

A Common Metric for Race and Ethnicity?

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The Historic Origins of Race and Ethnicity

- Visualizing difference
 - Selective advantage?
- Ethnicity in ancient Greece
- “Proto-racism” in Greco-Roman culture
- Linkage of blood and social difference
 - Anti-Semitism in the Spanish Inquisition
 - “Limpieza de Sangre”
 - Fredrickson 2002

The Color Coding of Race

- The emergence of biology and the racial sciences
- Carl Linnaeus 1707-1778
 - *Systema Naturae* 1735
 - Africanus, Americanus, Asiaticus, Europeanus, and Monstrosus.
- Johann Friedrich Blumenbach 1752-1840
 - *De generis humani varietate nativa* (On the Natural Varieties of Mankind, 1776)
 - Caucasian, Mongolian, Malayan, Negroid, American

The rise of the racial sciences

- The physiognomy of race
- Samuel Morton
 - Race and intellectual capacity
 - *Crania Americana* (1839)
- Josiah C. Nott and George Gliddon
 - Polygenism
 - *Types of Mankind* (1854)
- Arthur de Gobineau
 - White supremacy
 - *An Essay on the Inequality of the Human Races* (1853)
- Madison Grant
 - Popularizing racial purity, segregation, anti-miscegenation
 - *The Passing of the Great Race* (1916)

Contesting the conventional wisdom about race in the early 20th century

- Ethnicity: taxonomy based on behavioral traits or cultural practices
 - Julian Huxley
 - Franz Boas
- Ashley Montagu
 - Race as fiction
 - *Race: Man's most dangerous myth* (1942)

Defining and measuring race in the mid-20th century

- Gunnar Myrdal: *An American Dilemma* (1944)
 - A *de facto* measure of race
 - “Everybody having a known trace of Negro blood in his veins—no matter how far back it was acquired—is classified as a Negro...The definition of the ‘Negro race’ is thus a social and conventional one, not a biological concept.”
- George Simpson and Milton Yinger: *Racial and Cultural Minorities* (1965)
 - 3 types of racial definitions
 - Mystical
 - Biological
 - Administrative

Socially constructing race in America: administrative examples

- Legal definitions
 - White
 - Black
 - American Indian
 - Asian
- The Census and OMB
 - Categorical evolution

White: a default category

- Not Black
- Not American Indian or Alaska Native
- Not Asian
- Conventionally understood to have European continental origins
 - Whither Latinos?
 - US v. Thind (1923)

African-Americans

- Hypodescent
 - “one-drop rule”
 - Expanding the pool of subordinates
- *Plessy v. Ferguson 1896*
 - “any person of black ancestry”
- The case of Susie Phipps
 - 3/32 African-American ancestry
 - Filed suit to change birth certificate from “Black” to White
 - Denied by federal court in 1986

American Indians

- Hyperdescent
 - Minimum ancestry requirement
 - Restricting the magnitude of federal obligations
- Membership in a federally recognized tribe
 - 1975 American Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act
 - 562 federally recognized tribes
 - Federal acknowledgement and disenrollment
- 1932 blood quantum rule
 - Institutionalizing $\frac{1}{4}$ blood quantum
 - 1934 Indian Reorganization Act and tribal constitutions

Asians

- Immigration restrictions
 - Chinese Exclusion Act 1882
 - 1907 Gentleman’s Agreement (Japan)
- Ozawa v. U.S. 1922
 - Applied for citizenship under 1906 Naturalization Act
 - Citizenship for “White aliens”
 - Denied petition to be recognized as “White”
- U.S. v. Thind 1923
 - Assertion of Caucasian heritage by virtue ancestral village location
 - Re-definition of the meaning of “Caucasian”

Measuring race in the census: categorical evolution of foundational knowledge

- 1790 first census
 - Race as a category of civil status specified in the Constitution
 - Free persons
 - Excluded “Indians, not taxed”
 - 3/5 of all others, i.e. slaves
- 1820
 - “Color” added to the enumeration schedule
- 1850
 - Collect information about color and “civil condition”
 - “Mulatto” category added

Measuring race in the census, cont'd

- 1860
 - Category added for Chinese
- 1870
 - Category added for Japanese in California
- 1890
 - Categories of quadroon and octoroon added
 - Special efforts to record American Indian culture
- 1900
 - Octoroon and quadroon categories deleted
- 1930
 - Categories added for Mexicans, Filipinos, Hindus, Koreans
 - One drop rule fully institutionalized
 - Mulatto category deleted

Measuring race in the census, cont'd

- 1940
 - Mexican category deleted
- 1960
 - Introduction of mail-out, mail-back census
 - Self-identification in place of enumerator observation
- 1980
 - Hispanic origin question added
- 2000 and beyond
 - New categories
 - New instructions

OMB Directive No. 15 and its 1997 Revision

Racial classification circa 1977

- Absent standards, lack of consistent records
 - White, Non-white
 - White, Black, Other
- 1977 OMB Directive No. 15
 - American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - Asian or Pacific Islander
 - Black, not of Hispanic origin
 - Hispanic origin
 - White, not of Hispanic origin

“These classifications should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature.....” (OMB Directive 15).

Implementation of Directive 15

- ALL federal agencies, grantees and contractors
- 1980 census
- 1990 census
 - a turning point in racial measurement

<p>4. Is this person —</p> <p><i>Fill one circle.</i></p>	<table> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> White</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Asian Indian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Black or Negro</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Hawaiian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Japanese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Guamanian</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Chinese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Samoan</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Filipino</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Eskimo</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Korean</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Aleut</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Vietnamese</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Other — <i>Specify</i> →</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Indian (Amer.)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Print</i> <i>tribe</i> → _____</p>	<input type="radio"/> White	<input type="radio"/> Asian Indian	<input type="radio"/> Black or Negro	<input type="radio"/> Hawaiian	<input type="radio"/> Japanese	<input type="radio"/> Guamanian	<input type="radio"/> Chinese	<input type="radio"/> Samoan	<input type="radio"/> Filipino	<input type="radio"/> Eskimo	<input type="radio"/> Korean	<input type="radio"/> Aleut	<input type="radio"/> Vietnamese	<input type="radio"/> Other — <i>Specify</i> →	<input type="radio"/> Indian (Amer.)	
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<p>7. Is this person of Spanish/Hispanic origin or descent?</p> <p><i>Fill one circle.</i></p>	<table> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> No (not Spanish/Hispanic)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Amer., Chicano</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Puerto Rican</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, Cuban</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> No (not Spanish/Hispanic)	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Amer., Chicano	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Puerto Rican	<input type="radio"/> Yes, Cuban	<input type="radio"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic
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Triangulating Race and Ethnicity in the 1990 Census

Protests against the 1990 Census

- Omitted groups
 - Arabs
 - Taiwanese
 - Native Hawaiians
- Inter-racial family organizations
 - e.g. Atlanta-based RACE (Reclassify All Children Equally)
- Congressional inquiries
 - Rep. Tom Sawyer (D-OH)

Revising Directive No. 15

- Congressional hearings 1993
- 1994 NAS conference
 - “Spotlight on Heterogeneity” (Edmonston et al 1996)
- OMB hearings
- Inter-agency working group
- Census tests
 - Race and Ethnicity Targeted Test
 - National Content test
 - CPS supplement

OMB Revised Standard

- Issued October 30, 1997
- Effective January 1, 2003
- Modified categories
- Modified instructions

OMB Revised Categories

- American Indian or Alaskan Native (including Central and South America)
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White
- Hispanic-Latino/a a category of “ethnicity”

OMB Revised Instructions

Respondents shall be offered the option of selecting one or more racial designations. Recommended forms for the instruction accompanying the multiple response question are "Mark one or more" and "Select one or more."

First Implementation of Revised OMB Standard: 2000 Census

→ **NOTE: Please answer BOTH Questions 5 and 6.**

5. Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino? Mark the "No" box if **not** Spanish/Hispanic/Latino.

<input type="checkbox"/> No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Puerto Rican
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Cuban
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino — <i>Print group.</i>	

6. What is this person's race? Mark **one or more races** to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be.

<input type="checkbox"/> White		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black, African Am., or Negro		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native — <i>Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Guamanian or Chamorro
<input type="checkbox"/> Filipino	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese	<input type="checkbox"/> Samoan
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian — <i>Print race.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander — <i>Print race.</i>	

Some other race — *Print race.*
