I. Racial Inequality

A. Race in U.S.

1. No Racism: “Color-blind” society

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

i.slavery ended 150 years ago

ii. civil rights movement

b. AA President

c. “model” minority

d. U.S. Supreme Court

i. Affirmative Action is unconstitutional

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/failure is their fault

d. Affirmative Action discriminates against WA

3. Commissions and surveys

4. Sociologist from another planet

B. Sociological Perspective and race.

1. Race: socially constructed category
2. Race matters/U.S. not a color blind society

C. Social Construction of Race

1. Colonialism

a. conquest

i. Spanish: Requirement of 1512

ii. Puritans: heathens and savages

iii. Manifest Destiny: Savages vs Anglo-Saxon Race

b. race as a scientific

i.race scientists

craniometry

“feeble-mindedness”

iii. race as a category

iv. White Man’s Burden

2. racial theory: biological determinism

a. shared physical characteristics

b. transferred from generation to generation

c. other traits

i. intelligence

ii. morals

iii. hard work

d. superior and inferior races

1. Biological determinism justified:
   1. colonialism: “White Man’s Burden”
   2. slavery

c. Manifest destiny

d. segregation

i. Dredd Scott: “beings of an inferior order”

ii. Plessy v Ferguson “separate but equal”

iii. miscegenation laws

e. Indian Schools (Total Institutions)

i. Australia (Rabbit Proof Fence)

ii. U.S.

f. eugenics (U.S. 1920s)

i. perfect race: White/ vs inferior “feeble minded”

ii. 30 states/internment/forced sterilization

iii. Nazi Germany

g. genocide

i. definition

ii. Jewish Question

iii. Holocaust

h. immigration laws

i. Chinese Exclusion Act

ii. National Origins Act

i. white riots

i. Civil War draft riots

ii. Tulsa, Chicago

iii. Zoot Suit Riots

j. “white flight”

i. “homogenous groups”

ii. redlining

k. military

4. genetic science and race: race not a scientific/empirical category

a.recent genetic studies:

* + 1. no genetic marker for race
    2. 95-99% of all genetic material

b.no race/monogenesis

C. Race still matters in America: Institutionalized racism

1. income/wealth

a. income: approx. 60%

b. wealth: 10%

c. poverty

2. economic system: jobs

a. job segregation

b. deindustrialization

c. unemployment

3. education

a. schools are segregated

b. funding

4. housing

a. denied loans

b. sub-prime loans

c. steering

5. health care

a. without health care

b. inferior health care

c. green screens

6. health

a. infant mortality

b. disease

c. hunger

d. lower life expectancy

7. environment (“environmental racism”)

a. location of commercial hazardous

waste sites (including hospital)

b. location of uncontrolled/illegal

toxic waste sites

c. location of 5 out 6 of the areas with

the worst industrial pollution

d. pesticides and migrant workers

h. nuclear dumping and military waste: Anniston, AL, Navajo Nation

8a. Environmental racism: consequences

a. Blacks die of asthma at 3x the rate of whites

b. Higher rates of environmental caused cancers

c. Lead poisoning is

i. 70% minority

ii. 37% of black urban preschoolers

d. rural cancer clusters: Cancer corridor

e. Native Americans: mining uranium for Cold War

i. Navajo 1 in 5 cancer of lungs

ii. Shiprock 133 of 150 dead or ill from

radiation

f. nuclear testing and Native Americans

9. Criminal justice system

a. drugs: 13%/35%/54%/74%

b. juveniles

c. sentencing: 50% longer