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**Internalizing Negative Self-Racial/Ethnic Identification:  
Horizontal Hostility Revealed, the Case of African Americans.**

**A Dissertation Submitted to the Department of Letters and English Language in Partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master Degree in Language and Culture.**

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## **Dedication**

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## **Abstract**

This research examines a very important topic in the United States of America, namely, the negative self- racial/ethnic identification among ethnic minorities or the so-called “horizontal hostility.” The research focuses on the African-American category as a case study by providing a comprehensive analysis of the topic through a detailed and in-depth explanation of the prejudices and stereotypes that afflict most minorities in the United States of America, particularly African Americans. The research also attempts to find out the factors that led to the building of negative racial identity for African Americans. More precisely, this dissertation aspires to find out the real reasons that pushed African Americans to become hostile towards each other. After highlighting the phenomenon of horizontal hostility and the reasons that led African Americans to build a tense relationship with each other, this research provides a summary of the role played by the American media in highlighting the phenomenon of horizontal hostility and the ways available to reduce or confront it.

## Le résumé

Ce mémoire étudie un sujet important aux états unis qui est la compréhension de l'identité négative ethnique et l'enlèvement d'hostilité horizontale sur l'état les américain-africain. Dans le même travail il y aura un analyse globale et détaillée des explications sur les préjuges et les stéréotypes souffrent les plupart minorités aux états- unis et la connaissance de la situation des afro- américains à cause de l'identité ethnique négative qui a été vu compliquée par de nombreux scientifiques et chercheurs de ce Domain . Ce travail a pour objectif de mettre en évidence les véritables causes qui ont poussé les afro- américains à construire cette relation hostile l'un envers l'autre, ce qu'on appelle hostilité horizontale entre les personnes de mêmes origines ethniques. Sans oublier à la fin les causes qui ont amené les afro- Américains et leurs mauvaises relations avec les blancs, Asies, American et latin.

## ملخص

هذا البحث يدرس موضوعا هاما جدا في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية و المتمثل في استيعاب الذات السلبية العرقية والاثنية او ما يطلق عليه "بالعداء الأفقي". يركز البحث على فئة الأمريكيين من أصل أفريقي كدراسة حالة وذلك بتقديم تحليل شامل للموضوع بواسطة تقديم شرح مفصل ومعمق للأحكام المسبقة والأفكار النمطية التي تعاني منها معظم الأقليات في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية وبالأخص الأمريكيين من أصول افريقية. كما يقوم البحث بمحاولة معرفة العوامل التي أدت الى بناء الهوية العرقية السلبية بالنسبة للأمريكيين الافارقة أو بمعنى أدق تطمح هذه المذكرة لمعرفة الأسباب الحقيقية التي دفعت الأمريكيين من أصول افريقية من أن يصبحوا عدائيين فيما بينهم. وبعد استظهار ظاهرة العداء الأفقي والأسباب التي أدت بالأمريكيين الافارقة من بناء علاقة متوترة مع بعضهم يقدم هذا البحث ملخص حول الدور الذي تلعبه وسائل الاعلام الامريكية في ابراز ظاهرة العداء الافقي و الطرق المتاحة للحد منها او مجابتهها.

### **List of Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AFP	American Free Press
BART	Bay Area Rapid Transit
CMHC	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
KKK	Ku Klux Klan
NAACP	The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
NIAAA	The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
WPA	Work Progress Administration

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## **Introduction**

This dissertation investigates the notion of internalizing negative self-identification among ethnic minority groups who live in a multiethnic society. The research emphasizes on the American minorities and their stereotypical images in the United States, giving great importance to the African Americans as the sample of this study, in addition to the main causes behind the African American's complex and rigid racial and ethnic identity. It also studies the phenomenon of horizontal hostility and its causes, that is to say why African Americans are hostile towards each other? This research project hypothesizes that individuals identifying themselves with the African American ethnic group may hold negative or even racist ideas about the African American community, which may be revealed through horizontal hostility.

The project is divided into three chapters; the first chapter identifies the racial prejudices and stereotypes in the American society. In which detailed definition is given to the significant terms of the chapter prejudice and stereotype. Then, worthy explanation provided to the direct causes and consequences of prejudice and stereotype. Besides, the main racial and ethnic groups who live in the United States namely (White Americans, African Americans or Blacks, Asian Americans, Native Americans or Indians, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander). In addition to ethnic minorities Hispanics and Latinos. At the end of this chapter comprehensive analyses given to the racial prejudices and prejudices that each group encountered in the United States.

In the second chapter entitled Building Negative Self-Racial Identity among African Americans. It provided a worthy explanation for the two concepts identity and self and its various constructs (self-esteem, self-confidence, self-efficacy, and self-identity). As well as the African American history in the United States, mainly in the important periods like, the thirteen colonies, civil war, twentieth century, twenty first century. In addition, different explanations are given by

scholars to the black's racial identity, in addition to, the African Americans girls' racial identity is taken as a case study in the chapter.

The third chapter entitled *Underlying Causes of Horizontal Hostility within African Americans*. Sheds light on the phenomenon of horizontal hostility in which many scholars provide a lot of definition to the concept. The chapter explores the main causes behind horizontal hostility among African Americans and with other minority groups like Latinos and Asian Americans.

This research conducted through interpretative and qualitative research methodology. It essentially based on the selection and interpretation of academic research that depicted images of horizontal hostility within the African American community, psychological and sociological research that studied this behavior and tried to investigate its underlying factors.

The work also rely on historical data to reveal the deep-rooted preconceived ideas and stereotypical images that were built around the African American community since the settlement era. The progress achieved by the African American in terms of civil rights also explored in a coherent chronological order.

The choice of the topic is generally motivated by the desire to fully understand the psychological state of mind that may push individuals from ethnic minorities to build a negative self-ethnic or racial identification. This work also aims at accentuating the jeopardies of this attitude on the rest of the community by focusing on the African American community as a case study. Therefore, this research project aims at highlighting the main causes behind the internalization of negative self-conceptions within African Americans that is revealed through horizontal hostility.

## **Chapter One**

### **Identifying Racial Prejudice and Stereotype in the American Society**

In 2010, the United States census bureau stated that the American society is divided into five main racial classes, which are White Americans, Blacks or African Americans, Native Americans are also labeled as Alaska Natives or Indian Americans, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian and other pacific islander. There are also People of two or more races, in addition to other ethnic minorities like Hispanics and Latinos (Grieco, Cassidy).

The cultural diversity that distinguishes the American society had frequently been the source of racial tensions affecting mainly ethnic and racial minority groups, such as African Americans. This chapter will identify and explore the different sorts of racial prejudices and stereotypes that has affected the perception of African American within the rest of the society. However, before getting into the main idea of this chapter it is necessary to name ethnic minorities who live in the United States of America.

#### **1.1. Ethnic Minorities Living in the United States**

The United States of America is considered as melting pot society due to the various ethnic and racial groups, who live there from the early European settlement in the 17<sup>th</sup> century until the present days. According to the United States census bureau the nation is composed of five main racial groups. In addition to two other ethnic minorities namely Hispanics and Latinos.

The U.S. Census piloted a survey in 2000 which concluded that 75.1% of the American population they are whites. White Americans also had the chance to point out their family ancestry, the Germans (with 15.2% of the total population), then the Irish (10.8%) and English (8.7%). With respect to place where they live, whites spread consistently all over the United States, with the highest overall numbers of whites existing in the South (34%), the Midwest

(25%) the West (21%) and the Northeast (20%). In short, the White Americans are considered as the wealthiest, and the most authoritative people in the United States (“White Americans”).

The second racial group is Native Americans or the indigenous people of America. Many years ago exactly in the Ice Age, humans traveling across the Bering Land Bridge, from Asia towards Alaska. They have different tribes in the Americas, as well as tribes in Europe, Asia, or Africa. They have established many languages, customs, and civilizations. Their descendants traveled along the west coastline of North America. As early as 1000 BC, they protected nearly the whole continent. They were not well known when new people discover the land. At present Native American, populations are once more developing and progressing in the continent. Their leaders are reaching greater political achievements in struggling for the civil rights of their citizens (“An over View of Native American History”).

In the late fifty years, Asian Americans were considered as the widest rising racial group in the United States. This racial group is composed of different people from various countries: china, Korea, Japan, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, and so one. The majority of Asian Americans are immigrants, and 66% are not born in the United States most of them are from Chinese ancestry (four million persons out of eighteen million Asian American in the whole country). Recent statistics in 2015 show that 5.8% of United States population are Asian Americans. They settled in New York City, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Besides, forty- nine percent of Asian Americans are 25 years old have a bachelor’s degree (28%), this is the main reason that pushes them to go there in order to get jobs in higher positions (Chen).

12.9% of United States total population are African Americans. The second vast racial group in the United Nations preceded by Latinos (38.8 million). African Americans mainly originated from black slaves who were taken from Africa by the British and the Dutch colonizers, during the seventeenth and the nineteenth centuries. Blacks worked in the whites’ plantations for

low wages, and they could not have their rights like the dominant group. Whereas, today they turn out to be principal minority class, since they flourished the United States economy. In the mid and the late 1990's, the nation open the doors for many black immigrants who came from war torn African nations, like, Somalia. According to United States census bureau African Americans are living in urban cities like, New Orleans, Baltimore, Washington DC, Detroit, moreover to other cities that contain large number of African Americans as, Atlanta, Newark, Philadelphia and Cincinnati("United States of America...").

Hawaii also labeled as "big land". It became the U.S. 50<sup>th</sup> state on August , 21, 1959.

Hawaii is a collection of volcanic islands in the central Pacific Ocean. The islands cover (3,857 km) from San Francisco, California, to the east and (8,516 km) from Manila, in the Philippines, to the west. Its capital is Honolulu, situated on the island of Oahu (Swenson. etal).

The Pacific Islands are set of islands located in the South Pacific Ocean. In 1872, Samoa was the first island, which came under the US rule. It continued under US Navy authority until 1951, later the U.S. Department of the Interior controlled it. After the Second World War, the United Nations arranged the United States trusteeships of the small island nations of Micronesia, identified as the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. These trusteeships was finished in 1994. The wide range of the agreements with the United States permitted great amounts of Pacific Islanders to migrate to Guam and Hawaii, where they had a major effect on the local economies. Survey piloted in 2000 showed that 0.3 % of the U.S. inhabitants (874,000 people) consider themselves as Pacific Islanders, either alone or in combination with other groups. The most of them were born in Hawaii. Honolulu, New York, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Phoenix, other groups were established in Utah, Texas, and Washington ("Pacific Islanders").

Hispanic refers to people of Latin America or from Iberian origins, who speak Spanish language fluently. The word was used first by the United States administration under the age of

Richard Nixon It has been adopted in the U.S. Census since 1980. Hispanic is used a lot in states as Florida and Texas (Dale). The Hispanic population growing has slowdown in the last years. According to the statistics made in 2016, 18% of Hispanics were lived in the US and were considered as the second-largest ethnic group after whites (Flores).

Latino refers to people from Latin America, the Caribbean (Puerto Rico, Cuba, Dominican Republic), South America (Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, etc.) and Central America (Honduras, Costa Rica, etc) (Dale). Near 58 million is the total population of the Latinos in the US during 2016. They were considered as the group who caused demographic growing in the country, that is to say they were the half of the national population progression since 2000. At that time the Latino population has go forward because of many modifications in immigration, education and other features (Flores).

## **1.2. Racial Prejudice and Stereotype in the United States**

### **1.2.1. What is Prejudice?**

According to the New World Encyclopedia, prejudice is a biased, intolerant, and negative thought against certain people. Preconceived ideas are mostly negative stereotypes. Social researchers define prejudice as the negative way of judging people especially, those of particular racial, social, and political groups. These views against persons of a given group, may affect them negatively. Threatening practices of prejudice may led to violence in its highest level. Prejudice has three main components: views, feelings, and behavioral tendencies (“Prejudice”).

Prejudice is regarded as a preassumption grounded on false beliefs and ideas; a great dilemma has led to battles, cruelty, killing, and countless suffering. Visiting a therapist can help people to overcome their prejudices, recognize the effects of prejudice on people they adore, and create plans for dealing with the psychological effects of living in a world full of prejudice (“Prejudice and Discrimination”).

Everything in life has a beginning and an end but prejudice is an endless problem that has many negative causes on society as a whole and on minority groups as a special cases. Prejudice may be caused by almost many reasons. For Fields prejudice is accepted by many people in society, since, they are not conscious about the destructive sorts of such things. Through history, many people have negative attitudes to people of different racial, ethnic and minority groups. Those prejudices spread orderly by one generation to the next and never finish until they will convince themselves by making strict modifications. The other negative factor of prejudice is that minority groups in the United States really suffer from is “competition”. Conflicts and competitions co-exist to gather. Almost, competitions end up with conflicts between groups. Since racial groups are competing for getting rewards, recruitments and credits, hence they find themselves falling in troubles specifically prejudice (Fields).

“Categorizing” or “naming” is the main cause for prejudice. In which people tend to show superiority about themselves and making the other group inferior. When you commit such things means that you put people in different packages, and you will judge people negatively without knowing anything about them and their capacities (Fields).

Prejudice also has several negative consequences. Every day prejudices occur when persons interact with each other in the society. That is to say, they want the others to act in the way that they expect them to be. In addition to the negative judgments held by those people, based on skin color, social class, sex, religious affiliation...etc. People exposed to prejudice became uncertain about social group whom they belong to. Then, they develop sense of anger and animosity for both people who hold prejudice against them and for the behaviors that invite those prejudices. Such prejudgments are damaging to the persons and the society as a whole (“Consequences of Prejudice”).



“Creation of stigma” is the sense of shaming and devaluing yourself on the expense of the others. This undesirable feeling appears due to prejudices and stereotypes that persons from the mainstream society think about the inferior group. The latter destruct their expectations and dreams for the future. Stigma also leads to marginalization, which means that members from the inferior group separate themselves from the dominant group. The negative outcomes of marginalization are poverty, illiteracy, racism...etc (“Consequences of Prejudice”).

Health is considered as a human need for well-being. Nevertheless, due to prejudices, health care treatment is so difficult for racial and ethnic groups. According to Charles Hurst in his book *Social Inequality, Forms, Causes, And Consequences* high rates of deaths among black females, because of low economic conditions and misery in comparison to white females in the United States. People who have low economic class suffer from chronic diseases for instance, heart diseases, lung cancer and diabetes (23).

Whereas crimes take place in all classes of society, they are more associated with minority groups. Since, they are prejudiced. Besides prejudices, affect how crime extended. According to Oliver Willard in his book *Community-Oriented Policing: a Systematic Approach to Policing* police sections in many western societies have their proper prejudices. Recent studies revealed that the police affected by prejudice. In the United States and France, racial separation bound by certain characteristics like, skin color, social class...etc. Crimes caused by racial groups usually known as hate crimes. The combat against prejudice, led to the emergence of new kind of crime by United States Congress in 1992, the real goal behind setting up hate crimes as a category was to give tough penalties for crimes to people who prejudice other racial or ethnic groups (Willard).

### 1.2.2. What is Stereotype?

Stereotype is a word that is derived from the Greek “Stereos”, which means solid, and “Tupos” means image or impression, from “Tuptein”, to strike. Stereotypes are solid and negative images about others that cannot be reformed forever. The American journalist Walter Lipmann used the term first in its present context in his classic book *Public Opinion*. Later on, this phenomenon became a crucial topic in sociology and social psychology (Jones and Colman 843).

Rommes affirms that a stereotype is a generally held, simplified, and false belief about a particular group. Those groups stereotypes centered on gender, race, ethnicity, age and language...etc. Stereotypes profoundly a mixture of the social establishments and broader culture. They are often apparent throughout the first periods of childhood, affecting the way people interact with each another (675). For Jones and Colman stereotype is static overgeneralizations towards certain people. However, others consider positive and social overgeneralizations as the main features of stereotypes (843).

Alyssa Guzman wrote about causes of stereotypes in a detailed article entitled “What are the Causes of Stereotypes.” in which she described the main reasons of stereotypes. For Guzman categorizing people into groups is the main cause of stereotypes. Categorization shaped by person’s life experiences; it simplifies and explains the world for them. Hence, the way of categorizing people leads to stereotypes. They cannot think of others without categorizing them into various groups, as well as, what people learn from others and the border society creates stereotype. Stereotypes are taken from surroundings. First, from family members especially, parents, friends, relatives...etc. Second from media, work places, schools....etc. (Guzman).

In a laboratory at Blakeley University, white students were asked to watch a video of white and black young men fighting each other while they are discussing. The results were that 75%

who assumed that the black man was violent and he pushed the White man to hurt him. However, 17% said that the White man was violent and he pushed the black men, and said that the white men is playful. The respondent's views were based on racial prejudices and stereotypes. In other words, the black man was accused of being violent mainly due to his skin color, and he belongs to inferior group that is totally ignored by the white majority (Duncan 591).

Sometimes, the term stereotype and prejudice are used interchangeably. However, they have various differences; Prejudice is defined as preconceived ideas about someone or something. Those ideas are not linked to reason or to personal experiences, nevertheless, stereotype defined as held views about someone that extensively spread among people, they became ordinary ideas and thoughts about someone or something. While, stereotype makes the others feel about the positive sides or the negative sides of someone or something. Then, acts of prejudice are not related to facts or experiences in human life. Acts of stereotypes are centered on the person's actual experiences and happenings. Prejudices are just someone's attitude against someone else. That is to say, they are not realistic. Stereotypes roots are from prejudice. It is based on truthful experiences from real life. People who have prejudiced ideas about the others may affect their emotions and feelings. Unlike people how perceive the others stereotypes do not have such chance ("Difference between Prejudice and Stereotype").

### **1.3 American Minorities and their Stereotypical Images**

American views towards minority groups living in the US is a big issue that attracts many researchers in the world. How the dominant group described these groups?

#### **1.3.1 African Americans**

African Americans racial prejudices has been investigated in a negative way, since they are considered as the greatest racial group that received hostile behavior from the American people through very long period (czopp, Monteith 233). However, there is significant research that

proposed the positive views about blacks, such as being cool, good athletes; they have good voices or good at music and rhythm since eighteenth-century when black slaves sang in the cotton grounds. Moreover, they are very attractive and stylish (Jones).

African American males are described, as The "Sambo" this stereotype developed on the age of slavery in the United States. The "happy slave" idea is very important for the Sambo caricature. The whites described the black slaves as a friendly, overgrown child who was satisfied to aid his leader. However, the Sambo was observed as lazy and dependent on his head even for food (Boskin). It transferred via music titles and lyrics, traditional sayings, literature, children's stories and games, postcards, restaurant names and menus, and other thousands of works of art (Goings).

African American male also described as "Savage". The blacks were savage because of, "the odd size of the arm, heaviness of mind; smooth slight nose, thick protruding lips; extraordinarily thick cranium; tiny, black hair, and thick skin". Besides, to these presumed physical variations, African-Americans are less sensitive to ache than whites are. For instance, black women experience little pain with childbirth (Plous and Williams 1996). These destructive stereotypes were shown the bad treatment of slaves in the age of slavery along with the killing, suffering and domination of African-Americans following liberation. Nevertheless, this stereotype still exists today (Green).

In addition, there are stereotypes that are associated with African American females, such as the "Mammy". The Mammy is physically described as a big, free woman with black skin and brilliant white teeth, she wears colorless clothes, headscarf, and she survived only for helping her chief. The Mammy understands everything about the white daily life. She raised the white's children and loved them very much, more than her own. The Mammy was aggressive with her family members, unlike the great respect that she offered to the white family (Jewell). The

Mammy stereotype was exposed to people via literature and movies like, the role played by Hattie Mc Daniel in “Gone with the Wind” (Goings).

Another stereotypical image associated with African American females is the “Sapphire” which was solidified through the hit show "Amos 'n' Andy". In this, cartoon the Sapphire personality was portrayed as a dictatorial, stubborn woman who was involved in a continuing oral fight with her husband, Kingfish. Her violent independence and difficult nature positioned her in the role of matriarch (Jewell 45).

In the age of slavery, African American women and men are accused of being sexual. This stereotype still exist until now. In addition to alcoholic, drug consumers and criminals, who fall in illegal affairs and making gangs for doing such illegal practices (Jones).

### **1.3.2 American Indians**

From the first meeting between Native Americans and the Europeans, the Anti-Indian sense appeared. This negative feeling such as hate and hostility towards each other was prevailed specifically throughout the period of conflicts. In comparison to anti-black prejudice, anti-Indian prejudice had diminished, yet official discrimination is considered as an obstacle for Native Americans, how do not get their rights as human beings like, chances for education and employment( Myers).

In 1926, anti-Indian prejudice social distance scale piloted to see where Native Americans nationally ranked on the scale of prejudice. The survey results was that Native American (middle third groups, i.e.18 out of 28). This ranking remains static until 1977. There was an obvious modification in their position in contrast to other groups. Native Americans as a group face on going discrimination and exclusion, and they carry on search for being totally assimilating within the mainstream society or to look for what is known as pluralism (Myers).

In the article entitled “Common Native American Stereotype” Ridge Way asserts that Native Americans are regarded as alcoholics. This assumption contradicts with the survey published by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). This research indicated that white men are the large group who drinks alcohol at earlier ages, and they are driving under the effects of alcohol. The same study done for Native Americans the results is that they are drinking because they want to get rid from oppression, suffering and other problems (Ridge Way).

The Native Americans also described as, all Native Americans are lazy, this view was mainly held by the Americans. The real sense of lazy person is the one who lacks tangible objectives and he fails in his studies, or lacks what is identified as ‘work ethic ‘this definition is an ethnocentric one, so that Native Americans are far away from laziness. For example, 77 percent have high school degree, and only 13 percent have bachelor’s degree. In addition, 25 older with bachelor’s degree.78 percent in the scientific engineering streams (Ridge Way).

The American society portrays all of them as living in reservations. 22 percent of Native Americans live in reservations not all of them. Native Americans are also stereotyped in a more positive way like being spiritual and wise. Natives have many cultural traditions. It would be inappropriate to generalize; or to say that, every one of them is spiritual and wise at any moment. Like saying, all New Englanders are punctual, and all Southerners are friendly. Alternatively, it is commonly showed on TV or read about it in a book does not make it perfect for everyone, though it can be associated with some of them (Ridge Way).

In addition, American Indians are animal lovers, tree-huggers, and sun-worshippers, Native’s culture is often linked with their love of animals, especially eagles and wolves in addition to, their affection of environment, which makes them worship nature and the earth. The stereotype of worshipping nature appears first when early European immigrants settle in America

who viewed Native peoples raising their hands to the sky in order to pray; they misunderstood it as sun worshipping (Ridge Way).

For Ridge Way the animal-loving stereotype may be traced back to the first European settlement. Due to the harsh circumstances of living Native Americans are encouraged to see the behaviors of animals, to notice how to search and live on not fully formed land. As result Native American descendants that tries to observe and to understand their environment, does not mean they are tree-worshippers or extreme lovers of nature (Ridge Way).

### **1.3.3 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders**

As any other racial groups in the United States Native Hawaiian are, also feel pain from racial prejudices and stereotypes. The Captain James Cook's voyages towards the Pacific Islands, in which he went from Tahiti to other islands, he reached Hawaii on January 1778. Captain Cook and his well-cultured staff observed many stereotypes about the indigenous people of Hawaii; for instance, they were categorized as friendly and hospitable with every one (Lind).

The Europeans called the natives as "wretched creatures," "savages," with the appearance of "half-men and half beast." An officer said that, "Well, if I never before saw beasts in form of men, I have seen them this morning." Another stereotype linked to Native Hawaiians is laziness, which resulted from the plant-holders who described Hawaiian as worthless and in need of nonstop help. These comments, words, and opinions about Native Hawaiians affect indigenous people of Hawaii views about themselves (Lind).

Through history, Pacific Islander as any other racial group in the United States, have received unacceptable behavior, and carry on to have unequal access for several features of American natural life, due to their physical and cultural traits (Uban 12). They often fight to know themselves in to the white world that diminishes their personal and cultural qualities and this can directed to 'racial self-hatred' and to 'low-self-concept' (Sue 141). That is to say, they

will assume the morals and beliefs of the white culture, in addition to the negative attitudes that the main culture grasps about their ethnic or racial group. Such negative attitude toward Pacific Islander is inescapable in the white mainstream culture. For example, white people create negative stereotypes about Pacific Islander men as effeminate or immigrant to be mocked. In comparison to white American women Pacific Islander one's see themselves as less beautiful, not professional, less respected, for sure this negative feelings it may led to low self-esteem and self-hatred (Kurasaki 95).

#### **1.3.4 Asian Americans**

People all over the world have positive image about Asians that they are cool, polite, intelligent, hard workers, patriotic...and so one. Asian Americans in the United States suffer from racial prejudices and stereotypes but not like the great dilemma that African Americans encountered there.

Many racial stereotypes made Asian Americans disappointed. Since, they are seen as submissive, politically passive, and willing. This stereotype is taken from physiological changes in weightiness and tallness between Asian Americans and other racial groups. Submissiveness is western point of view of Asians cultural artistic principles. As well as to, the Asians immigrants who stayed far away from giving themselves much attention, meanwhile they want to live alone and to stay indistinguishable this increase the views of submissiveness (Law 1926).

Asian Americans as a minority group in the United States so-called the "model minority" they are too powerful since they work without forgetting virtues of morality. They rest lower than whites in the social grading, however the model minority, they stand on the top in comparison to other racial minorities. Americans are aggressive with Asian Americans, and they consider them as foreigners. It means that they are practicing violence against Asian Americans who went to another region of another racial area. This territorial invasion can happen, only when an Asian



American voyaged into an inhospitable community, in which unwelcoming people are burn crosses, stuns and gang to attack them. This stereotype of foreignness creates local reactions. Furthermore, Asian Americans are different, because of this difference regarded as foreigners in an American vision (1927).

Asian Americans are considered as the main cause behind the different social and economic problems in America; this why they are violating them. In reality they became the target that suits their accusation. This blaming feedback referred to stereotype of Asian Americans as unfair competitors and modal minorities. Asian Americans perceived as unfair competitors for jobs. Recent statistics suggests that new immigrants do not disturb the employment rates of other groups. Just as in the nineteenth century, Chinese immigrant labors were threatened and killed for taking White jobs in the economically miserable western conditions; Asian Americans are once more being mistreated for financial motives (1928).

Likewise, Asian Americans are supposed to be unfair competitors because they took American's properties. Even though the Asian Americans are economically prosperous, certain Asian American group who recently resettled as refugees from Southeast Asia conquer the lowest treads of the American's financial ranking (1929).

Finally, other racial minorities are also judging Asian Americans of being unfair competitors. In fact, current Asian American immigrants, incapable to find work in the whole continent, regularly they start small business such as, foodstuffs or alcohol stores in urban places, and they live in non-Asian minority areas. Asian Americans are involved in this bad experience because they are responsible of abusing the local community. Americans assumed that the state government and private banks give gifts to Asian Americans; this action counted as privilege that the other racial groups cannot obtain, under these unequal conditions, the turf protection and blaming responses together build up unstable atmosphere full of racial tensions (1930).

To conclude, in the past the United States of America was racial nation that did not tolerate the differences of any minority group. Because of the ongoing, possess of suffering and discrimination that five main racial groups faced in the United States, various types of racial prejudices and stereotypes that hurt their psyche negatively. Hence, in the last decades the United States of America give those groups many rights and freedom, such as, the right to have health care, suffrage, education, get jobs in higher positions. Such as, Barak Obama who was the first black president who won the presidential election of 2009. Still this issue of racial prejudice and stereotype in the American society is a big problem that never ends.

## **Chapter Two**

### **Building Negative Self-Racial Identity among African Americans**

African Americans are considered as the second largest group in the United States of America preceded by Latinos. In the 1619, they were taken to the United States as slaves to work on the white's fields and plantations with lower prices. They lived miserable life there especially during the age of slavery, the Antebellum era, Jim Crow era. On the bases of this, bad circumstance that they have faced in the new world and many psychological problems caused by the dominant people ("Black Americans or African Americans").

The Americans' marginalization and racial discrimination towards African Americans traced back to the early periods, in which Americans usually had a negative impression about blacks in everything. Consequently, African Americans racial and ethnic identity is fragmented, and it is so difficult to be identified even by scholars (Cross).

This chapter identifies the African Americans racial and ethnic identity and highlight the negative self-racial identity among African Americans and its causes. Before tackling these interesting issues, detailed explanations is provided for the two important concepts, which are self and identity.

#### **2.1 Defining the Self and Identity**

Erik Erikson was the one who explained the notion of identity in adult development and personality theory. Erikson suggested a theory of identity development in childhood and adolescence, depending on the Freudian interpretation of development. Erikson proposed that individuals pass over eight stages throughout their existence, each stage dependent on resolving certain problems. Erikson seen identity as a serious problem encountered especially by teenagers. He presented the notions of "identity crisis" and "role confusion" in order to elucidate the link

between infancy and maturity that required to be determined by people to express their role and goals in life and their identity as an adult (Erikson).

In psychology, the self can be defined as somebody's individual experience, unitary, independent that is separate from others, which experienced over time and place. The person's experience comprises consciousness of one's physicality plus one's internal character and emotive life ("Self"). Human being 'self' is composed of various constructs that build every one's identity, first, Self-esteem refers to universal feelings of self-respect or self-value. Second, Self-efficacy is belief in one's ability to be successful at a given task. It has two types; General self-efficacy is belief in one's broad capacity to solve tasks. Specific self-efficacy refers to beliefs about one's capability to accomplish particular tasks (e.g., driving, deliver public speech, learning...etc). Then, Self-confidence refers to the belief about some one's personal worth and probability of succeeding. Self-confidence is a mixture of self-esteem and general self-efficacy (Neill).

Concluding with the important term in self, which is self-concept, also known as, self-identity is one's concept of oneself, it can include opinions of someone about one's skills, failings, position, and value. Sociologists study how self-identity grows, long side with social causes. George Herbert Mead provided significant explanation for the term self-identity, in which he claimed that somebody does not start life by a self, but via social interaction, can improve a his self and self-consciousness ("Self- Identity").

## **2.2 African Americans from "Slavery" to "Yes We Can"**

African Americans during their residence in the United States of America have encountered several issues that never been faced by any other racial or ethnic group, as it is already mentioned in the previous chapter. In this chapter also an attempt to highlight the most important events that

are considered as turning points in American history as a whole and the African American's history in particular.

### **2.2.1 The Thirteen Colonies**

The blacks travel to the new world started in 1619, when Dutch ship carried out 20 Africans in the English colony of Jamestown, Virginia. These blacks were not considered as slaves but were indentured servants worked for specific time, like many other white colonizers. In the 1660s, huge amounts of Africans were carried to the English colonies. In 1790, blacks were 760,000 and made up nearly one-fifth of the United States whole population. Nearly 10 million Africans were taken to the Americas by the slave trade; about 430,000 brought to the region of what is currently identified as the United States ("Black Americans, or African Americans").

In the eighteenth century, exactly during the antebellum period, slaves vended publically, to the persons that offer the best prices for the slave owners. In this case, black family members split up; the purchaser did not want to buy the whole family, except who are very rich. Slave Sales advertised when it known that a slave ship was due to arrive. Posters were exposed everywhere. When the slave boat stopped, the slaves taken off the ship, they would be washed, their skin protected with grease, or from time to time tar, to be healthier. They were branded by a hot iron to identify them as slaves.in order to bring too much many ("Black History in the United States").

The living situations of slaves in the antebellum American South were most horrible for slaves through history. On some plantations, the owners provided the slaves with housing, on others the slaves had to build their own homes. Slaves that had to construct their own houses inclined to make them like the houses they had had in Africa. Ten people sharing a hut. Their beds typically made of straw or old pieces. Slaves who worked in the plantation house generally had better homes and given better food and clothing than those slaves working in the grounds.

Slaves were given one couple of shoes and three pieces of underclothing per year (“Black History in the United States”).

Most slaves had to work from morning to the end of the day. Some slaves worked daily, others permitted slaves to had one day off per month and some allowed their slaves to have Sundays as weekend. Slaves would pass their free time repairing their shelters, making pots and pans and had rest. Some plantation owners provided their slaves a small land to grow things to survive (“Black History in the United States”).

White colonists, like the Quakers and the black slaves who wanted to liberate themselves from the segregated power of the aristocrats were the ones who fired early abolition movement in North America. Yet the principles of the Revolutionary period strengthened the movement. In the early 19th century, however, a recent kind of radical abolitionism appeared in the North, as a reaction to Congress’ passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 and the decrease of slave cyphers in many southern states. William Lloyd Garrison, a journalist from Massachusetts, who created the abolitionist newspaper “The Liberator” in 1831 and turn out to be as the most radical of America’s antislavery protestors. Antislavery northerners free blacks and helped fugitive slaves to run away from southern plantations to the North via network of homes as the 1780s (“Black History Timeline”).

### **2.2.2 The Civil War**

The promotion of slavery to novel regions had been a topic of national political debate since the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 banned slavery in the space currently well known as the Midwest. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 permitting alike number of slave and free states in the Union. While, the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas Nebraska Act of 1854, and the Supreme Court’s Dred Scott decision of 1857 allowed slavery in all the places of the country (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

By the end of the 1850s, the North was anxious about the total control of the state by slaveholding interests, and the white Southerners supposed that the Northerners would destruct their way of life. Whites who live in the South had been disillusioned by Northern defiance of the federal Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and had been terrified in 1859 by the attack at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, headed by the white abolitionist John Brown. When Abraham Lincoln was selected as the US president in 1860 on the antislavery policy of the new Republican Party, the Southern states split out from the Union and they form their own Confederation (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

The Civil War, which freed all states from slavery, arose in 1861. However, protection of the Union did not mean slavery was banned; the President Lincoln aimed in ongoing emancipation, with the federal government return the properties of slaveholders that they missed before. In September 1862, he initiated the Emancipation Proclamation, stating that all slaves living in states that were conflicting with the United States as of January 1, 1863 were to be liberated. Because of the Union victory in the Civil War and the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment in the Constitution 1865, approximately four million black slaves were liberated. The Fourteenth Amendment 1868 gave blacks citizenship, and the Fifteenth Amendment 1870 assured their right of voting. Yet the Reconstruction era was one of dissatisfaction and frustration for blacks, since were totally ignored especially the once who lived in the South (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

After the Civil War, people moved everywhere to look for jobs. They were mostly in need of food, clothing, and housing. The Southern states passed rules like the slave codes of slave times. These laws limited the movement of the previous slaves to force them to work as plantation workers for their prior chiefs at low salaries. Then in 1865, the federal Freedmen’s Bureau, established by Congress, gave the previous slaves food, occupations and homes. The

bureau built hospitals and schools, as an institute of advanced education the Fisk University and Hampton Institute (nowadays Hampton University) as well as northern humanitarian agencies, such as the American Missionary Association (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

In the Reconstruction age, blacks were politically involved for the first time in the south. Their bosses were mainly clergymen, lawyers, and teachers who had been thought in the North or out of the country. Amongst the competent were Robert B. Elliott of South Carolina and John R. Lynch of Mississippi. Both were presenters of their state in the House of Representatives and were members of the U.S. Congress. Jonathan Gibbs worked as Florida’s secretary of state and inspector of education. Between 1869 and 1901, 20 black representatives and 2 black senators served in the U.S. Congress (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

The black’s political authority was not last for long period. By 1872, nearly all leaders of the Confederation had been forgiven and were capable to elect and hold office. Via the financial burden and the terrorist actions of hostile anti-black groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), blacks were taken off from the elections. By 1877, with the removal of the final federal troops from the South, Southern whites were taking the whole power. No black was to function in the U.S. Congress over three decades after the withdrawal of George H. White of North Carolina in 1901. The revival of white supremacy in the South was linked to the growing imposed racial discrimination. Beginning with Tennessee in 1870, all the Southern states recreated rules to forbid racial intermarriage. They also passed Jim Crow laws to separate all blacks and whites in all public spaces. By 1885, most Southern states had isolated their public schools (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

In the post-Reconstruction years, blacks had small opportunities of work in Southern cities. Few rural blacks in the South possessed farms, most lasting poor farmers who is in debt to white landowners. The urban Northern blacks live in improved conditions. The works they required



were given to white European immigrants. Many blacks migrated westward to look for good life. Certain free slaves went to Texas; they work for higher wages in farming. Other slaves went to Oklahoma or Kansas to search for land to farm. In Kansas and later on in the state of Oklahoma, blacks as whites became homesteaders, who could get free land from the federal government if they settled there and cultivated it for a period of time. Many blacks said that Kansas was an antislavery state that offered good chances for political, social, and economic equality (“Black Americans, or African Americans”).

Throughout and after the Reconstruction age, blacks in the cities prepared for historical, literary, and musical communities. The literary successes of blacks were due to the historical literatures of T. Thomas Fortune and George Washington Williams the *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* (1881) it was a classical autobiography. Blacks influenced the American culture through the attractiveness of these groups like the Fisk Jubilee Singers (“Black Americans, or African Americans”)

### **2.2.3. The Twentieth Century**

On June 1905, a group headed by the black professor W.E.B. Du Bois met at Niagara Falls, Canada, in order to generate a new political protests movement to call for civil rights of blacks. As America’s urban inhabitants growing up, it challenged shortages of employment and housing, violent hostility to African Americans had augmented nearby the country; lynching was wrongdoing, but was an extensive practice among the African American confines. A flood of race unrests mainly the one of Springfield, Illinois in 1908 gave a sense of urgency to the Niagara Movement and its followers. In 1909 they combined their program with that of a new perpetual civil rights organization the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Among the NAACP’s definite aims were the elimination of all enforced discrimination, the application of the 14th and 15th Amendments, equal education for blacks and

whites and complete suffrage of all black men. NAACP established in Chicago had extended to more than 400 locations by 1921. Du Bois edited the NAACP's official magazine, "*The Crisis*", from 1910 to 1934, publishing African American literature and politics; it paved the way for the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s ("Black History Timeline").

In the 1920's, the excessive migration of blacks from the South to the North led to the emergence of African American cultural rebirth, which took its name from the New York City neighborhood of Harlem but later turned to be a prevalent movement in cities through the North and West. Also called the Black Renaissance or the New Negro Movement, the Harlem Renaissance made the mainstream publishers and critics to focus on African American literature, music, art and politics. Blues singer Bessie Smith, pianist Jelly Roll Morton, bandleader Louis Armstrong, composer Duke Ellington, dancer Josephine Baker, and actor Paul Robeson were among the leading figures of the Harlem Renaissance, while Paul Laurence Dunbar, James Weldon Johnson, Claude McKay, Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston were considered as the most fluent writers. The black writers depend on white owned publications and publishing houses ("Black History Timeline").

Indeed, due to the campaign of nonaggressive resistance defended by Martin Luther King Jr in the late 1950s, the civil rights movement became more powerful in the United States by 1960. In the same year, John F. Kennedy made new civil rights legislation as an essential part of his presidential campaign policy; he gained more than 70 percent African-American vote. Later on Congress was debating Kennedy's civil rights restructuring law when he was murdered by bullet in Dallas, Texas in November 1963 ("Black History Timeline").

From 1950's to 1980's, the black population in America's urban cities augmented from 6.1 million to 15.3 million, at the same moment, white Americans gradually traveled from the cities. "affirmative action" defined as the rules and initiatives that were targeted for changing the old

fashioned views of discrimination that were based on race, color of skin, gender, religious conviction or national origin. The term was first utilized by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, since he called the federal government to employ African Americans. In the mid-1970s, many minority candidates were studying in colleges. At the University of California at Davis, for instance, 16 percent of its medical school's charges were directed to minority students.

Affirmative action became a controversial problem, with the rising of opposition movement announcing that what is named "racial playing field" was now equal and that African Americans did not require specific concern to overcome their disadvantages. Over time, the Supreme Court narrowed the opportunities of affirmative action plans, though many states forbidden racially constructed affirmative action ("Black History Timeline").

In October 1995, thousands of black men collected in Washington, D.C. for the Million Man March, one of the biggest protests in the capital. It was directed by the Minister Louis Farrakhan. Farrakhan had asserted control over the Islamic nations (recognized as the Black Muslims). The walk was planned to bring out a kind of spiritual rebirth among black males, and to raise their sense of unity and to make them aware of their responsibility to develop their standards of living. Some organizers assumed that it would invalidate a number of the stereotypical negative images of black males that were presented in the American society through a very long period of time. At that moment, the U.S. administration's "war on drugs" had sent a huge number of blacks to jail. The number of contributors in the Million Man March almost from 400,000 to more than 1 million, and the merchants victory encouraged the organization of a Million Woman March in 1997 in Philadelphia ("Black History Timeline").

#### **2.2.4. The Twenty First Century**

On January 20, 2009, Barack Obama became the 44th president of the United States as the first African American to reach this office. His father was from African descents exactly from

Kenya. His mother was from Kansas. Obama grew up in Hawaii. He employed in Chicago for many years as a community organizer. He studied at Harvard Law School and practiced constitutional law in Chicago in 1996. Then he worked in the Illinois State Senate in 2004 and later declared his candidature for a recently empty chair in the U.S. Senate. He delivered an inspiring speech; his principles were attracting to national attention through his powerful call for national accord and collaboration across party lines. In February 2007, after he turned out to be the third African American voted to the U.S. Senate since Reconstruction. In addition, in 2008 Obama nominated himself for the US democratic presidential elections (“Black History Timeline”).

After withstanding Democratic primary fight with Hillary Clinton, the New York senator, Obama won the Senator John McCain of Arizona in the general election of November. Obama’s arrival in the primaries and the general election represented notable crowds, and his message of optimism and modification exemplified by the slogan “Yes We Can” attracted thousands of novel supporters, many young and black, to perform their vote for the first time (“Black History Timeline”).

### **3.3. African Americans Racial and Ethnic Identity**

The bad treatments that African Americans experienced in the United States of America created troubles in their racial and ethnic identity. On one hand, African Americans ethnic identity is strong, in which they want to be nearer to each other and they love anyone else from the African descents. Such as, African Americans with high ethnic identity like to shop in black-owned stores and utilize black-services. While people with a negative ethnic identity involves in practices that are linked to whites since they influence them. They consider themselves as unable in everything and they belong to the white majority. They also blame themselves about their

social standards, like, poverty, furthermore, blacks are not motivated enough, they do not know how to take advantage of everything (Helms).

Most African Americans racial identity is unstable between the low and the high levels, they may obsess the African American identity in one time they may divorced it in another time. Sometimes blacks believe that is acceptable to go to an African American doctor for health care. However, concerning education many blacks think that white school is so good for their kids instead of black school (Belgrave et al.). Some studies came to conclude that African American girls had strong ethnic identity. Girls with strong ethnic identity did not consume many drugs and are less sexual and prevent themselves from pregnancy than African American girls with weak ethnic identity. (Corneill et al.). Therefore, girls with high ethnic identity got good averages at school in addition to good relations with their colleagues. They are involved in moral actions and like to aid others. However, girls with low ethnic identity put limits between them and other African Americans and have wrong ideas about anyone who belongs to African origins (Belgrave et al.).

On the other hand, many psychologists explore African Americans racial identity. Since, it is real issue in the United States of America. The African Americans racial identity is developing, unstable and multifaceted (Jaret). Social specialists recommended that is not an easy task to define African Americans racial identity since it differs from one person to another. The black's racial identity is very complex (Cross). Academics have different points of view about African Americans racial identity, including, "racial categorization", "and Closeness", "Black separatism", "Racial self-esteem" (Porter et al.).

Other researchers focused on general behaviors of group identity. The mainstream scholars state that African Americans racial identity built on the group's dissatisfaction and their place in society. Another research made by sociologists about children "Racial Preferences" and "Self-

Identification”. From the research made they can observe that African American children were incapable to decide about the group in which they belong to. As conclusion, African American children had a bad image about their own race than white children; thus, African Americans “self- hatred” is an important concept that the mainstream experts made inquiries about (Seller et al.).

Unlike the previous explanations that are focused on the group’s identity in the 1960’s, African Americans racial identity were centered on “individuality”, “subjugation” and the “cultural experience” of blacks (Cross). Then in 1971, it was defined as stages of identity that change from one person to the other during his life. William E. Cross is a theorist and researcher in the field of ethnic identity development, specifically Black identity development. He is best known for his Nigrescence Model, first detailed in a 1971 publication, and his book *Shades of Black* published in 1991. He called this procedure as the “nigrescence” is a resocializing experience, the former identity or (a non-Afrocentric identity) was transformed to an Afrocentric identity (Cross).

Afrocentric or what Gains and Reed named “underground approach” means that African Americans racial identity was based on the physical components, cultural and political groupings, ancestry and history. The Afrocentric approach emphasized on seven main principles, specifically “self- determination”, “collective work and responsibility”, “cooperative economics”, “purpose”, “creativity and faith”. These principals are representational not materialistic as the Eurocentric model (Jaret).

From the previous explanations of the African American racial identity, the black racial identity is very complex and so difficult to be understood. This rigid identity linked to countless negative factors. From the researches made, the African American racial identity is unstable for these important reasons. First, due to the low self-esteem of African Americans that is to say they

under devalue themselves. In addition, they are not strong enough to solve any problem that faced them such as failure in study, etc. Besides, to the negative racial prejudices and stereotypes that the main stream society think about blacks, they have considered as the main causes for the African Americans misery. Then African Americans self- hatred, because they obsessed by the white's mentality and dreaming of big houses, beauty, wealth, etc. this may led to the loss of identity. In addition to anxiety, hostility, and depression. In short, African American racial and ethnic identity investigated by many psychologists through time. Their identity is so complex and changed from one person to another because of many reasons anxiety, low- self-esteem, depression and hostility caused by the mainstream society. As well as to the negative prejudices and stereotypes that the dominant power think about African Americans.

## **Chapter Three**

### **The Underlying Causes of Horizontal Hostility within African Americans**

The American people are intolerant because of the bad treatment that they offer to African Americans along time. To the extent that they make them criminals and they become violent towards each other and sometimes, killing each other (Hubert). The term used for describing this phenomenon is horizontal hostility, it was first utilized in 1970 (Kennedy). This phenomenon is very important to be studied in details to decipher the real meaning given by scholars to the concept moreover, to highlight the several causes, which led the African Americans fall under this dangerous issue.

In the third chapter, great importance devoted to the meaning of horizontal hostility as well as on the causes of horizontal hostility among blacks, then with the mainstream society and the relationship between African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos in the United States. What is horizontal hostility? What are its embedding causes? In others words, what makes African Americans hold racist and stereotypical thoughts towards each other that result in either psychological and physical violence.

#### **3.1 What is Horizontal Hostility?**

Horizontal hostility is a term coined by the African American feminist Florynce Kennedy, in her paper entitled “Institutionalized Oppression vs. the Female” in the 1970’s printed in the anthology entitled “Sisterhood is Powerful” edited by Robin Morgan (Penelope 60). The concept dates back to the commencement of Women’s Release. If this label is as ancient as Women's Freedom, this means that it is an old issue (Thompson 1).

The topic of this research had been the concern for several researchers and academics in the United States of America. Professor June Chisholm in an article entitled “Culture, Ethnicity,



Race and Class” explains the main stimulus for infighting among members of the subordinate group namely horizontal hostility by arguing that self-hatred is often the result of the internalization of the dominant group’s beliefs that those who are subordinates are substandard defective and inferior. She then adds that self-hatred takes superordinate forms and differs from one subordinate group to another. Both African American men and women preference for light skin and devaluation of dark skin indicates negative views about the self (96).

Artz Sibylle, Bell Hooks and others came to conclude that horizontal hostility occurs when members of subordinate groups attack members of their own group or other group, because of beliefs, expectations and thoughts internalized from the mainstream society. It can take many forms, including inter-group violence, intra-group violence, spoken abuse and name-calling and relationship abuse among others (Sibylle et al. qtd. in Williams 96)

Other works tracking the jeopardies of horizontal hostility include psychologist Audré Lorde who advocated that infighting among black people lead to many problems that threatens their lives (Lorde qtd in. Brown 1014). In her article entitled “What are Horizontal Hostilities?” Professor Laura Martocci quoted the psychologist Judith White who had come to conclude that horizontal hostility occurs between groups whom one would expect to have close affinities (*Psychology Today*).

Susan Pharr noticed that the phenomenon of “blaming the victim” is a universal characteristic of subjugation. The victim who was born in a place that is full of violence, accusations, victim hating, such signs lead to low self-esteem and self-blame in the victim. The «victim blaming” results is mainly internalized oppression, which appears when the victims of subjugation accept the damaging beliefs of the tyrant group. The result is misery, depression and self-abuse. Internalized oppression in turn is the main clue to horizontal hostility. If one has hatred for membership in a minority group, then this hatred can be turned to the other members

of the same target group such as the negative phenomenon of black-on-black violence, or even the hostility between African-Americans, Asians and Latinos (Pharr).

### **3.2. Black on Black Violence: the Main Factors**

#### **3.2.1. An Aggressive Environment**

Inter-group violence or black-on-black violence is not novel issue in the Americas, yet the reasons of this hostile comportment are multi-layered: such as, gang violence, drugs, illegal births and other social reasons (Hubert).

Alfred McCoy the professor of history in the University of Wisconsin- Madison stated that the hardest stages of discrimination that many black males raised up in, the reduced employment occasions, and failing schools, the probabilities for young black males to improve a sense of healthy self-worth are narrowed (Alfred qtd. in Hubert).

According to the reasons stated before, black people find themselves locked in an organized cycle. Parents involved in illegal actions pass on the violence to their children. It frequently happens when generations of children are born to, and then rose up in aggressive and criminal families. In such environment, in which families having kids without an official education and any job, despair sets in. The only possibility left for them is to choose the wrong way to fulfill their desires, which is a life of wrong doings in gangs, drugs and killing (Hubert). Pete Papa Herakles a writer and political cartoonist in *The American Free Press* affirmed that over the past 35 years in America, an estimated 324,000 blacks have been murdered of colleague blacks.

Greatest numbers of black-on-black crimes take place over drugs and gang territory, those people have the ability to kill, and they do those crimes because of the violation of one gang member on another gang's territory or over agreement gone wrong. Although the United States is one large sovereign union, comprises certain deadly separating lines. These homicides often take the form of drive-by shootings, sudden attacks; settle a score with their opponents (Hubert).

Education, jobs and free enterprise are the elementary requirements to solve black-on-black crimes. The majority of criminals do not have a high school certificate; others do not work at all or do not get employment for long periods. To modify their actions, the United States need to involve black communities in education and in job training occasions. However, it is up to the blacks for getting out from this problem, and no one can impose it on them. John Harrington chief of metro transit police said that “black-on-black crime is due to two serious issues influencing Black America: the great amount of illegal births and gangs” (Hubert)

In other words, when blacks moved from the south to the urban north to search for better economic status, they turn to be jobless, homeless and poor. These bad conditions push them to be violent for getting their rights. Consequently, in the mid-1960, the frustration and irritation of urban African American societies break out into sequences of violent rebellions. The riots started in summer of 1965 in Watts, a black neighborhood in Los Angeles and California where the damage included African Americans neighborhoods (D’Orso).

The 1960’s riots were attacks of blacks against the system of harassment and frustration. It targeted white owners of businesses functioning in black neighborhoods as well as the police. Who were seen as the armed forces of occupation their power was the direct cause of unrests (Conot).

### **3.2.2. The American Criminal Justice System**

In addition to the reasons stated above, the American criminal justice system is also considered the cause of black on black violence. Due to the legitimate protests made by African Americans in the United States of America, there is a detailed history of racist law enforcement practices and police oppression of subgroups. What is noticed clearly about those who want to discuss black-on-black violence as contrasting to the catastrophe of police officers shooting and killing people, they have never go to any black communities in the nation. If they did so, they

would know about the black's high numbers of crimes and murder in their communities, besides, the socioeconomic circumstances occurred there. There are neighborhood organizations in many societies in the country functioning to decrease gang and gun violence. In cities like, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Oakland, Chicago they have hospital-based or hospital-affiliated violence interference programs that aid people not to return to crimes again among those who were suffered from violent trauma via using a bio psychosocial framework to diminish danger factors. Those who wish to bend attention from African Americans killing by police should not know about the presence of such programs and organizations. Since the American media does not show the demonstrations against black-on-black violence this does reflect that these protests are not happening. May be the media just finds it suitable to disregard black societies that do their best to control violence (Peoples).

The central problem here is that when black people kill black people they enter to prison. This not often occurs with police officers. Many persons joining several demonstrations express their crime politely to police officers but do not held the responsibility. The black community is making great efforts to end up this serious subject of black-on-black violence. What is not helpful are corporate media, changing the topic, accusing the wrong person, and placing the community at fault for its own subjugation due to an assumed moral failing. In addition, they found themselves obliged to obey the criminal justice system, where they are sometimes accused wrongly by the police (Peoples).

### **3.3 Intra-Racial Hostility in the United States**

#### **3.3.1. Blacks and Latinos Race Relations**

African Americans and Latino relations have been influenced by the wider sense of race in the United States. As usual, race in the Americas built on the inseparable binary of black and white conflicts. Latinos are not appropriate into this division. Latinos claimed that the white

racial identity affected their relationships with the blacks. For African Americans and Latinos, discrimination hinders the good working relations. The two groups were often segregating each other, the act of being unseen by the mainstream society. This invisibility directly leads the bad relations. Latinos and blacks tried to improve their relations throughout the civil rights period, from the 1940s to the 1970s. Many civil rights demonstrations created alliances that brought the two groups together in combined campaigns. This was particularly the situation for rebellious groups such as the black Panther Party, the Mexican American Brown Berets, and the Puerto Rican Young Lords, as well as in the Poor People's Campaign. Interactions among African Americans and Mexican American, Puerto Rican, and Cuban/Cuban American exemplify the profound and the complex sense of race consciousness in American history, mainly in the period of the civil rights movement (Behnken).

### **3.3.2. Blacks and Asians Race Relations**

Blacks and Asians race relations in American noticed a dangerous turning point during the 1992 Los Angeles uprising. It could be argued that both Asians and blacks hold responsibility for the violence and that both communities receive similar blame hostility. The Chicago riots were not the sole example of black/Asian violence in the U.S there is a long history of black-Asian separation in America, and the tensions reached its highest level in 1990's during the New York and Los Angeles. In 1990, the Flatbush boycott, also known as the Family Red Apple boycott when a Haitian woman was attacked by workers of the Korean-owned grocery in Brooklyn's black Flatbush community. Black protestors called for the boycott of all Korean-owned stores (Tso).

In 1991, an Asian storeowner called Soon Ja Du killed Latasha Harlins a 15 years old black teenager. Latasha was accused of stealing a bottle of orange juice from the store. A safety camera video couched the girl carried money in her hand to pay the person who made the crime. The

Asian storeowner did not enter to prison. Harlins' death is considered as a facilitator to the 1992 Los Angeles unrests, the objective of such riots were Korean-owned stores, looted, and destroyed. On March 2019 Sung Ho Lim a Korean owner was recorded choking a black female customer he supposed of robbery. These scandalous events turn out to be representative of black-Korean conflict, which has been generally studied and investigated (Tso).

### **3.4. Horizontal Hostility in the American Media**

The media has an important role in American race relations from the days of slavery. The black media was used as a source of protest against racial discrimination and a disseminator of news for and about the black community from its appearance in the early 19th century. However, black America stayed invisible in mainstream journalism but only the criminal news that are informed by the white press. During the 1950s and 1960s the media turns its focus on African American citizens, by highlighting the injustices they confronted to a national and international audiences. The white press covered the fight for black liberty defined its nature, chronology, and successes in popular understanding and memory (Goodwin).

Black Americans and particularly the black males are overrepresented as committers of crime in U.S. news media. This is right when observing the rate of violent crime. For example, one study of late-night news outlets in New York City in 2014 found that the media reported on murder, theft, and assault cases in which black people were suspects at a rate that far outpaced their actual arrest rates for these crimes. The news media also vilifies black people by presenting black crime suspects as more threatening than their white counterparts. It does this in several ways, such as by showing the mug shots of black suspects more frequently than those of white suspects do; depicting black suspects in police custody more often; and paying greater attention to cases where the victim is a stranger (Sun).

On the other side, Some U.S. mass media like the Chicago media show the positive side of the African American community and help them to overcome black on black violence. “Black on black crime changed by black on black love” was an expression used by educational campaigns to spread out respect, discipline, and self-esteem among blacks (Stengel). Chicago’s media, politicians, police department, judicial officials, business leaders, clergy, health care professionals among others who are involved in constructing “No Crime Day”. Every year the occasion wined more interest from community leaders who have real impact on the black society; there is high media coverage of the occasion (Bell 168).

Another effort of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) who were involved to raise awareness about the issue of black on black murder by selling stop black on black murder T-shirts. The sellers were relying on media to sell those T-shirts, namely CMHC radio series. Over one thousand T-shirts sold to physicians, congressional representative, personalities and mayors of the most important cities. It was reported on the front page of *The New York Times* newspaper in which the Slogan of stop black on black murder accompanied with the picture of the T-shirt vender, it is also resulted in national electronic media coverage (Staver).

### **3.5. Eliminating Horizontal Hostility within the African American Community**

Many blacks believe that to end up the widespread of hostility, people must to go to church to pray while, the federal government must develop suitable welfare system deprived of corruption. Many Black and white activists, who work for the total modification, believe that it is totally wrong to think that the blacks will resolve their problems of violence in their community by themselves. They rather propose that the federal government must give black citizens other alternatives to keep on living in welfare. First, the government must offer drug treatment programs to aid poor black people to stop drug addiction and give them chance to live normal lives without crimes. Second, it must reorganize and enhance their schools to give black kids

have an alternative to drug and abuse. In Washington D.C, most black kids cannot read or write beyond fifth or the sixth grade level. If black youth were offered education, job training and beneficial alternatives, many of them will choose to get regular jobs. The third alternative is that the government should organize public works program for black teenagers like the work progress Administration (WAP) programs of 1930's. The government must register black youth in restoring high ways and constructing dams, through this workable welfare program the black people will get rid of violence and crime (Suderow 1686-87).

As a conclusion, black-to-black relation in the United States of America became very weak while they begin to violate one another. Through the huge amounts of the researches made, some of them said that the blacks who hold the responsibility for being criminals towards each other. On the other hand, some researchers said that is white made but they are accusing blacks since they do not want to be punished. In the few last decades, African Americans became aware about the issue and they try to find solutions for this problem. By finding peaceful ways for enhancing their economic and social status, and to vote an ideal person for each city to defend blacks rights ...etc. In this way, they may live far from the disputes that hurt them and their families as a whole.



## Conclusion

Although the United States is a multiracial society, but the white majority in the top of the scale, in which they control these minorities in everything. To the degree that lives of those people do not matter, what truly matters for them is their children, their special needs, and properties. The whites' negative interaction with minorities is somehow acceptable, what about the high tension between them and the native citizens of the country. As if they take the land by force and they consider it as their own property.

The cruel history of African Americans in the United States of America does not differ from the one of Native Americans. In which they prejudged and labeled by many negative judgments and names, such as, they accused of being, sexual, criminals ...etc. besides to other names like, the Savage, the Sambo...etc. We cannot forget the positive descriptions given to black Americans; for instance, they defined as, stylish, good at rhythm, music, especially jazz, and blouse, in addition, that they are good athletes. In fact, racial prejudice and stereotype affect African Americans psyche negatively, in which the high rates of deaths among them is very high. To clarify more, the majority of blacks are dying because of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and cancer...etc.

Racial identity is a debatable subject that has been discussed by many specialists in the field to know the reasons behind the complexity and the changeability, of the blacks' racial identity. The results is very clear, the whites supremacy over the blacks, long history of racism, discrimination, racial inequality, self-hatred, low self-esteem, besides, to racial prejudices and stereotypes given by the dominate class and easily absorbed by the African Americans. That is to say the blacks identity is very weak this why the whites found the opportunity to annoy blacks and even to make them violent towards each other, and to miss the miserable life that the whites made for them.

In short, blacks on blacks violence or horizontal hostility among African Americans is due to many reasons like, poverty, unemployment, homelessness, besides to the criminal justice system who tolerate crimes on one hand and on the other hand who do not care about the blacks life. This phenomenon will not last forever since some blacks became aware about the dangerous consequences of this hostility. By finding solutions which satisfy the two sides such as searching for jobs to live.

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