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Alexandra Kozlowski, an author in the field of psychology, in her article, “The Influence of Accents on Social Perception” (2015), implies that one’s accent affects how they are perceived by others whether it be in their own community or outside. Kozlowski supports her claim by referring to multiple sources and sharing her research of how one’s speech can develop certain perceptions which can turn into discrimination. Her purpose is to make the reader aware of how accents can impact our judgement of others. The author’s audience likely consists of people interested in how language can impact one’s life and those who are don’t realize that they are likely judging people based on their speech as in the text she refers to how we sometimes unknowingly judge others based on their accents.

Dr. Pragya Agarwal, a behavior and data scientist, in her article “Accent Bias: How Can We Minimize Discrimination in The Workplace?” (2018), implies that people tend to unintentionally develop a bias towards a certain type of accent. Agarwal supports her claim by talking about when she was disappointed when she started to notice her daughter develop a “scouse” accent. Her purpose is to explore the impacts different accents on how one is perceived or their work opportunities. The audience the author is trying to reach probably consists of those who have experienced workplace discrimination and those who have unintentional bias towards some accents over others as it is evident in her writing as she is discusses ways to lessen this bias and how to develop acceptance.

There are many accents in the world, and they can differ from one language to another. Accents play a very valuable role in society to shape our perception of others through interacting and conversing. From my experience an accent can be developed from the environment you grow up in, to the way words are pronounced in your native tongue. It can also be developed from the form of education received and what was pushed onto to you at a very young age. Although there are many prominent accents, some are perceived differently than others.

Alexandra Kozlowski, an author in the field of psychology, in her article, “The Influence of Accents on Social Perception” (2015), implies that one’s accent affects how they are perceived by others whether it be in their own community or outside. Kozlowski states “Accents have a considerable effect on how individuals perceive others. As it highlights social group membership, the presence of an accent can lead to discrimination, which can affect many areas of a person’s life. Some accents are perceived to be more attractive than others, but this is mainly due to the stereotypes individuals have associated with them, as well as the preference for similar-sounding accents. Individuals have an unconscious tendency to mimic a conversation partner’s speech patterns, which may result in more positive impressions and may even minimize individual differences in some situations” (last paragraph). Kozlowski speaks on how there are many factors that decide how a person perceives an accent and it can lead to discrimination although sometimes unconscious.

Dr. Pragya Agarwal, a behavior and data scientist, in her article “Accent Bias: How Can We Minimize Discrimination in The Workplace?” (2018), implies that people tend to unintentionally develop a bias towards a certain type of accent. Agarwal states “People have linguicism or ‘asceticism’ without realizing it. When we impose our judgments about a specific person on the whole group or community that this individual belongs to then we have a bias.

Research has shown that we tend to unconsciously group people into a specific social class and prejudice against them based on their accents” (paragraph 2). She implies that it is very common to develop an unconscious bias towards a certain type of accent while looking unfavorably towards other accents which can lead to discrimination towards that group of people. Alexandra Kozlowski and Dr. Pragya Agarwal both share the idea that people tend to build an unconscious bias towards a type of accent.