

What is Evolution? A Psychological Perspective on Racism

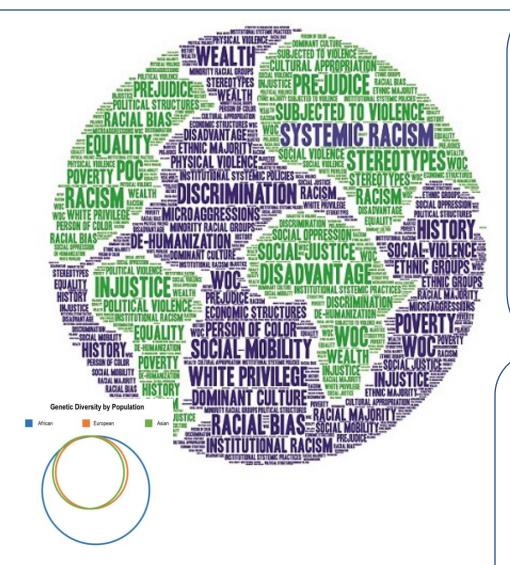
LeAna Norman, BA

Abstract:

Human beings pride ourselves on our intellect and how more evolved we are compared to other species. However, humans have not conquered the concept of racism or understand where it originally formed from. This poster attempted to provide an explanation of the evolution of racism through a psychological perspective.

Introduction:

- Racism is "an ideology of racial domination" (Wilson, 1999, p.14), in which patterns of physical difference (e.g., skin color) are used to differentiate people (Clair & Denis, 2015).
- Previous research has indicated that humans are not divided biologically into continental types or racial genetic groups (Fuentes, 2020). Human beings origin is said to be found in Africa, indicating that humans originate from one common place.
- Through migration, human beings lived in other continents such as, the Caucasus mountain region. Furthermore, this region inhabited humans that were later referenced to as Caucasians (Johann Blumenbach, 1752-1840).



Discussion:

- Social Learning Theory describes the process of learning though observation and imitation of other people or stimuli (Bandura, 1969).
- Early humans who migrated out of Africa to other continents observed the environment and animals within that region and imitated those behaviors to survive.
- Racism was a way of survival for prehistoric individuals to gain access and control over land that produced valuable resources (gold, oil, foods).
- Further research on how racism can be explained through a psychological perspective, that focuses on evolutionary aspects, should be addressed to add knowledge on how racism may have derived.

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