QUESTIONS ABOUT RACE

COMPILED BY RAMA COUSIK

Think about incorporating some or all of these in your college courses or teach future educators to adapt these ideas to suit different grade levels K-12

[**Test Your Awareness: Do The Test**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ahg6qcgoay4)

<https://youtu.be/Ahg6qcgoay4>

1. Who are your closest friends? What is the racial mix in this group?
2. What is the racial mix of people pictured in the photos and artwork in your home? In your friend, family, and colleagues’ homes?
3. What percentage of the day are you able to be with people of your own racial identity?
4. Who do you notice on magazine covers? Book covers and book contents? What roles are people of color filling in these images?
5. What is the racial mix of the main characters in your favorite TV shows? Movies?
6. When you read a magazine/newspaper or watch an ad on TV or a movie-who is and is not represented in the ads?
7. What are the last five books you read? What is the racial mix of the authors?
8. If you’re traveling by walk, bike, car, train, or air, do you notice housing patterns? How is housing arranged? Do you notice structural differences? Space? Area? Maintenance? Proximity to commercial/shopping complexes?

Who lives near the downtown commerce area and who does not? Who lives in industrial areas and who does not? What is the density of a given neighborhood? Can you correlate any of this to racial identity?

1. As you move through the day, what’s the racial composition of the people around you?
2. What is the racial mix of the students who take your courses? Is there more diversity in some courses? Less in some? [there cannot be absence of diversity! It depends on the definition for example only race]. Why do you think this might be so? What can each teacher do to attempt to change that?
3. Notice how much you are speaking to your students and colleagues about racism.
4. In which courses/subjects are you engaging students with on these issues? Is it more feasible to talk about race issues in some courses vs others? Why do you think this is? Is it possible to change that?
5. Who is filling what kinds of jobs/social roles in your world? (e.g. Who’s the store manager and who’s stocking the shelves? Who’s waiting on tables and who’s busing the food?) Can you correlate any of this to racial identity?

RESOURCES

<https://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/2010/test.asp>

<https://www.un.org/en/letsfightracism/>

<https://www.teachingforchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/ec_childrenraceracism_english.pdf>

<https://www.2presrichmond.org/news/21day?fbclid=IwAR1C6pgCF2HOEGt5nBUjPiC3RZbkKhdjkDkr4nFv__6HBJpKz08C7tEsSik>

<https://quizlet.com/42121779/racism-flash-cards/>