12th week assignment

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Jordan Peele's movie “Get Out” may seem like a horror/fantasy movie at first glance, but behind it is a deep metaphor for the history of African-American slavery and the psychological notion of dual consciousness. The film shows how the legacy of slavery still affects black people today, especially in how their bodies and identities are treated in society.  
  
I think one of the most shocking part of the movie is when white characters literally implanted their consciousness into a black body. They perform brain surgery on black people, turning them into bowls that hold white hearts. This is a clear metaphor for how black people were disenfranchised and used for labor and pleasure without respecting humanity during slavery. Despite slavery ending in 1865, the film shows that similar systems of control and exploitation still exist in different forms today.  
  
It occurred to me that beyond showing the shocking and stark treatment of black Americans in society, modern racism could reflect how it can hide behind fake kindness or liberal attitudes. Chris, the black protagonist, experiences a "double consciousness" in which white people are constantly aware of how they see them and have to constantly adjust their behavior. When he falls into a "sunken place" where a skull incision puts a black person's mental state in a deep state that he cannot climb, he becomes trapped in his mind, unable to move or speak. I think this symbolizes a phenomenon in which many people in modern society act as if they are showing respect for black physical ability or power, but it often silences black voices in society.  
  
Get Out warns that racism has not disappeared, it has only changed its form. Using horror, this movie makes me feel the fear, anger, and helplessness that come when I am treated below human. At first, the atmosphere and sound creation of the movie came a little scary, but it seemed to raise awareness about the reality of black discrimination.  
Also, I realized how deep-rooted and systemic racial issues can be masked by politeness or “good intentions.” This made me think more critically about how racism exists not just in hateful actions, but also in subtle, everyday behaviors that ignore or erase Black identity.