

Visual Culture:

Visual Representation of Race and Racism

Siena Sociology Symposium 2014

- *Visual Culture and Visual Representations of Race and Racism*



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making things happen...

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<http://youtu.be/z3y5Gwtldu4>

Black or White Morphing

1:22 Out00000000000000000000

<http://youtu.be/-JF7hmU61N0>

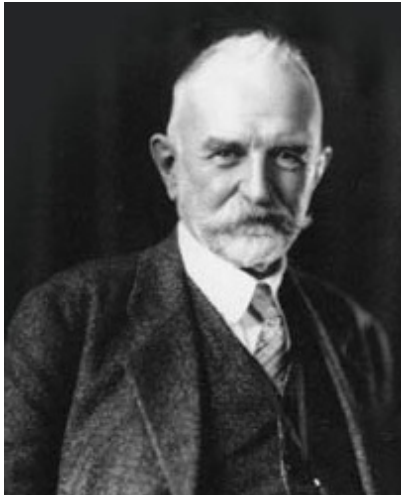
226 – 436 -458 out 6:22 or morphing

Michael Jackson

Black or White 1991

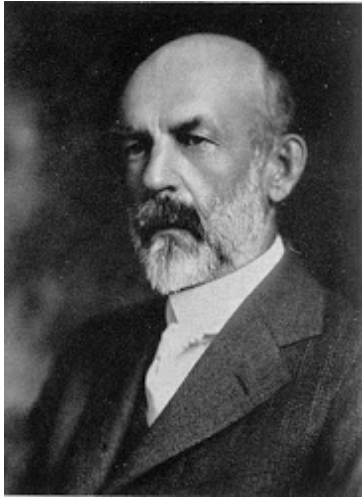
- <http://youtu.be/F2AitTPI5U0>

**George Mead: Symbolic
Interactionism**



- Philosopher George Mead and his colleague Charles Cooley are responsible for much of the theoretical concepts behind the concepts of Symbolic Interactionism. Unlike the previous theorists such as Marx, Durkheim and Weber; Mead and Cooley did not link individuals to a system, or a social order of any kind. Instead Mead and Cooley would observe the interactions between individuals and small groups

Looking Glass: Charles Cooley



- One of the key insights that Symbolic Interactionism gives is the interpretation of symbols as a form of communication. According to Symbolic Interactionism theorists, individuals are always using symbols in their communication with each other. These symbols have purpose and communicate meaning. These theorists look at how these different forms of communication can be broken down and understood. The different symbols communicate different ideas for different members of society, and the interpretation of the symbols that people use to communicate can be interpreted differently depending on who is involved in the interaction.

symbolic interactionism

noun Sociology . a theory that human interaction and communication is facilitated by words, gestures, and other symbols that have acquired conventionalized meanings.

Origin:

1965–70



The **looking-glass self** is a social psychological concept, created by Charles Horton Cooley in 1902 (McIntyre 2006), stating that a person's **self** grows out of society's interpersonal interactions and the perceptions of others.

Self-fulfilling Prophecy?



Perpetuate Stereotype on Next Slide



[Rachel Jeantel \(W8\)](#) (aka Trayvon Martin's female friend "Dee Dee") in the Trayvon Martin/George Zimmerman case



Sprint

3:41 PM

100%



mollywestttt

3h



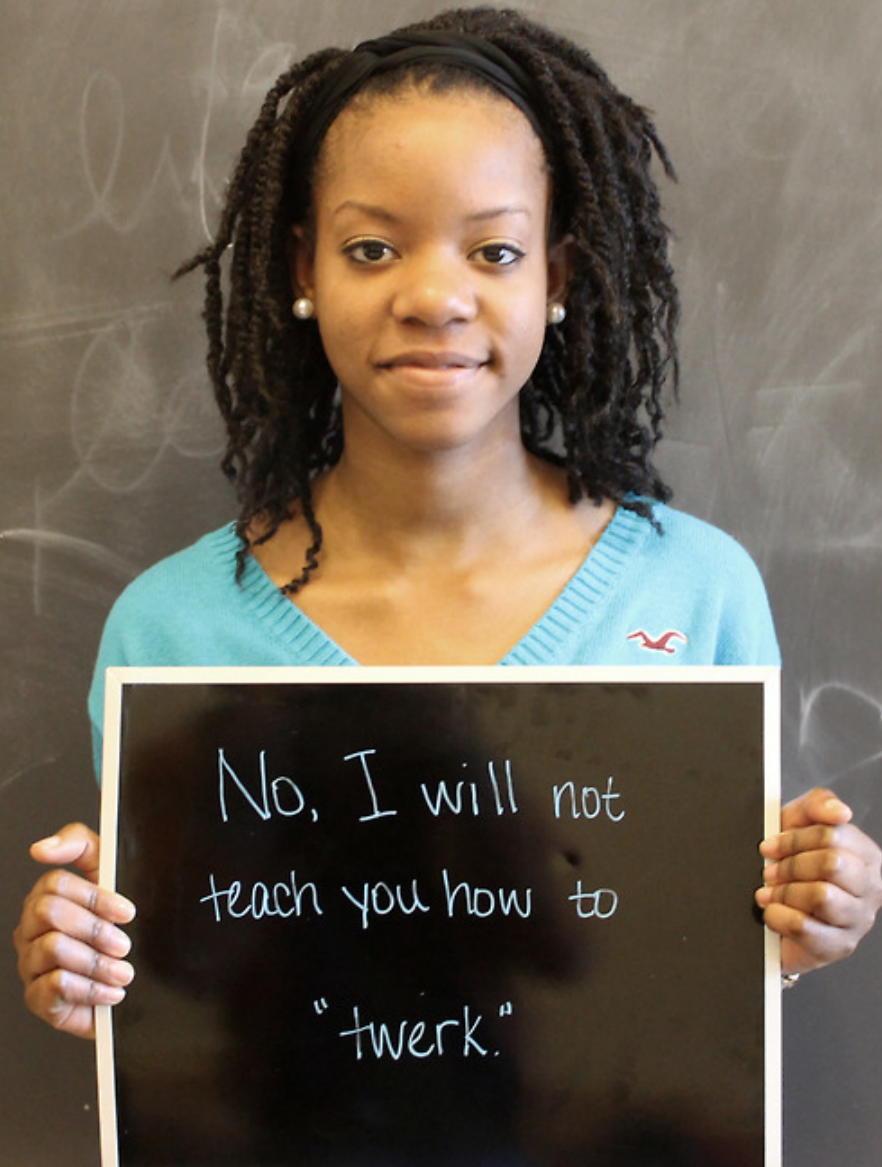
39 likes

mollywestttt We beat stupidity celebration
cones 🍦🍦🍦 #zimmerman #defense
#dadkilledit

[view all 8 comments](#)

hahahahaha You're old as hell he

#itooamharvard



#itooamharvard

Having an opinion
does not make me an
"Angry Black Woman"

By LaShawn Williams

[Angry Sistah: Black Women Beyond the Stereotype](#)



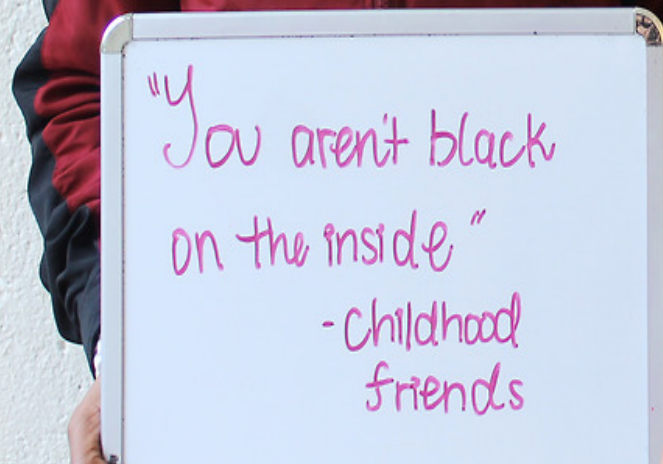
ooam
rward



#itooam
harvard

Don't you wish
you were white
like the rest of us?
-oldfriend

#itooamharvard



BLACK WOMEN IN
ADVERTISING
(THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE)

I ONLY LISTEN TO JAZZ
AND WORLD MUSIC!

MY "NATURAL HAIR"
IS A MUST!

I'LL ALWAYS HAVE
NATURAL HAIR!

AND I'M ALWAYS DRESSED
LIKE DENISE HUXTABLE!

DO YOU NEED
YOGURT

AIR FRE

OR BL

ARE
FAST
AT A

IN
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WHITE S



ALEXANDRADAL.DEVIANTART.COM



<http://youtu.be/F2AitTPI5U0>

Man in the Mirror
Black or White

<http://youtu.be/PivWY9wn5ps>



COPYRIGHT 1909
THE ULLMAN MFG. CO.,
NEW YORK

"I'VE SO HAPPY!"



The photograph below -- showing the president as a stereotypical African-American pimp, sporting a pencil-thin mustache and a zebra-striped, fur-brimmed ...



Visual Culture=Symbolic Racism?







PRICE \$4.50

THE

JULY 21, 2008

THE NEW YORKER



Power to Control Visual: Power to Control Image





REVERSE STEREOTYPE

Think about which one of these two has done time

Black Face: Trayvon Martin: Zimmerman





In the song, Paisley discusses wearing a shirt depicting the [Confederate flag](#) simply as a symbol of the [Southern United States](#) hoping that it is not misinterpreted.!





Man in the Mirror 1998 Michael Jackson

- Man in the Mirror
- 1998
- <http://youtu.be/PivWY9wn5ps>





21st Century – Much has changed, yet much remains the same!

Accidental Racist?



Accidental Racist Song

<http://youtu.be/KSurzeGvPrQ>

Black college student sparks debate by hanging Confederate flag in dorm room, says 'I know it's kind of weird because I'm black'

Byron Thomas says the flag's real meaning has been hijacked

1. "If you don't judge my gold chains/I'll forget the iron chains"

2. "RIP Robert E. Lee but I've gotta thank Abraham Lincoln for freeing me, know what I mean"

3. "Feel like a newfangled Django, dodgin' invisible white hoods"

**4. "I wasn't there when
Sherman's March turned the
south into firewood"**

**5. "Dear Mr. White Man, I
wish you understood"**

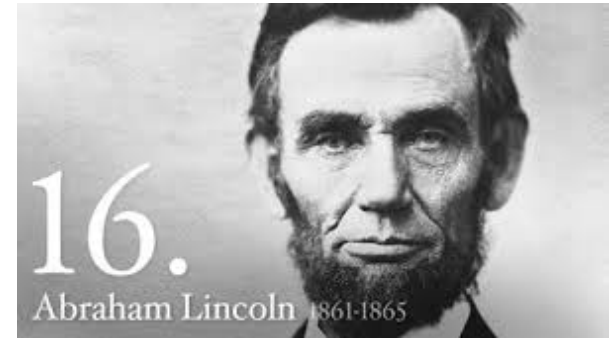
**6. "The relationship between
the Mason-Dixon needs some
fixin'"**

**7. "I want you to get paid but be a
slave I never could"**

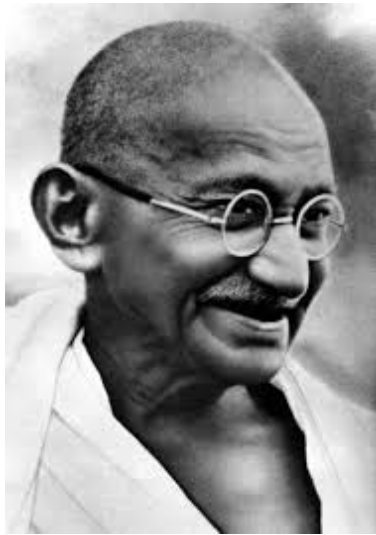
**8. "If you don't judge my do-rag/I
won't judge your red flag"**

**9. "So when I see that white cowboy
hat, I'm thinkin' it's not all good"**

**10. "I'd love to buy you a beer,
conversate and clear the air"**



Stop expecting others to act first, be the one who makes a positive change





“They say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.”
- Andy Warhol





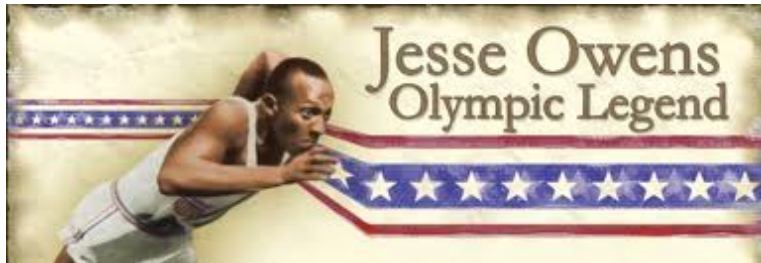
The people who
are crazy enough
to think they can
change the world
are the ones who
do.



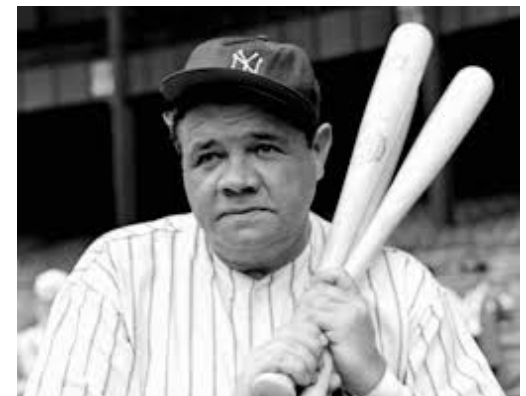


Never underestimate the
difference YOU can make
in the lives of others.
Step forward, reach out
and help. This week
reach out to someone
that might need a lift.
- Pablo





Your future is
created by what you
do today not
tomorrow.



References

- Blumer, Herbert. 1969. *Symbolic Interactionism: Perspective and Method*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Garfinkel, Harold. 1967. *Studies in Ethnomethodology*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Goffman, Erving. 1958. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh, Social Sciences Research Centre.

<http://youtu.be/P5vz6iwV38U>

lyrics – man in the mirror

<http://youtu.be/PivWY9wn5ps>

imagines matches Lauren

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