

PANEL 7: RACE

A Psychosocial investigation into the identity struggles of the 'other' race: The sense of self and belonging through the lens of mixed-race people.

My primary research project aims to investigate the subjective experiences of mixed-race individuals from any racial combination in the context of ethnic and racial identity formation and the sense of belonging. It analyses how factors such as family and community may contribute to this process furthermore, how this impacts their development and perception on sense of self and belonging. The key aim is to gain insight into whether they experience internal conflicts when trying to understand or explain their identity and whether their gender contributes to this. As a mixed-race person myself, I experience confusion when racially categorised by society. The complexity of justifying my racial and ethnic identity within differing views, impacts my sense of belonging and although mixed-race families have become increasingly visible within contemporary society, knowledge about subjective experiences regarding identity formation such as mine, is less prevalent. Unlike America, Britain experiences a dearth of research concerning this group therefore, my research may contribute to academia by offering for instance educators further insight into experiences of identity confusion that some mixed-race people may encounter. The research design shall be qualitative research as this captures unique insight into the participants lived experience. I will collect this data by interviewing four mixed-race participants acquired through opportunistic sampling from within Peterborough. Ethical guidelines and objectivity shall be considered when discussing and interpreting the participant's emotions and feelings, this eliminates my subjective bias as a mixed-race person. The interviews shall be recorded, transcribed, coded and themed to detect specific patterns. These will be compared to patterns generated from secondary research to establish common factors.

Media portrayal of race crime

Race crime has become one of the leading debates and controversial issues in political and societal discussions. According to Dubberley (2007), it is the most prevalent among the group of hate crimes. Previous research suggests that some race crimes are perpetrated by people on a mission to eradicate 'differences' (EHRS 2016). This is alarming as cities and countries are becoming increasingly cosmopolitan and multicultural, especially developed countries such as UK and USA. There is a perception that most race crimes are linked to feelings of insecurity (EHRS, 2016), and as such it is worth investigating. To gain in-depth understanding of race crimes, key theoretical frameworks will be reviewed. One of such theories is Labelling; a concept of how our behaviours are influenced by how people label us (BACON, 2009). Other theories include: Othering, Strain and Social Learning theory, Moral Panic and the Chicago School and subcultural theories of crime. The examination of media portrayal of race crimes will be conducted with the use of questionnaires. The participants will be from diverse ethnic backgrounds and aged 19 and over. Questionnaires will be distributed using the following methods: via emails, hand-to-hand and Qualtrics distribution link via social media. Alongside the existing literatures, this method will be used to identify how the media is

influencing public perceptions of racial minorities, including the extent to which the media incite moral panic among certain group of people. Data from the questionnaires will be analysed to get an in-depth understanding of the media portrayal on race crimes and views on how the law is applied to different forms of race crimes.

An analysis of the treatment of African American role models within television comedy

Comedy ranks second only to movies, when judging the popularity of television genres. Humorous shows attract 52 percent of the US general public (Scarborough, 2012); Given that television is 'pervasive medium' (PTC, 2017). I plan to use seven research questions about I plan to use the works of Stuart Hall, Althusser, Kureishi, Sudbury & Wilberforce, Banks, Cherry A, Butler and a few more. The methodology will be based on secondary research; an online research of clips and documentaries related to African American in sitcoms and their representation in comedy programmes such as "That's not funny: The Documentary" and analysis of popular black sitcoms such as Fresh Prince, The Chappelle Show, Everybody Hates Chris, The Cosby show... An introduction of the early stages of comedy in television; each research question will have 1000-1500 words, following a summarisation of what has been achieved and understood.