Using the Intercultural to Make Whiteness Visible: Supporting White Identified Students Intercultural Learning

Dr. Sherwood Smith & Roman Christiaens – October 2013 University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405

 Session suggests concepts and exercises to prepare Anglo/White identified student for the intercultural experience of international study. Participants will sample student exercises and discuss the links to both intercultural development and white identity development models as suggested by the presenter domestic and international experiences as faculty and presenter.

Using the Intercultural to Make Whiteness Visible

Agenda:

- Welcome & Introductions
- Quiz
- Discussion
- Socialization and Identity Development
- Examples
- Closing Q& A

BEGINNING OF GROUND RULES

- Demonstrate Respect: ask over tell
- Allow Silence
- Share "air" time actively
- Seek Clarification
- Suspend Disbelief
- Own our own beliefs "I" statements vs. generalizations (They/Them/We)

Assignment:

• Briefly define:

Race

Caucasian

Linnaeus: First Racial Classification

In 1735, Linnaeus suggested four races or subspecies with different geographic origins, different skin colors, & different behaviors and cultures.

- Homo sapiens europaeus
- H. sapiens afer
- H. sapiens americanus
- H. sapiens asiaticus

Johann Friedrich Blumenbach

- Blumenbach's five <u>races</u>.
- <u>Johann Friedrich Blumenbach</u> divided the human <u>species</u> into five <u>races</u> in 1779, later founded on crania research (description of human skulls), and called them (1793/1795):
- the <u>Caucasian race</u>
- the <u>Mongoloid race</u>
- the <u>Malay race</u>
- the <u>Negroid race</u>
- the <u>American race</u>

Key Terms:

Caucasian: Blumenbach, J. F. (1865) De generis humani varietate nativa (3rd Ed). "I have taken the name on this variety from Mount Caucasus, both because its neighborhood, especially its southern slope, produce the most beautiful race of men, I mean the Georgian, and because all physiological reasons converge to this, that in that region, if anywhere, it seems we ought with the greatest probability place the autocchthones (birth place) of mankind.

White: a racial category based on skin color, ancestors and "blood."

Painting by <u>Jean-Léon Gérôme</u> of a Circassian woman



 Letter from P. T. Barnum to John Greenwood, 1864

P. T. Barnum wrote this letter to his employee John Greenwood during Greenwood's 1864 trip to Cyprus in search of "a beautiful Circassian girl." Barnum's instructions to Greenwood reflect the showman's careful attention to the smallest details in his manipulation of public perception. Barnum emphasized the elements that would make his newest "human curiosity" appear exotic, regardless of her actual origins. In 1865 Barnum exhibited Zalumma Agra, the "Star of the East," in the American Museum, promoting her as "the purest example of the white race." Exhibit: Circassian Beauty.

 http://chnm.gmu.edu/lostmuseum/searc hlm.php?function=find&exhibit=star&bro wse=star

Definition I use:

Race

classification of human beings for the purpose of establishing and maintaining power and privilege which was created by Europeans and assigns worth and social status using Caucasian / White as the superior model of humanity.

Forms of Actions:

- Institutional:
- legal or governmental policies support systematic by race
- Cultural:
- dominant cultural norms and values support systematic by race
- Interpersonal: individual action or inaction support systematic by race
- Economic: monetary/definitions system support systematic by race

^{*} Modified from Gould, Stephen, J. (1981) <u>The Mismeasure of Man</u>. N.W. Norton and Company

Race Analogy of a Tree

- MORPHOLOGICAL = Branches
- Skin Color, Hair texture, Bone structure, Eye Shape, Lip Shape, Body Hair, Behavior, Language/dialect, Sports, Food, Music Clothing & others
 - <u>STRUCTURAL</u> = <u>Trunk</u>
 - Legal system
 - Government policies, School system
 - Forms, documents, book & Media in general
 - Norms & values (overt)
 - MYTHICAL SOURCE OF MEANING = Roots
 - Beliefs & spirituality
 - Sanity, wellness & sexuality
 - values (norms of work ethic, spirituality,...)

RACIAL CLASSIFICATION

Table 9. Mexican Casta classification system from the Museo Nacional de México

Male	Female	Offspring (male)	
Spaniard	India	Mestizo	
Spaniard	Mestiza	Castizo	
Castizo	Española ("Spanish woman")	Spaniard	
Spaniard	Negra	Mulato	
Spaniard	Mulata	Morisco	
Morisco	Española	Chino	
Chino	India	Salto atrás ("throwback")	
Salto atrás	Mulata	Lobo ("wolf")	
Lobo	China	Gibaro	
Gibaro	Mulata	Alborazado ("braying mule"	
Alborazado	Negra	Cambujo ("donkey")	
Atoorazaao Cambujo	India	Zambaigo	
Cambaigo Zambaigo	Loba	Calpa Mulato	
	Cambuja	Tente en el aire ("hung up	
Calpa mulato	Camo aju	in the air")	
Tente en el aire	Mulata	No te entiendo ("I don't	
TOUTO OU OF WILL	*	know what you are'')	
No te entiendo	India	Torna atrás ("turnaround")	

Source: Nicolás León, Las castas del México colonial o Nueva España (Mexico, D.F., 1924), p. 42.

2013 Region XI NASFA Conference

Personal Variables: Four Personal Skill Levels

Brislin, R. 1993. Understanding Culture's Influence on Behavior. TX: Harcout Brace College Pub.

Unconscious

Conscious

Competent

Incompetent

Preconscious Awareness

Hardiman's Model Hardiman & Jackson (1997)

Naive	Acceptance	Resistance	Redefiniton	Integration	
	Passive	Passive			
	Active	Active			
	Active	Active			

EXPERIENCE OF DIFFERENCE

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERCULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Denial	Defense	Minimization	Acceptance	Adaptation	Integration

ETHNOCENTRIC STAGES

ETHNORELATIVE STAGES

■Bennett, M. (1998) Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication. Intercultural Press, ME



Skrewdriver: White Power for England and Europe

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyoOQ8R2E4I&bpctr=1382465345

EXAMPLES:

- <u>he pursuit of whiteness-Report-EN-FRANCE24</u> -YouTube
- 2:40 ≥ 2:40
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLMZIE8Vffq
- Nov 15, 2007 Uploaded by FRANCE 24 English
- The pursuit of whiteness-Report-EN-FRANCE24 ...
 Japan: foreigner control tightened-Reports-France24by
 ...
- of comments on The pursuit of whiteness-Report-EN-FRANCE24
- www.youtube.com/all comments?v=VLMZIE8Vffq
- The pursuit of whiteness-Report-EN-FRANCE24 ...
 Japan is the first world market in terms of skin
 products, but China follows close... Sort by: time ...
 Meds, Slavs, Iberians and Portuguese are all better
 looking and whiter than East Asians.
- Massive skin-whitening product recall: Japanese cosmetics giant ...
- 1:16 ► 1:16
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=oh-pyxyfRfE
- Aug 1, 2013 Uploaded by JewishNewsOne
- A massive recall on skin-whitening products fro

- Indian obsession with whiteness/fairness/bleaching.
- by schehry
- 2 years ago
- 46,439 views
- The obsession with fair skin in India. I am not against India or any black person. This video is intended for awareness. Do not post
- True Colors Racial Discrimination in Everyday Life
 2/2
- by <u>ProfessorCosmic</u>
- 3 years ago
- 61,495 views
- Documentary on the "nature of today's prejudices."
 Follows two men (equal in all measurable aspects, except skin color) as they ...
- Skrewdriver: White Power for England and Europe -YouTube
- ▶ 1:51▶ 1:51
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyoOQ8R2E4I
- Feb 24, 2010 Uploaded by WhitePowerForEngland
- Skrewdriver: White Power for England and Europe. Thumbnail 1:51. The following content has been ..

Supporting White Identified Students Intercultural Learning

OUTCOMES:

- Increased understanding of cultural history
- 2. More complex analysis of home and host country behaviors
- 3. Understanding of differences in responses to group members
- 4. International awareness of social justice issues
- 5. Ability to differentiate concepts:
 - Generalizations
 - Norms
 - Stereotype (Beliefs)
 - Prejudice (Attitudes)
 - Discrimination (Active and Passive)
 - Avoidance
 - Language
 - Mistreatment: Physical & Psychological
 - Genocide

Definitions

White

 *A racial group associated with northern Europe and defined both phenotypically (looking) and culturally (being)

* = starting point definition

Whiteness

 *Social defined attributes (beliefs, manners, physical traits, values, etc...) associated with White identity

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Books:

Allen, T. (1994) *The Invention of the White Race*. Volumes 1 &2. New York, NY: Verso

Berger, P. & Luckman, T. (1967). *The social construction of reality: A treatise in the sociology of knowledge*. New York, NY: Anchor Books.

Nakayama, Thomas K. and Martin, Judith N. (1998). *Whiteness: The Communication of Social Identity*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Thandeka. (1999). *Learning to Be White: Money, Race and God in America.*. 17 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017: The Continuum Publishing Company.

Wray. M. and Newitz, A. (Eds.). (1997). *White trash: Race & class in America*. Nev York: Routledge.

York: Routledge.

Video: "Not Quite White: Arabs, Slavs and the Contours of Contested Whiteness," directed by Jamil Khoury and Stephen Combs, is a documentary film that explores the complicated relationship of Arab and Slavic immigrants to American notions of whiteness... http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrxHtcwOby8