The construction, negotiation, and transformation of racial identity in American football: a study of Native and African Americans

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For millions of Americans, issues of racial and ethnic identification are frequently complicated, a legacy of the country’s endless waves of immigration as well as its long history of slavery and expansion into Native American lands across the continent. “Passing” as white was not uncommon in the pre-Civil Rights era, when strict separation between African-Americans and whites was generally expected in many places. Below is a selection of research on race, ethnicity and identity in the United States. Findings support social identity theory in showing that African Americans strongly identify with their group and view it very positively. The construction of race in Latin America is different from, for example, the model found in the United States, possibly because race mixing has been a common practice since the early colonial period, whereas in the United States it has generally been avoided.[4]. Blanqueamiento[edit]. Main article: Blanqueamiento. Blanqueamiento, or whitening, is a social, political, and economic practice used to "improve" the race (mejorar la raza) towards whiteness. [5] The term blanqueamiento is rooted in Latin America and is used more or less synonymous with racial whitening.