

“Why Are Black Kids

Also by Beverly Daniel Tatum, Ph.D.

Assimilation Causes Black Families to

White Out a Whole Community

Black
Out

Kids
White Out

Black
Out

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they shape our opinions and behaviors toward each other. Race color continues to be a significant predictor of well-being in our society.

As the quote suggests, these data tell us disparities exist, only that they do. Someone might ask, how do we know it is racism? The 100:1 ratio in terms of punishment under state law enacted in 1988, a person merely possessing 1 to 5 grams of cocaine is subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison; by striking contrast, a person has to be convicted of possession with intent to distribute at least 500 grams of powder cocaine before being subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison.

"minimize the contemporary persistence of patterns of discrimination," whereas Blacks, Latinos, and to a lesser extent, Asians perceive these patterns in most areas of their lives. People of color are more likely than whites in this particular demographic to perceive racism, and it is apparent when we also note that in 1992, more than 90 percent of the

TV is the discussion of race and disparity in the media. In 1992, the media discussed race and ethnicity in 20 percent of their news stories, while in 2002, they did so in 10 percent of their news stories. This is a significant decrease in the amount of time spent discussing race and ethnicity in the media.

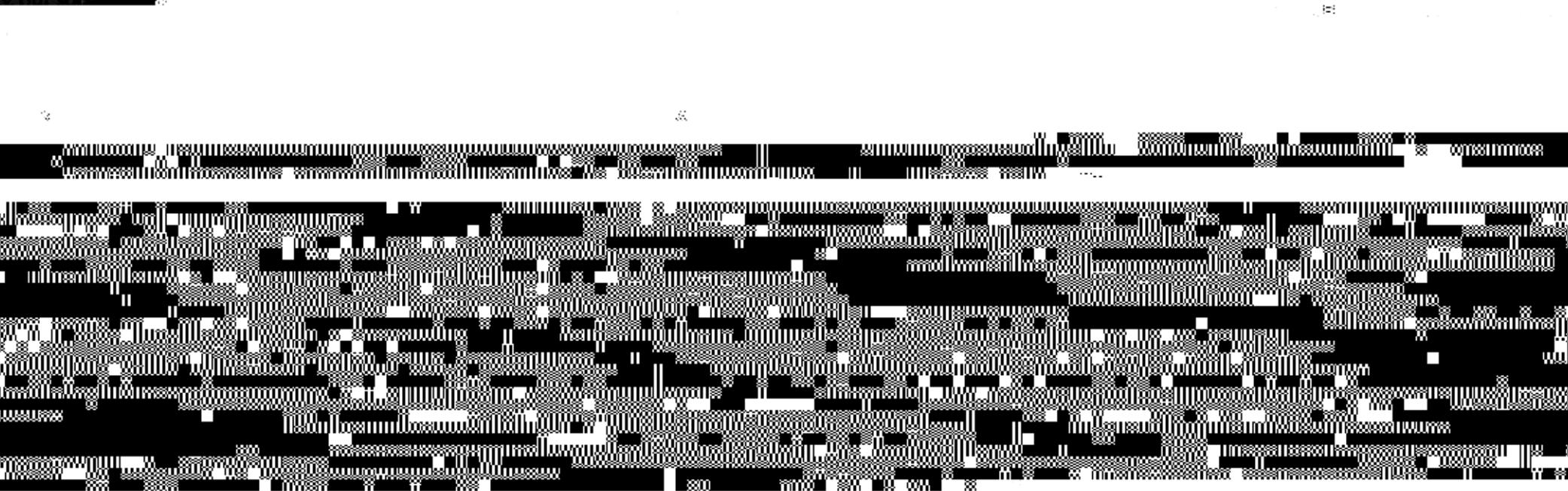
It is important to note that the media's focus on race and ethnicity has changed over time. In 1992, the media focused on issues such as civil rights, affirmative action, and the Black Power movement. In 2002, the media focused on issues such as terrorism, the War on Terror, and the Iraq War.

The media's focus on race and ethnicity has also changed in terms of the type of stories it covers. In 1992, the media covered stories about the Black Power movement, the Civil Rights Movement, and the War on Drugs. In 2002, the media covered stories about the War on Terror, the Iraq War, and the War on Drugs.

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had the opportunity to talk about this issue with Dr. Michael Boggs. "We... have... a... culture... which... is... very... conservative... and... has... been... very... slow... to... change...." Dr. Boggs' response was that "the nation is becoming less white and the dominant paradigm is one of us whose paths don't hot cross much, and we each built our own street." "Demographic shifts in race relations is challenging this paradigm," he said. "The author's wife, Dr. June, Cynthia, and I share a dramatic growth and increasing visibility of husbands and wives of different races."



such patterns can be interrupted. The first step in interrupting these patterns was to bring the University of Michigan's Dr. William G. McNamee, a social psychologist, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, con-

cerned with the cycle of inequity.

The cycle of inequity is mutual engagement. We will not be able to effec-

tively combat the cycle of inequity without addressing systems of institutional discrimination, such as the school system, which perpetuates the cycle of inequity.

McNamee found that all three classrooms benefitted most in terms of both

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as to the norm that they saw a perception of segregation as one rule; a perception reinforced by the fact that African American students were the most likely to answer the

questions in very practical terms. In 1998 I became involved in the study of the

to an interfaith sanctuary, with added seating, cutting back on gift rights under the law mandating 10% of a proposed converting the small chapel's capacity, along with stained glass windows.

twenty-first

How could this nineties

Are we ruining the small

stuff, too? Too much? "What will we do

SKINS.

"... translating the Act's into action required new staff and me to change!" "This diversity

is the most important thing in our lives," he says. "It's what makes us who we are." The new staff includes a director of diversity and inclusion, a director of education, and a director of communications. The new staff also includes a director of diversity and inclusion, a director of education, and a director of communications.

He adds, "We're trying to make sure that everyone feels welcome and included. We're trying to make sure that everyone feels welcome and included.

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My transformation as a college administrator has continued. On

August 1, 2002, I began my tenure as president of Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 1881, the university

College
we get there?

draw the foundations for the purpose of education and the task we are undertaking. In the dream I was driven by, as the people
Kings, leaders, and teachers have told me, " # # #

road. When I was asked if I would consider the possibility of leading such a "homogeneous" institution. Of course, I
to meet what my team held the perfect mountain peak for what we as multi-
sampled, through 77 percent of our multicultural educators are willing to do. We live in a time when there is
calate faculty, 85 percent Black, the campus environ- our students are racially
our students are represented.

ited, and the diversity of experience and perspectives among these young women crea