SOCIAL STRATIFICATION: RACE & ETHNICITY
• Myth 1 - Idea That Any Race is Superior
  – All Races Have Geniuses and Idiots.
  – Genocide Still Around

• Myth 2 - Idea that Any Race is Pure
  – Human Characteristics Flow Endlessly Together.
Ethnic Groups

- Race Refers to Biological Characteristics.
- Ethnicity Refers to Cultural Characteristics.
  - Common Ancestry
  - Cultural Heritage
  - Nations of Origin
Minority and Dominant Groups

- Minority Group - People Singled Out for Unequal Treatment
- Minority Group Not Necessarily Numerical Minority
Minority and Dominant Groups

- Dominant Group - Group with Most…
  - Power
  - Privileges
  - Highest Social Status
- Dominant Group Does the Discriminating.
Emergence of Minority Groups

Minority Groups Occur Because of…

- Expansion of Political Boundaries
- Migration
Constructing Racial-ethnic Identity

- Sense of Ethnicity
  - Relative Size
  - Power
  - Appearance
  - Discrimination

- Ethnic Work and the Melting Pot
Sense of Ethnicity

A Low Sense

- Part of the majority
- Greater power
- Similar to the "national identity"
- No discrimination

A Heightened Sense

- Smaller numbers
- Lesser power
- Different from the "national identity"
- Discrimination
Prejudice and Discrimination

• Learning Prejudice
  – Prejudice vs. Discrimination

• Discrimination is Action

• Learning from Association
Prejudice and Discrimination

- Far-Reaching Nature of Prejudice
- Internalizing Dominant Norms
  - Media
  - Group Membership
Individual and Institutional Discrimination

- Health Care
- Home Mortgage and Car Loans
The Federal Reserve Board gathered data on the loans made by 9,300 financial institutions (Thomas 1991). As shown here, loan applicants who had the same income did not receive the same treatment. Note how much more likely banks were to turn down minorities.

This figure illustrates *institutional discrimination*. (Because the discrimination is part of the social system, it is also called *systemic discrimination*.) Being turned down for a mortgage is not due to discrimination by an individual banker here and there, but, rather, is a nationwide practice.
Theories of Prejudice

Psychological Perspectives

- Frustration and Scapegoats
- The Authoritarian Personality
Theories of Prejudice

Sociological Perspectives

• Functionalism
• Conflict Theory
• Symbolic Interactionism
  – Labels Create Prejudice
  – Self-Fulfilling Prophesy
Global Patterns of Intergroup Relations

- Genocide
- Population Transfer
- Internal Colonialism
Global Patterns of Intergroup Relations

- Segregation
- Assimilation
- Multiculturalism (Pluralism)
Global Patterns of Intergroup Relations: A Continuum

- **Inhumanity**
  - **Genocide**: The dominant group tries to destroy the minority group (e.g., Germany and Rwanda)
  - **Population Transfer**: The dominant group expels the minority group (e.g., Native Americans moved to reservations)
  - **Internal Colonialism**: The dominant group exploits the minority group (e.g., low-paid, menial work)
  - **Segregation**: The dominant group structures the social institutions to maintain minimal contact with the minority group (e.g., the U.S. South before the 1960s)
  - **Assimilation**: The dominant group absorbs the minority group (e.g., American Czechoslovaks and Americans)
  - **Multiculturalism (Pluralism)**: The dominant group encourages racial and ethnic variation; when successful, there is no longer a dominant group (e.g., Switzerland)

- **Humanity**
  - **Acceptance**
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Americans of European Descent</td>
<td>198,700,000</td>
<td>66.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td></td>
<td>48,208,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish</td>
<td></td>
<td>34,488,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English/British</td>
<td></td>
<td>29,600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,823,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,730,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,075,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,385,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,087,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwegian</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,585,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,326,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,017,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,913,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungarian</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,527,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,477,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,462,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,336,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,310,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,033,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>299,608,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

*The totals in this figure should be taken as broadly accurate only. The totals for groups and even for the U.S. population vary from table to table in the source. Because the total of the individual white ethnic groups listed in the source is 10 percent above the total of whites, I arbitrarily reduced each white ethnic group by 10 percent.

*Interestingly, this total is six times higher than all the Irish who live in Ireland.

*Includes French Canadian.

*Includes “Scottish-Irish.”

*Most Latinos trace at least part of their ancestry to Europe.

*In descending order, the largest groups of Asian Americans are from China, the Philippines, India, Korea, Vietnam, and Japan. See Figure 12.10. Also includes those who identify themselves as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

*Includes Native American, Inuit, and Aleut.

Source: By the author. Based on Statistical Abstract 2007:Table 50.
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States
Europeans Americans

- Nation’s Founders Included Only Those from England (WASPs)
- Other “White” Europeans Inferior
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

Latinos (Hispanics)

- Numbers Origins, Location
Origin of US Latinos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>27,620,000</td>
<td>66.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>3,610,000</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>1,540,000</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other countries</td>
<td>2,170,000</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central and South America</td>
<td>6,910,000</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where US Latinos Live

- California 30%
- Texas 19%
- Other States 21%
- Florida 8%
- New York 7%
- Arizona 4%
- New Jersey 3%
- Colorado 2%
- New Mexico 2%
- Illinois 4%
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States
Latinos (Hispanics)

- Numbers Origins, Location
- Spanish Language
- Diversity
- Comparative Conditions
### Race-Ethnicity & Comparative Well-Being

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial-Ethnic Group</th>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>UNEMPLOYMENT</th>
<th>POVERTY</th>
<th>HOME OWNERSHIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Median Family Income</td>
<td>Compared to Whites</td>
<td>Percentage Unemployed</td>
<td>Compared to Whites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>$59,907</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>$36,820</td>
<td>39% lower</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>37% higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country or Area of Origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>NA²</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>57% lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central and South America</td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>20% higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>34% higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>$34,851</td>
<td>42% lower</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>114% higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Americans³</td>
<td>$65,132</td>
<td>9% higher</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>The same</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Americans</td>
<td>$35,981</td>
<td>40% lower</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Race-Ethnicity & Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial-Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Education Completed</th>
<th>Doctorates</th>
<th>Percentage of U.S. Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than High School</td>
<td>High School</td>
<td>Some College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country or Area of Origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central and South America</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Americans</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Americans</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

African-Americans

• The Struggle for Civil Rights
• Rising Expectations and Civil Strife
• Continued Gains
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States
African-Americans

- Current Losses
- Race or Social Class?
- Racism as an Everyday Burden
Cloaked Discrimination in Apartment Rentals

![Bar chart showing the percentage of calls that were responded to by gender and language. The chart indicates that men were more likely to be told an apartment was available compared to women, especially when speaking in Black English Vernacular.](chart.png)
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States

Asian-Americans

- Background of Discrimination
- Diversity
- Reasons for Success
Country of Origin of Asian Americans

- China: 24%
- Philippines: 18%
- India: 16%
- Vietnam: 11%
- Korea: 11%
- Japan: 8%
- Other Countries: 12%
Race and Ethnic Relations in the United States
Native Americans

- Diversity of Groups
- From Treaties to Genocide and Population Transfer
- The Invisible Minority and Self-Determination
- Pan-Indianism
Looking To the Future

• The Immigration Debate
• Affirmative Action
• Toward a True Multicultural Society
Projections of the Racial-Ethnic Makeup of the US Population

Year 2000
281 million
- European descent: 69.4%
- Latinos: 12.5%
- African Americans: 12.1%
- Asian Americans: 3.7%
- Native Americans: 0.7%
- Claim membership in two or more groups: 1.6%

Year 2025
345 million
- European descent: 58%
- Latinos: 12.5%
- African Americans: 17.5%
- Asian Americans: 6%
- Native Americans: 0.8%
- Claim membership in two or more groups: 5.2%

Year 2050
400 million
- European descent: 47%
- Latinos: 13%
- African Americans: 22.5%
- Asian Americans: 6.7%
- Native Americans: 0.8%
- Claim membership in two or more groups: 10%