

The British Diversity Bargain is Warikoo's way of explaining the outlooks on race and admissions by university students. More specifically, Warikoo applies this bargain to the students attending Oxford University. The British Diversity Bargain is that school admissions will be based only on merit and race is never a consideration. In short, the best of the best academically and extracurricular wise will be the ones accepted. Due to this idea of merit, Oxford and its students believe that the students of color have no right to complain or state any concerns or issues involving racial inequality they may have experienced. While in theory I think this bargain is a good idea, in reality this bargain is unfair to students of color. This bargain, while focusing on merit, does not acknowledge other aspects of one's life that could help them achieve good merit. For example, it does not take into account that people of color are more likely to experience poverty which could lead to struggles in affording higher quality education or simply higher education in general. Another issue I see with this bargain is that while the admissions system can claim that they are not discriminatory due to solely accepting based on merit, this does not mean that other forms of discrimination can occur on campus. For example, there could be a professor or a school club that may discriminate. I do not think this is a good bargain. It is unfair, in any circumstance, to make someone or a group of people feel as though they are not allowed to voice their feelings, experiences, and or concerns. Furthermore, this bargain does nothing to help combat or even address the issues of racism. In the American diversity bargain, schools would use affirmative action to at least diversify and acknowledge that students of color are more likely to have disadvantages. However in the British Diversity Bargain, there is not even an acknowledgement of racism and discrimination.