Title: Neo-colonialism in Education: Understanding the Right to Decolonization

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Neo-colonialism is the control of under-developed countries by developed countries through indirect means, for example through education. Apartheid may be over, but the implicit biases remain complicit in institutions including universities. In 2015, two movements called “Rhodes Must Fall” and “Fees Must Fall” arose to challenge the implicit biases that were faced primarily by low-income students of color. These movements sparked a new age of protesting in college campuses throughout South Africa, closely resembling student protests that happened decades ago against the Apartheid regime. In order to provide quality and equitable education, this paper analyzes the meaning of decolonization and the ways in which to implement it in universities in order to accommodate students of color. This research project includes interviews from a diverse group of University of Cape Town (UCT) students. Additionally, personal observations from class lectures, town hall meetings, and protests held in the fall of 2017. Education should not be regarded as a privilege; however, it should be treated as a fundamental right. Therefore, by understanding the neo-colonial education system and ways in which to decolonize these practices, post-colonial countries, including South Africa, will finally be able to achieve equitable and quality education.