

Counting Race

Problematizing our Categories to create more Ethical Visualizations

SHADES OF CITIZENSHIP

Melissa Nobles



Race and the Census
in Modern Politics

☐ WHAT
☐ IS
☒ **YOUR**
☐ RACE?

The Census and Our
Flawed Efforts to
Classify Americans

Kenneth Prewitt

Three-fifths compromise (1787)



FREE WHITES



BLACK SLAVES



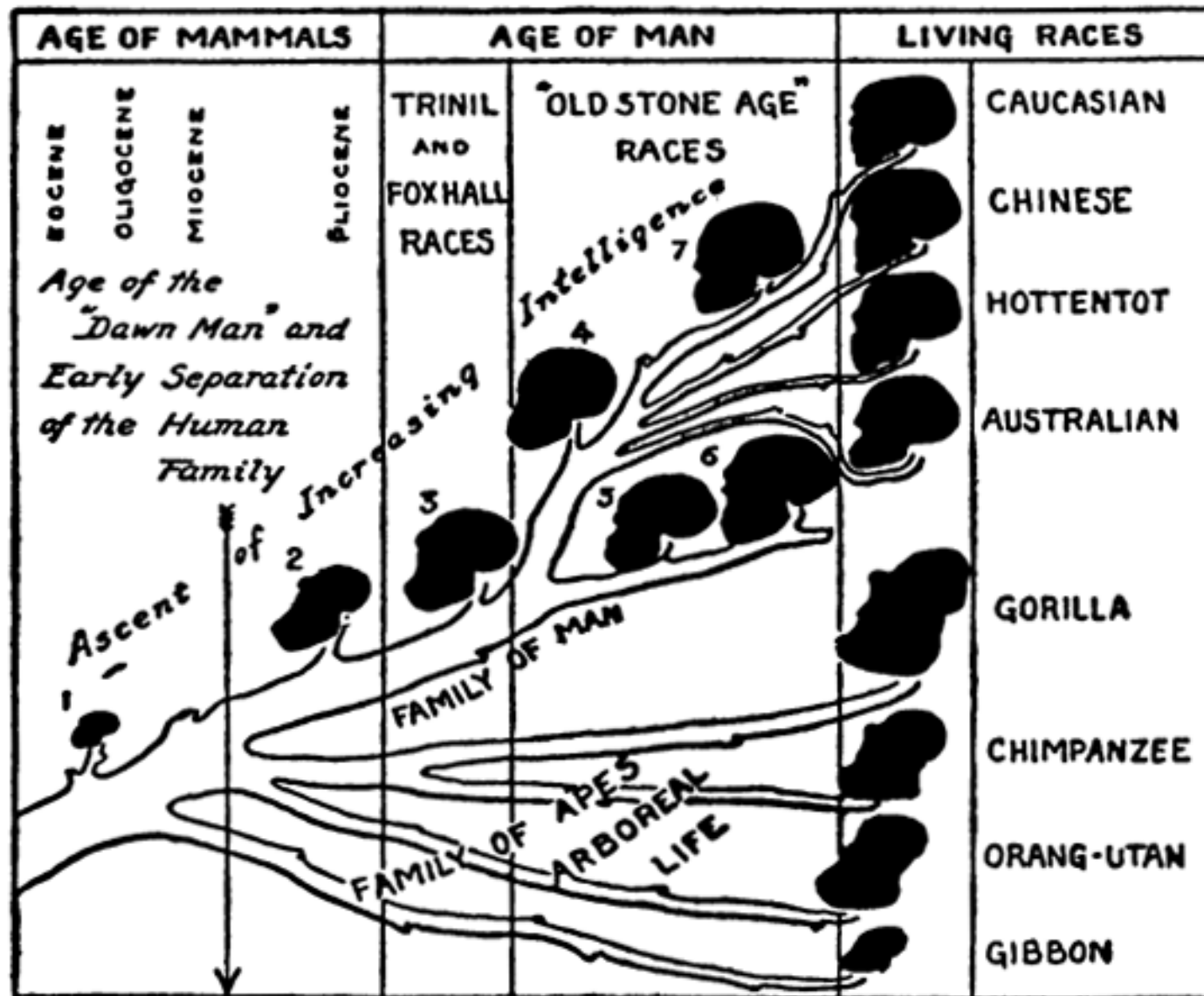
Americanus: reddish, choleric, and erect; hair black, straight, thick; wide nostrils, scanty beard; obstinate, merry, free; paints himself with fine red lines; regulated by custom.

Asiaticus: sallow, melancholy, stiff; hair black; dark eyes; severe, haughty, avaricious; covered with loose garments, ruled by opinion.

Africanus: black, phlegmatic, relaxed; hair black, frizzled; skin silky; nose flat; lips tumid; women without shame, they lactate profusely; crafty, indolent, negligent; anoints himself with grease; governed by caprice.

Europeaeus: white, sanguine, muscular; hair long, flowing; eyes blue; gentle, acute, inventive; covers himself with close vestments; governed by laws.¹

Carl Linnaeus, application of *Systema Naturae* to humans, 18th century



EXISTING FACTS OF HUMAN ASCENT

Henry Fairfield Osborn, *Evolution and Religion in Education: Polemics of the Fundamentalist Controversy of 1922 to 1926* (1926, New York).

Racism,
Public Schooling,
and the
Entrenchment of
White Supremacy

A CRITICAL RACE ETHNOGRAPHY

Sabina E. Vaught

