

Review of Manuscript

Light Supremacy vis-à-vis Non-White Immigrants as Racism in the 21st Century: A Question of Color By

Ronald E. Hall, Ph.D., Professor
School of Social Work
Michigan State University

This manuscript defines and discusses light supremacy from a historical context and in comparison with and contrast to white supremacy. The author offers insight into the groups of voluntary and forced immigrants to the United States from the early 1500s to 1990s. He further explores the advantages assumed by light-skinned non-White immigrants and how such perpetuates racism not by race but by skin color. Data is presented to give evidence of the high rate of hate crimes against dark-skinned individuals compared to Whites or light-skinned individuals. Concluding points emphasize that light-skinned Latinos, Asian Americans, and non-White Asian immigrants project racist attitudes and light supremacy towards African Americans in choices made relative to marriage, employment, home environment, and citizenship approval. This manuscript presents a strong argument of the legitimacy and impact of racism by skin color with an appeal to intellectual and political communities to acknowledge this reality.

As a reader who is unfamiliar with the concept light supremacy, the author offered a comprehensive explanation of the concept and application of the term in historical and current contexts. However, there was some struggle to appreciate some of the historical data. For example, page 10 discuss hate crimes from late 1990s and then as recent as 2013. It is not clear if the intent is to demonstrate a pattern with who has been the victims of said crimes or to highlight the types of crimes committed.

I support publication of this manuscript as it offers insight to a topic area that, although not a popular area of interest, is an area that continues to contribute to high levels of racism in the United States evidenced in high incidence incarceration, premature death, unemployment, poorer health outcomes and underrepresentation in higher education among African Americans.