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CAREER PATHS: WOMEN AND MINORITIES' SELECTION OF OCCUPATIONS

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Women and minorities are persistently over-represented in the service industries and most menial occupations. Women and minorities are disproportionately over-represented partly because these are the positions that are most readily available to them. The purpose of this paper is to investigate what causes women and minorities to be most often trained and selected for the service industries and for menial-type labor. This paper examines the direction of education and training of women and minorities, explores the obstacles faced in attempting to choose alternate career paths, and the consequences for society as a whole if career paths shift dramatically. In addition, this paper will review possible solutions and strategies for increasing the possibilities for women and minorities in the labor market when selecting an occupation.