I. Race and Racism in the U.S.

A. Racism in the U.S.

1. No Racism: “Color-blind” society

a. race is no longer a factor in the U.S.

b. AA President

c. “model” minority

d. U.S. Supreme Court

i. Affirmative Action

Thomas: same as Jim Crow Laws

ii. Voting Rights Act of 1965 Sec 4 and 5

based on “facts having no logical relation to the present day”

2. Surveys: White Americans

a. Black Americans equal opportunity

b. Black children equal educational opportunity

c. BA, NA, H: success/fault

d. Affirmative Action discriminates against WA

3. Surveys of Black Americans

4. Sociologist from another planet

B. History of Race in the U.S.: Systems of Institutionalized Racism

1. Slavery 1789-1865

a. System of total domination of white Europeans over Africans captured and transported to U.S.

b. slaves existed in condition of complete oppression and dehumanization

i. they and their children were property

ii. no political rights

iii no legal rights

iv. no economic rights

v. no social rights

vi. no moral standing

c. Legally sanctioned in U.S. Constitution Article 4 Sec 2

d.1790 to 1860: 500,000 to 4, 000, 000

e. As late as 1856, U.S. Supreme Court in Dred Scott

i. ruling base on Theory of Biological Determinism

. ii Dred Scott declared non-person

iii. Court declared that a “negro” had no rights that a white man was bound to respect

iv.. "property" rather than citizens

v. "beings of an inferior order”

f. Lincoln as the Great Emancipator

g. New York City “draft riots”

**\*During this period, Native Americans were removed to reservations west of the Mississippi. “Total war” against Apache and Navajo.**

2. Segregation 1865-1954

1. land to slave owners and wealthy speculators from North

b. **economic system: debt servitude**

**i. sharecropping**

**ii. farm hands**

**iii. debtors**

c. political system

i. Compromise of 1877

ii. Jim Crow laws

iii. Ku Klux Klan

iv. Wilson and Harding

d. legal

i. Plessy v Ferguson

separate but equal

whites as superior, blacks as inferior

ii. U.S. Supreme Court: forced sterilization of blacks

e. segregation of public space

f. **violence**

**i. lynching**

**ii. organized raids**

**iii. sundown towns**

**g. white race riots**

**i. 1919 East St. Louis, IL**

**ii. 1919 Chicago, Il**

**iii. 1921 Tulsa, OK**

**iv. 1940s: 47 cities including LA, Detroit**

h. WWII and racism

\*During this period, legislation barring immigration of Asians, white violence against Chinese communities, “total war” against Plains Indians, internment of Japanese Americans, forced removal of Mexican Americans

3. Urban Ghetto: 1954-1980s

a. Black migration to northern urban areas

i. industrialization

ii. political opportunities

iii. educational opportunities “Brown v Board of Education”

b. suburbanization: white flight

c. federal abandonment

d. redlining

e. businesses and jobs relocate to suburbs

f. no tax base: poor schools, few hospitals, high unemployment, deteriorating infrastructure, slum lording, environmental racism

g. location fro prisons, jails, homeless shelters, drug clinics

h. deindustrialization

i. one four year period 75,000 jobs lost, GM,

Bethlehem Steel, Goodyear, Firestone

ii.in one period over 1/2 of all black males lost jobs

in industrial America

iii.by 1986 the avg wage of unskilled black male

worker was 61% of what it had been in 1973

i. war on drugs (crack cocaine)

**j.. Race Riots 1965-1990s**

**i. poverty**

**ii. unemployment**

**iii. substandard housing and infrastructure**

**iv. services**

**v. lack of jobs**

**vi. discrimination**

[**http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag1yxB\_Lvq4&list=PL12C4D7AA2F137689**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag1yxB_Lvq4&list=PL12C4D7AA2F137689)

**vii. police violence**

4. Present: Constellation of Racism

a. history of racism

b. jobs

i. segregation

ii. discrimination

iii. job ceiling

vi. consequences

wealth 1/10th

income 2/3rd

education and income

poverty 3x

b. residential segregation

i. resegregation

ii. tipping

iii. steering

iv. consequences

concentrated poverty areas

schools

infrastructure

c. housing

i. discrimination

ii. mortgage and home loans

3x more loans to white census tracks

AA more likely to get sub prime mortgage

Middle class AA more likely to be denied

iii. substandard housing

d. education

i. segregated

ii. underfunded

iii. consequences

closed schools

drop outs

e. health

i. infant mortality

ii. low birth weight

iii. hunger

iv. death from fire, carbon monoxide

v. lead poisoning (70%, 37%)

vi. asthma 3x

vii. cancer, diabetes, heart disease

viii. lower life expectancy (m-7,w-3, neighborhoods -20)

e. health care

i. less likely

ii. diagnosis and treatment

f. criminal justice

i. targets

ii. war on drugs

iii. juveniles

g. military

i. recruiters target minorities

job training and transferable skills

education

ii. target minority schools

h. environment (“environmental racism”)

i. location of commercial hazardous

waste sites (including hospital)

ii. location of uncontrolled/illegal

toxic waste sites

iii. location of 5 out 6 of the areas with

the worst industrial pollution

iv. pesticides and migrant workers

v. nuclear testing, nuclear dumping and military waste: “sacrifice zones”, Navajo Nation

vi. cancer clusters

consequences

i. Higher rates of environmental caused cancers

ii. Navajo 1 in 5 cancer of lungs

iii. Shiprock 133 of 150 dead or ill from

radiation

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