THE SLAVE TRADE & ITS LEGACY IN THE US

Week 6: Legacies of Slavery

> OSHER WINTER 2021 DR. ANGELA SUTTON ANGELA.C.SUTTON@VANDERBILT.EDU

SCHEDULE

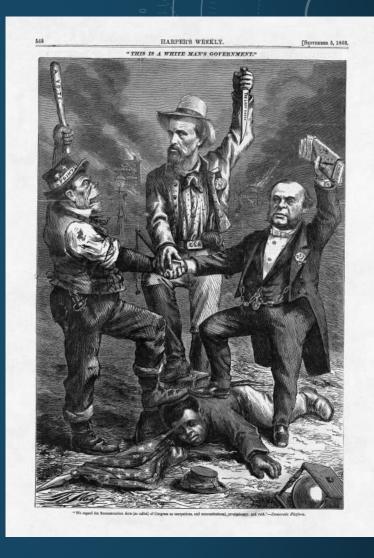
- First time: PIRATES! (The 1722 Battle of Cape Lopez)
- Session 2: Slavery in America under the various colonial powers at the time of the battle
- Session 3: The emergence of chattel slavery
- Session 4: The spread of chattel slavery
- Session 5: Slavery, Emancipation & Reconstruction
- Today: Legacies of Slavery

Last Time: The Persistence of the Culture & Economy of Slavery after Emancipation

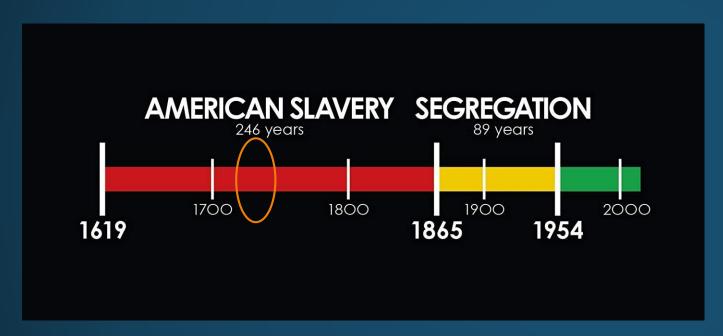








THIS IS A US HISTORY CLASS, NOT A BLACK HISTORY CLASS



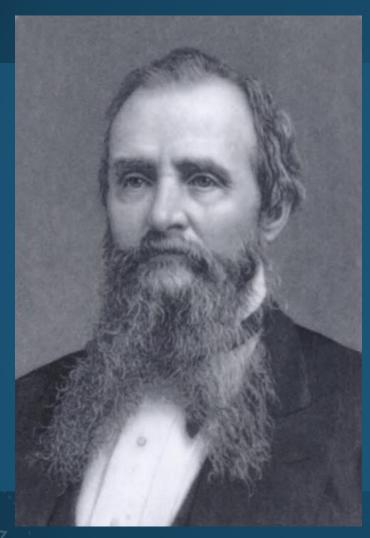
Before 1720, most people enslaved in the US were subject to laws of enslavement based on Roman models. Chattel Slavery starts to spread across what would be the US in the 1720s.



Slavery is not African history. Slavery interrupted African history.

– Mutabaruka, b.1952

A LOCAL CASE STUDY: THE HARDING FAMILY OF BELLE MEADE



William Giles Harding, b. 1808

- Enslaved 136 people
- Donated \$500,000 to the Confederate States Army (~ 12 MILLION USD today)
- The people he enslaved bred the first American horse to win the English Derby
- Related to the Jacksons, Ellistons, and McGavockstogether they were the four largest landholding & enslaving families in Nashville
- His Great-grandson (William Harding Jackson) was head of the CIA under Truman, then Head of National Security under Eisenhower
- His great-great-grant grandson, Bruce Pitcairn, was VP for Planning & Strategy at Lockheed Martin, President of the US Committee on NATO, and worked for both Bush Sr. and Dole's campaigns.

HARDING'S BLACK FAMILY



James Harding, Sr. (center) b. 1842, with family.

DAY, JANUARY 31, 1913.

AMES HARDING, ONE OF NASH VILLE'S OLDEST CITIZENS, TELL INTERESTING STORY —HELPED BUILD FORT

"I was born in the year 1922 and was two years old when the, First Mexican War begun. My master was 170m Hardman Godest son, they say was my father. My father would not allow me to look at a plee of paper for fear I might learn to read and write, nor never gave me a penny or clothes to wear, and my mother (Jane Harding) used to send me to school through the woods to Nelson Merry's Church, which was used as a tenool house in those days, and I had half completed the sused as a tenool house in those days, and I had half completed the sused as a tenool house in those days, and I had half completed the sused as a tenool house in those days, and I had half completed the sused as a tenool house in those days, and I had half completed the sused in the sused

"After my mother would wash and iron all day my master would take shot iron and peck her in the head.



MD TAMES HADIN

would cry and scream until he woul whip me. My mother had three chi dren, and each had a different fither. She was afraid to tell me wh my father was until after the war. "I marketed twelve years befor the war and got one pair of shoes year, after that I had to go bare-foo ed during the other part of the yea in the snow and cold weathen my mother would wrap my feet an legs in rags to keep me from freezin to death. After the war started ran off to the Yankee camps, 10 the Tennessee Regiment, which campe where Hoffman Hall now stand where Hoffman Hall now stand ing to get away and took me up stairs at their house and chained m to the stairway, made me take m blue clothes off and swear that



The Johnson siblings after filming with the Fort Negley
Descendants Project, 2018. The Johnsons are descendants of
James Harding Sr. (above) who escaped enslavement by running
to Fort Negley during the Battle of Nashville. Pictured from left
to right: Felix Johnson, Carmen Johnson, Charles Johnson, and
Sabrina Gresham-Johnson.



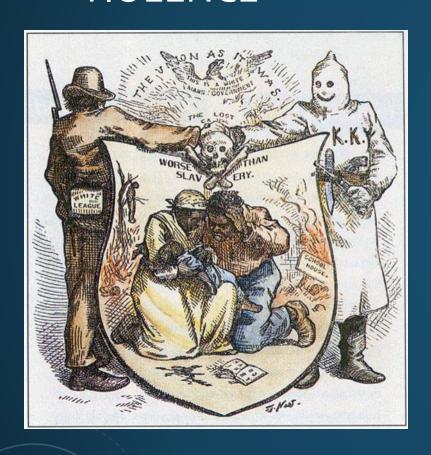
CONSIDER THE REASONS FOR & RAMIFICATIONS OF...

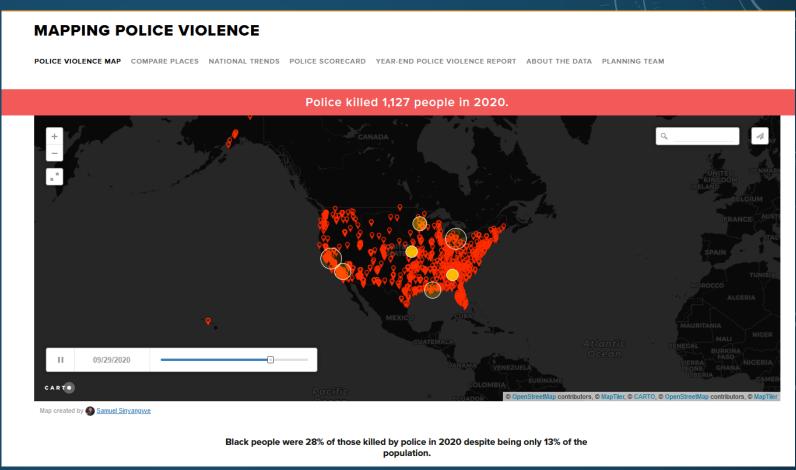
- * Slaveholders sexualy assaulting the enslaved and then enslaving their own mixed-race children for centuries.
- * Forced Breeding of the enslaved like animals for centuries.
- * Enslavers stealing generations of lifetimes of labor and keeping the money it generated.
- *Passing that money down to mostly white children.
- *Living in a society in which those with dark skin were considered to have no human rights for hundreds of years.
- *1954- Brown v Board of Education forces schools to desegregate
- *1960 six-year-old Ruby Bridges has to be escorted into a white school
- *1967 Loving v Virginia interracial marriage finally legal



Ruby Bridges, 66 years old today, sits in front of the Normal Rockwell painting commemorating her part in the New Orleans School desegregation crisis of 1960.

RESTORATION OF RACIAL HIERARCHY THROUGH TERROR AND VIOLENCE

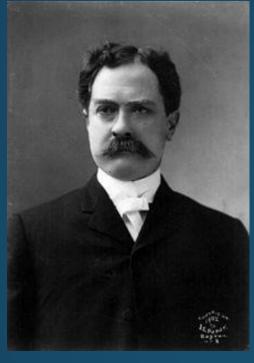




https://mappingpoliceviolence.org/

EDWARD CARMACK AND IDA B. WELLS





Ida B. Wells 1862-1931 Civil Rights Activist, Journalist, Reported on lynchings

Edward Carmack 1858-1908 Senator from TN Called for a mob to "get the black wench."

Very few white people were convicted of murder for lynching a Black person in America during the 1800s, and of all lynchings committed after 1900, only 1 percent resulted in a lyncher being convicted of a criminal offense. Compare this to police officers convicted after unjust murders of Black Americans.



His statue stood central in the state capitol until activists tore it down in 2020

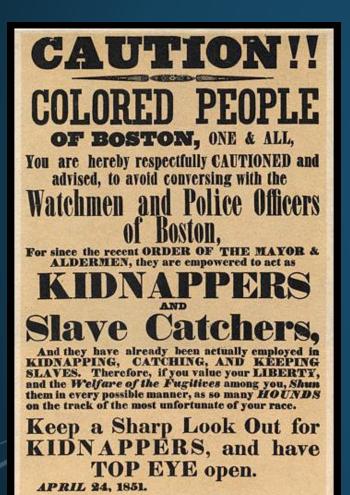


THE WHITE MODERATE IS A LEGACY OF SLAVERY

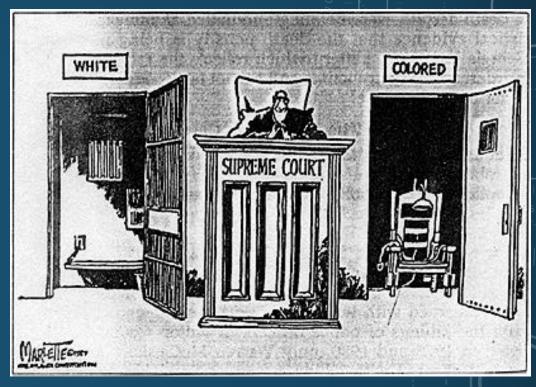
I must confess that over the past few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Counciler or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action"; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a "more convenient season." Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.

-MLK, Letter from a Birmingham Jail, 16 April 1963

CRIMINALIZATION OF BLACKNESS FROM 1600S TO TODAY







Fugitive Slave Law of 1850, Slave Patrols, Sheriff Offices, Vagrancy Laws, Black Codes, Unjust Law Enforcement, Unequal trial outcomes

School-to-prison pipeline



PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX



Broken Windows Policing

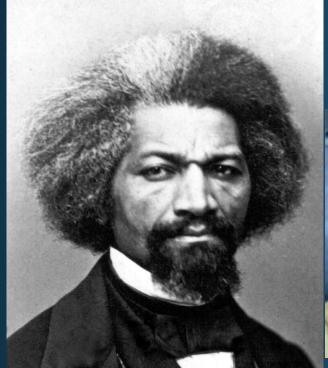
13th Amendment- Jan 31, 1865

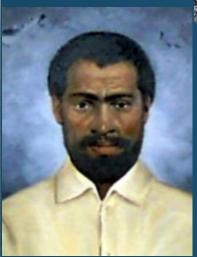
Forced Labor in Angola Prison (formerly Angola Plantation) Louisiana, 1901 and 2011



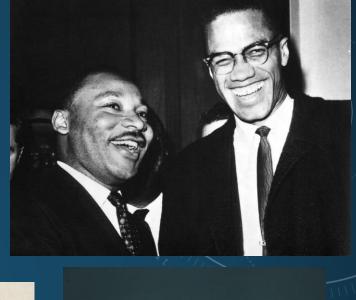


#BLACKLIVESMATTER





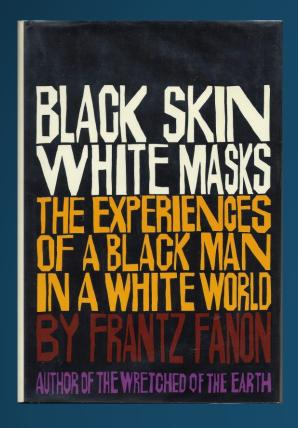








From right, clockwise: Frederick Douglass, Nat Turner, Elbert "Big Man" Howard, MLK, Malcolm X,Opal Tometti, Patrisse Cullors, Alicia Garza, and Harriet Tubman.



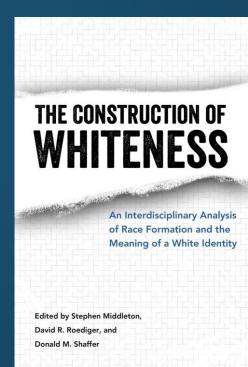
Masterless Men

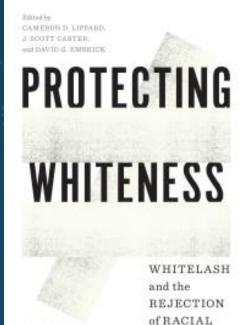
Poor Whites and Slavery in the Antebellum South

Kert Leigh Merritt



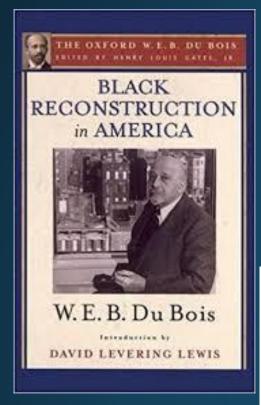
Whiteness was constructed in opposition to Blackness. US History is the history of things white people don't talk about. Embracing the discomfort is the best way through.

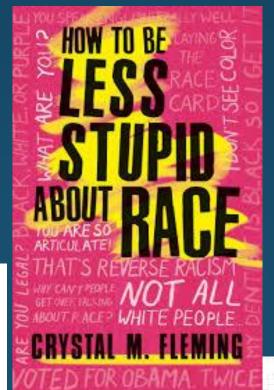




EQUALITY

Provided by





Journal List > HHS Author Manuscripts > PMC5004736



J Hum Behav Soc Environ, Author manuscript; available in PMC 2017 Jan 1 Published in final edited form as:

J Hum Behav Soc Environ. 2016; 26(3-4); 350-366.

PMCID: PMC5004736 NIHMSID: NIHMS779615 PMID: 27594778

doi: 10.1080/10911359.2015.1129256

From "brute" to "thug:" the demonization and criminalization of unarmed Black male victims in America

CalvinJohn Smiley^a and David Fakunle^b

► Author information ➤ Copyright and License information Disclaimer

The publisher's final edited version of this article is available at <u>J Hum Behav Soc Environ</u> See other articles in PMC that cite the published article.

Associated Data

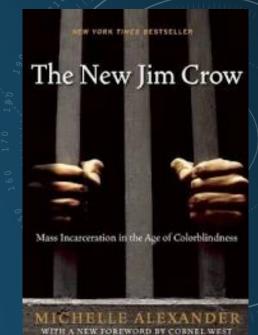
Supplementary Materials

Abstract

Go to: ☑

The synonymy of Blackness with criminality is not a new phenomenon in America. Documented historical accounts have shown how myths, stereotypes, and racist ideologies led to discriminatory policies and court rulings that fueled racial violence in a post-Reconstruction era and has culminated in the exponential increase of Black male incarceration today. Misconceptions and prejudices manufactured and disseminated through various channels such as the media included references to a "brute" image of Black males. In the 21st century, this negative imagery of Black males has frequently utilized the negative connotation of the terminology "thug." In recent years, law enforcement agencies have unreasonably used deadly force on Black males allegedly considered to be "suspects" or "persons of interest." The exploitation of these often-

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5004736/



THE CONSTRUCTION OF WHITENESS

An Interdisciplinary Analysis of Race Formation and the Meaning of a White Identity

Edited by Stephen Middleton, David R. Roediger, and Donald M. Shaffer