

Gender Race and Class in Media A Critical Reader
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Part II: Representations of Gender, Race, and Class

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. Cultural studies insist that culture must be studied within the social relations and system. This radical hope, triggered by President Barack Obama, ushered in a period of bi- and transracial art. This probed _____.

- A. the possibility that we really had transcended race but also ridiculed this hope with an acid humor
- B. the notion that homophobic ideas were weakening and allowing the country to grow in new ways
- C. the idea that Obama was responsible for a new “renaissance” of art
- D. the possibility that we as a country had overcome isolationism but also teased the idea with a political discourse

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 10

2. The “new” Atticus character from “Go Set a Watchman” was a betrayal of White liberal idealism, feeding a suspicion that idealism was less than absolute. In other words, the author is saying _____.

- A. that Atticus had been secretly racist all along, and people had falsely identified with him
- B. that ideas such as White liberal idealism could be twisted and turned to become something different as people change
- C. that it could suddenly, randomly turn against the people it purported to help
- D. that idealism might not be as strong of a position when looked back on

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 10

3. In Andrew Solomon’s landmark 2012 book about parenting and how children differentiate themselves, he makes a distinction between vertical and horizontal identity. Traits and values you don’t share with parents, sometimes because of genetic mutation, sometimes through the choice of a different social world, define _____.

- A. authentic identity
- B. vertical identity
- C. asymmetrical identity
- D. horizontal identity

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 1

4. In this article, the author mentions that _____. The most important economic function came from television's role as an instrument of legitimation for transformations in values initiated by the new economic imperatives of postwar America.

- A. ideologies are not the product of individual consciousness or intention
- B. ideologies are the by-product of consciousness and authenticity
- C. ideologies are often misunderstood as concepts of morality
- D. ideologies never offer more than a glimpse at the individuals who make the statements

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 11

5. "Primitivism" is defined by _____.

- A. the dynamic closeness of society to the environment
- B. the fixed proximity of such people to nature
- C. the focus of some cultures on aspects of spirituality and nature
- D. society's view of humans impact on the global ecosystem

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 11

6. When the author mentions the apparently naturalized representations of events and situations relating to race, whether "factual" or "fictional," which have racist premises and propositions inscribed in them as a set of unquestioned assumptions, he is referring to _____.

- A. intentional racism
- B. ideological based morality
- C. underrepresentation of low-income members of society
- D. inferential racism

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 11

7. The term *redskin* is a problem, and its lingering presence undermines the pursuit of _____ by American Indians.

- A. historical acceptance and acknowledgment
- B. respect and understanding
- C. equality, inclusion, and empowerment
- D. equity

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 12

8. The issue has stressed indigenous support, highlighting the importance of public opinion polls as well as endorsements of the Washington Redskins football team by

prominent individuals and reservation communities. Importantly, the defense is about more than Indianness. In particular, it turns in spoken and unspoken ways on _____.

- A. Whiteness
- B. American culture
- C. organized sports
- D. religion

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 12

9. As the article makes clear, the ongoing struggle lends itself to binary thinking, moral declarations, and public denunciations. To many, either the moniker is respectful or it is racist. It is a stereotype or not. Such arguments _____.

- A. make the issue easier to understand and therefore more efficient
- B. ignore the underlying religious messages of the conflict
- C. fail to specify the real issue at hand and instead make it more confusing
- D. simplify the conflict and its cultural import

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 12

10. Whenever women's bodies are deemed to be excessive--"too fat, too mouthy, too old, too dirty, too pregnant, too sexual (or not sexual enough) for the norms of conventional gender representation"--Rowe argues that _____.

- A. gender hierarchies are strengthened
- B. gender hierarchies are threatened
- C. gender hierarchies are the culprit
- D. gender hierarchies are not involved or affected

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 13

11. The author mentions that "pornographic eroticism" is particularly prominent in media coverage of which sport?

- A. soccer
- B. lacrosse
- C. tennis
- D. basketball

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 13

12. The article's study shows that despite their outstanding sporting achievements, the Williams sisters have been subjected to the "gender-specific images that deem black bodies as less desirable if not downright ugly," that is, _____.

- A. their bodies are seen as superior in athletic ability but not in physical beauty
- B. they have been subjugated as being only fit for athletic competition
- C. they have been separated from other payers due to race
- D. their bodies have been positioned by the “sexually grotesque.”

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 13

13. Orientalism, Edward Said (1978) wrote, is _____.

- A. a conceptualization of the Orient, or East, which places it in opposition to the Occident or West
- B. identifying with Asian countries or cultures
- C. being of or from an Asian country, and practicing a culturally authentic lifestyle, but no longer living there
- D. the act of traveling, moving, or otherwise leaving “Western” civilization and immersing oneself in oriental cultures

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 14

14. The tension between accessibility and novelty, or strangeness, can serve as both a site of resistance for female artists to wage “sex as a weapon” in the fight against gender stereotyping as well as _____.

- A. a space where new ideas about sexual roles and what is not appropriate male sexual behavior are identified
- B. a space where stale ideas about gender roles and what is appropriate female sexual behavior are reified
- C. a space where old ideas about social values are broken down and rebuilt in new cultural subcategories
- D. a space where gender roles are reinforced

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 14

15. Katy Perry, the framing of men of color in her video, and her cultural appropriation matter because they reach a broad audience and serve to reinforce a racist and prejudicial understanding of the world that only sharpens dichotomies. To overlook the power of popular media because it is fluff is to _____.

- A. dismiss Katy Perry as a pop culture “has-been”
- B. decide what that media tells a huge portion of the public is unimportant
- C. instill a sense of underlying prejudice when listening to pop music
- D. decide that some forms media is more influential on audiences than others

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 14

16. The story about a Midwestern woman in Ohio who, inspired by images of Angelina Jolie's adoption of an Ethiopian child, expressed a desire to do the same is important because it _____.

- A. gives precedence to the idea that people are more willing to adopt if they see positive examples of adoption
- B. reveals that Jolie is still an influential member of pop culture
- C. is representative of a growing transnational phenomenon
- D. shows that celebrities can influence people's life choices

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 15

17. According to the article, women visually coded as ordinary looking generally _____.

- A. do not grace our screens as carrying the potential for producing and sustaining life
- B. are never seen in film or television
- C. are accurately represented as true to life characters
- D. do tend to be thought of as superfluous to the story in films, but in television, they are thought of as more critical parts of the narrative

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 15

18. Contemporary representations of _____ make visible new logics of Whiteness that are imbricated in a politics of the transnational.

- A. women of color
- B. male leaders
- C. family life
- D. global motherhood

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 15

19. People who were, 20 years ago, described as "hermaphrodite" now name themselves "intersex." Over time, the language shifted because _____.

- A. scientists and doctors decided "intersex" was a more accurate term
- B. members of the intersex community wanted to name themselves rather than being named by the medical profession
- C. members of the intersex community became tired of the term "hermaphrodite" and thought "intersex" was a more modern term
- D. the English language become more nuanced, and the meaning of words shifted, so researchers decided to create a new term that was more specific

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 16

20. The Digital Age has obliterated the transqueers who embrace the borderlands of gender fluidity and replaced it with _____.

- A. "gender as religion"
- B. "gender as industry"
- C. "gender as consumption"
- D. "gender as ideology"

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 16

21. The populist scorn *Real Housewives* provokes is not gender-neutral; its sights are set on the rich, to be sure, but only rich women, especially _____.

- A. those who transgress the traditional gender roles
- B. those who embody traditional family roles
- C. those who reject modern gender roles
- D. those who embrace the idea of gender as consumption

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 17

22. The housewives' home lives and social lives are framed as _____, rearticulating postfeminist tensions in leisure-class terms.

- A. open ideals
- B. religious choices
- C. economic choices
- D. forced choices

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 17

23. This chapter outlined some of the ways that conservative talk radio has a profound influence not only on elections but also on the very nature of public discourse, and thus ultimately on public policy, on issues ranging from women's health to climate change.

The author says that this makes it much more than _____.

- A. technology
- B. entertainment
- C. media
- D. talk show opinions

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Article 18

24. In the media character he self-created, Rush Limbaugh's unrestrained narcissism drives him to broadcast to his audience an inflated sense of himself as a _____.

- A. "man's man"
- B. "political activist"
- C. "engaged citizen"
- D. "entertainment guru"

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 18

25. Critiquing these linguistic practices is not merely a rhetorical exercise because all of this talk has significant _____.

- A. political ramifications
- B. media repercussions
- C. material consequences
- D. philosophical outcomes

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 18

True/False

1. The digital world has opened up communities for transgender people where none have existed before. There is less isolation and perhaps less struggle because of the resources, social networks, and virtual communities provided on the Internet.

Ans: T

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 16

2. The author describes how in *Real Housewives* conflict is always a prelude to greater interpersonal connectedness; it is the basis of their relationships.

Ans: F

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Article 17

Essay

1. Describe how a transgender person occupies the borderlands between communities and identities.

Ans: Living on the border means living in two places simultaneously while feeling that one never is at home in either place. Trans people live on the gender border in that they don't feel at home in their body and gender, and while they may be transitioning, they

are in *process*. Feelings of having to “pass,” versus just being, can add to the borderland effect.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 16

2. How is gender performative?

Ans: Rogers, for example, describes how Barbie is a manufactured reality in that she performs via her props--shopping bags, clothes, and shoes. This is true for people as well in that we preform our gendered selves. We reflect or reject the gendered expectations of us through our hair styles, dress, or the decision to wear makeup. As discussed by Sieber, trans people are often concerned with “passing,” which at the heart is about performing the “correct” gender.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Article 16, Article 42

3. Describe “Orientalism” and its representations.

Ans: Orientalism, Edward Said (1978) wrote, is a conceptualization of the *Orient*, or East, which places it in opposition to the *Occident* or West. It is a discourse that serves to codify difference (Said, 1978) while also portraying “non-Western peoples as the Other of a Western Self.” Such representations give us access to images and narratives we can then use to craft moments of engagement with those we imagine as the other. This relates to Said’s (1978) concept of *imaginary geography* in that imaginaries, such as imaginary geography, are constructions designed to orient us to our world.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Article 14