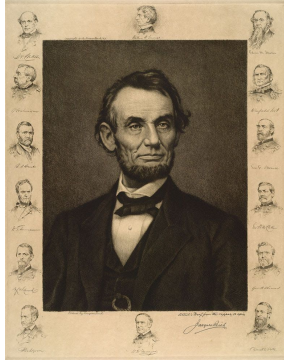
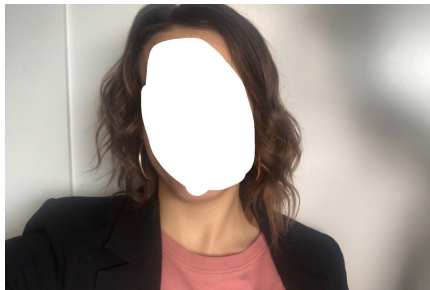


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Intro To Art History

Hair and Identity



The picture I am analyzing is an etching of Abraham Lincoln by Jacques Reich. As a president, Lincoln would have the ability to have perfect hair. One would associate a clean haircut with wealth but this isn't the case for Lincoln. It seems as though his tousled hair and scraggly beard may not properly represent the class he was associated with. I would say his hair is more a representation of a president who worked hard and didn't care too much about personal appearance. When it comes to race, Lincoln's hairstyle did follow the styles of many white men during the late 1800's. During this time it was common for white, straight men to have hair cut to ear level, parted and combed to the side or back.



This is the hairstyle I do most often because of my profession. I am studying broadcast journalism and have to do a lot of on-camera shots. Often, I will try to curl my hair in "perfect" curls and part it down to one side. I will then use a lot of hairspray to hold it in place. When it comes to my identity surrounding class I am definitely in the working class or lower because I am a college student. However, when looking at this picture one might not identify me that way because I try to portray my hairstyle in a more professional way because of my job. I think it is easy to identify my race through this hairstyle because of my lighter brown hair and how it is curled. I would say it is pretty common for white women to curl their hair in this way. That being said, we have a lot of resources these days to change our hair however we want. For example, my hair isn't curled when I am just sitting at home but I make it look perfect on TV so that people see me as professional. Therefore, I don't think a hairstyle can accurately represent someone's identity because extensions, hair dye, etc. are so accessible these days.