

◆ Final Proposal due 2/21 Friday.

To: Rebecca Agosta

From: Allysea Thompson

Date: 2 February 2014

Subject of Inquiry:

I'm interested in finding out the unique challenges black women/white male couples experience that differ from same-race couples.

Initial Inquiry Subject:

I am interested in researching and finding out about the unique challenges black women and white male couples face. Many people can remember a time when they saw a black male/ white woman couple but unfortunately not the other way around. In society, it seems socially acceptable for a black male and a white woman to be together but not vice versa. I don't think that's it's intentional but socially, black women and white men are displayed to be total opposites. Black woman are displayed as aggressive, promiscuous with their bodies and reckless by the media. White men are displayed as goal-oriented, good looking, and wealthy. These two groups seem like polar opposites and less likely to meet than the black men/ white women population. This topic relates to me because I am a black woman who find white men attractive, but I have not been in a relationship with one. I do; however, see myself being in interracial relationships. Interracial relationships between black women and white men is not a topic that can really be explained or statistically proved and thus is a more opinion-based inquiry.

Race
◆ hurtful material

→ IS this related to identity? Lived experiences?

How do we see stereotypes?

paper format:
• media
• Cultural
• Interview

Methods: (officially Blogs - 10 Reasons Black Guys Prefer White Girls, 10 Reasons Black Women Prefer White Men)

I am going to view interracial couple 'Girlfriend Boyfriend Tags'. These videos are on YouTube and they involve a couple sitting down and answering questions related to how they got together, what they were first thinking when they met, and the challenges they face. I plan on looking at interviews of famous interracial couples like Tamera Mowry-Housley and Adam Housley. They have recently been in the spotlight because of the scrutiny and discrimination they are getting from the public for being an interracial couple. I also would really like to talk one-on-one with a BWWM couple to get a personal one-on-one testimony that what I've seen online and read about is really true.

Questions:

- 1. What makes someone interested in something so different than themselves?
- 2. When did interracial dating become legal? *what is the history behind interracial couple?*
- 3. How do people react when they see an interracial couple?
- 4. What attracts these *black women/white men* polar opposite groups together?
- 5. How does society portray these relationships in television shows or movies?
- 6. Families? How do they feel? Teach their kids?
- 7. Changes over time. 1960s?
- 8. Are they aware of their race/race expectations/stereotypes when together?
- 9. Are they typically attracted to a person of that race?
- 10. Are their actions, words, items that perform their race within the relationship?

** I need help trying to find questions that relate to how black women/ white male couples (BWWM) have a different "identity" because of the relationship dynamic they are in. ** But this is what I have so far.

- marrying "up" or "down"? most common stereotypes black women marrying for money white men marrying for sex

lived experiences - interviews?

do they see it this way?

Are these true inquiry questions?

≠ interview?

relevant

why do black men feel white women are superior to black women?
~~why~~ why do black women prefer white men?

Stereotypes

BW

WM

Ratchet
Gold Diggers
Uneducated sisters
Angry black women.
mean black girls.
Unhealthy.
Baby mamas
NEVER
wives.

- They are angry
- They emasculate their men
- They are all overweight or out of shape
- They are sexually inhibited
- "Man crazy"
- "Have "Daddy Issues"
- "All either/or"
 - Light skinned - long hair conceited / cold
 - Dark skin - wear hair kinky or curly afro/centric/militant

12 Common Stereotypes About Black Women & White men relationships - written by Brody Fletcher

"I don't see color"
I appreciate that he is a black man and I would never try to down play that.

Interracial Couples - Black women/white Men vs. Black Men/white women

unique challenges faced by these groups.
How black people are portrayed negatively in the media.

1. Are there actions, words, items that perform a certain race within the relationship? ex. weave-black girl
2. Are people typically attracted to a person of the opposite race?

3. Are people aware of their race/race expectations/stereotypes when together?

family members add to the challenges faced by interracial couples.

Do people who own up the negative stereotyping identify themselves differently?

Are there any daily struggles?

Why do people disapprove?

what is the history behind interracial couples?

Do other people judge them when they are together?

Do they identify their relationship as being any different than anyone else's?

How does gender affect perceptions?

Are there family who disagrees which will make it even more challenging?

- challenge/difference
Jessica (dysfunctional/weird)

Zack - Asian