

Philosophy 3334 Summer 2021
Reading questions #18
Due Mon, Jun 28th

1) Read Alyssa Ney and Allan Hazlett's chapter "The Metaphysics of Race". Ney and Hazlett discuss three types of views about race: eliminativism, social constructivism, and biological realism. Which of these three types of views do you think is correct? Very briefly say why. Do you think that other people generally agree with you about the answer to this question?

2) The 2020 US Census form has a question about race and choices include things like 'White' or 'Black' but 'Hispanic' is not a possible choice. In fact, the instructions say,

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

So people can be Hispanic and White, Non-Hispanic and White, Hispanic and Black, etc. Over time the census categories have changed and the addition of 'Hispanic' as a race was one change that has been recommended but was not implemented in time for this census. But it may change for next time. Do you think it should? Is 'Hispanic' a race in the same way that 'White' and 'Black' are?

3) After reading the chapter, come up with a question that you want answered or a topic that you would like to be discussed. This could be something that the chapters forced you think about or it could be something that you thought was particularly confusing in the chapter.