Social construction at its root is a classification system invented by society. Race falls somewhere into that hierarchy based off of skin color and or ethnicity. Race determination by skin color provides an easy way of describing somebody be it black, yellow, white, or brown. Many times this racial profiling based on skin color determines a person's socioeconomic class, as systematic racism is built into society even if it is unintentional.

As a white male, I grew up in a predominantly white North Idaho. North Idaho was known for the Aryan Nations. I graduated in a class of 300 students when you look at my high school yearbook you will find no African Americans in that yearbook. Growing up, I never really thought much about why. The saying "can't see the forest for the trees" falls close here. I was so immersed in a community void of people of color that I never paid attention to what the environment was. The toxicity of the atmosphere would repel minority's from settling in the area. I had a hard time coming to grips with blaming people for the lack of minorities.

So many people are quick to blame President Trump for an increase in racism. I don't fall into that category. I believe societies become more accepting of all people. There is an appearance of increased racism because the media bias focus on it making it a hot topic. Documentation beats conversation, and if you want to look at raw data from 1996 to 2014, hate crimes saw a massive decline from 3.97 offences to 2.01 offences per 1000 people. From 2014 through 2017, those numbers rose from the 2.01 offenses to 2.59 offences per 1000 people. Those were Obama years. What is even more disturbing is that most hate crimes go unreported. At some point, and the narrative needs to shift from finding someone to blame, to eradicating racism with a society that genuinely believes in inclusiveness and equality for all. Then, and only then, might we one day see that number at zero, because that should be the only acceptable number.

For my final social issue essay, I will be choosing sexual harassment in the workplace. This has become a hot topic in the last few years with scumbags like Harvey Weinstein, Matt Lauer, and Roger Ailes. Why do corporations allow the coverup of these high profile media figures and the dismissal of people who fell victim to these predators?