizational commitment to eradicate all forms of oppression within the organization
- Actively works in larger communities (regional, national, global) to eliminate all forms of oppression and to create multicultural organizations.