

Professor Armes

ENGL 1320

18 Sept 2019

Annotated Bibliography

Butler-Sweet, Colleen. "A Healthy Black Identity' Transracial Adoption, Middle-Class Families, and Racial Socialization." *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, vol. 42, no. 2, Mar. 2011, pp. 193–212. *Academic Search Complete*, EBSCOhost, doi:10.3138/jcfs.42.2.193. Accessed 18 Sept. 2019.

The purpose of this article is to educate the public on transracial adoption, more specifically, real effects of black children being adopted into white middle-class home and how they are forced to assimilate into unknown society. It also serves the purpose of educating people on the effects black children adopted into the same race middle class homes and also their transition into unknown culture. The primary audience are critics of transracial adoption so they can learn the actual effects and results on the adoptees. The secondary audience are also parents of adopted children so they can be educated on the effects of their parenting and their influence on their child's identity so they can better use this information to help improve their children's life. The vocabulary chosen by Butler-Sweet were words such as; identity crises, acting white, acting black, authentic blackness, struggle, issues, difficulty, and disadvantages depict the issues that arise from not only transracial adoption and also different class tensions. The words fully depict the struggle that is brought about through same race adoption and cultural differences. The

claim Butler-Sweet presents is not only addressing the fact transracial adoption brings negative effects on black children, but so does the same race adoption and they are more similar effects than people may believe. She elaborates on the fact that even though in transracial adoption, black children may suffer unknown cultural identity, there is still the same effects within same race adoption due to social class differences. Due to black middle class not fulfilling the black stereotype, she describes how children raised in those environments still struggle adjusting to society.

Camblin Jr., Lathan D., and Joel Milgram. "Reflections on Transracial Adoptions: Two Fathers' Perspectives." *Social Work*, vol. 27, no. 6, Nov. 1982, pp. 535–535. *Academic Search Complete*, EBSCOhost, doi:10.1093/sw/27.6.535. Accessed 19 Sept. 2019.

The purpose of this article is to give perspective into the mindset and ideas of parents of transracial adoptees, more specifically the perspective of white families (fathers) adopting black daughters and helping them assimilate into society which is predominantly white. The primary audience is the critics of transracial adoption, more specifically critics of white families adopting black children, bring light to the reasoning and actual truth of the white families who adopt black children from the perspective of actual people rather than just statistics. The secondary audience is the current and past US society to encourage them to reflect on the environment they are raising their children. The authors highlight many points as to where society should be more evolved and connected by now, but sadly it is not. The word choice that Camblin Jr. and Milgram use, such as; different, pitfalls, lose contact, concerns, judging, sensitive, identity crises, and ashamed, depict the point the authors are trying to get across and even cause the article to deeply resonate within the reader through using such descriptive words. The claim Camblin Jr

and Milgram present is that the world needs to be more open minded to not only transracial adoption, but black culture and white culture becoming assimilated and making society one instead of two halves of a whole. The author's state towards the end of their article they thought by the time of their daughters getting older that the world would be more open and have equal opportunities of a fair life for blacks, but they were wrong for hoping so. They also present their claim that transracial is not "cultural genocide", but instead they are indeed teaching their children their background while also introducing them to their culture as well.

Godon-Decoteau, Danielle, and Patricia G. Ramsey. "Positive and Negative Aspects of Transracial Adoption: An Exploratory Study from Korean Transracial Adoptees' Perspectives." *Adoption Quarterly*, vol. 21, no. 1, Jan. 2018, pp. 17–40. *EBSCOhost*, doi:10.1080/10926755.2017.1387209.

The purpose of this article is to educate the world on the struggle and benefits of transracial adoption from the point of view of the actual adoptees, to describe and acknowledge how hard it is to find an identity within household who is different than your own. The primary audience are to those who do not fully understand the life of a Korean TRIA (transracial international adoptee). The word choice used in some parts of the article such as prejudice, racism, discrimination, ignorance, stereotypes, etc were all used to clearly describe the negative aspects of being not only a Korean TRIA, but just being a TRIA in general. While other word choice in the article like unique, loving, supportive, acceptance, and opportunity describe all of the positive aspects of being an TRIA. The claim the article was portraying was that there are many unknown sides of transracial adoption, while some may believe it is purely a negative thing it displays that there are positive aspects and

vice versa. The article had multiple opinions on TRIA given by the adoptees which ultimately came out to be 2% more negative feedback than positive. The evidence that was used to back up these claims was a research project conducted called “the Survey of Korean Transracial Adoptees.” The adoptees were first given a survey on SurveyMonkey. Following the survey, the adoptees were given two free response questions to give their own personal aspect on the positives and negatives of transracial adoption. To make sure the researchers remained unbiased they didn’t define exactly what positive and negative meant to them.

O'Brian, Charles. “Transracial Adoption in Hong Kong.” *Child Welfare*, vol. 73, no. 4, July 1994, pp. 319–330. *Academic Search Complete*, EBSCOhost, libproxy.library.unt.edu:9443/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=24227499&scope=site. Accessed 18 Sept. 2019.

The purpose of this article is to educate and voice an opinion on TRA (transracial adoption) in Hong Kong. Through this article you see the standards that Chinese culture upholds and the negative impact it holds on the community of children locally and abroad. The primary audience is the Hong Kong citizens and government to enlighten them on the consequences of the current system of adoption in Hong Kong and to encourage them to re-visit their procedures. The secondary audience are the non-native families seeking to adopt in Hong Kong, who are of another ethnicity, to educate them on the consequences they may have on the child’s life and also why they are even able to adopt in Hong Kong. The vocabulary chosen by O’Brian included words such as abandonment, structural racism, alternative, and unfavorable give a little insight to the bias O’Brian contains on the topic, which obviously is a negative connotation. The vernacular he decides to use fully shows the sad side of TRA in Hong Kong. O’Brian also uses

words like stability, growth, education, and conventional shows the somewhat positive aspect of TRA, but it is really just stating things the children should have already. The claim O'Brian is trying to present is that Hong Kong society still has much growth to do in order to attend to the children in their ward without families because while these predominantly European and/or Caucasian families that are adopting the children provide them with a stable life, they are still lacking their cultural identity. To back up his claim he uses examples of different adoptees from Hong Kong such as a young boy from a "unfavorable background" which led to a same race couple not wanting him and also a special needs boy being neglected in ward homes due to special need causing him to be unfavorable.

Papke, David Ray. "Transracial Adoption in the United States: The Reflection and Reinforcement of Racial Hierarchy." *Utah Law Review*, vol. 15, no. 4, July 2013, pp. 57–80. *EBSCOhost*, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=97505306&scope=site.

The purpose of this article is to bring light to the racial hierarchy and white dominance that is supported through transracial adoption, it also delves into cultural issues, political issues, and racial tensions that have arisen as a result of transracial adoption of minority groups. The primary audience is the white community who adopt or looking to adopt minority children so they can be educated on the effects they may have and to influence them on reflecting on their choice. The secondary audience are political leaders to educate them on where they have failed minority groups and how to improve their reforms on transracial adoption. The word choice such as whiteness, post racial, desperate, subordination, superior, and hierarchy describe Papke's own perspective on transracial adoption. The words also fully describe and educate those on how

transracial adoption causes racial tensions within not only between the white race, but between minority groups themselves. The claim that was presented by Papke's article was that transracial adoption keeps white dominance in place and even supports a sense of ranking between minority groups due to certain races being preferred by the adoptive families. Papke typically used many variations of evidence to support his claim throughout his article. In his first main point about the Adoption of Asians, he uses statistics of adopted foreign children and compares the numbers to the adoption of Asian children. He also uses the story of Henry and Bertha Holt as evidence to back up his claim of white dominance and the beginning of the minority racial preference order. For Papke's second point, the adoption of Native Americans, he used research of the actual past such as the history of the Native American adoption and home placement process. Then finally for Papke's third main point, he also used the history of the adoption of black children and home placement. More specifically, he used the NABSW (National Association of Black Social Workers) influence on the African American adoption including the statistics of the black adoption, etc.