

ARC3: Race in Toronto

Co

A: Other course readings, classes or lectures

<p>Connection</p>		
<p>In both texts, the authors mention the implication that being from Toronto is not possible given their ethnicities, which by default isolates them as 'others'.</p>	<p>Hune-Brown talks about how being a biracial kid in Toronto when he was growing up could separate 'mixies' from the general population. He mentions that he would be faced with the "Where are you from?" question from other kids. (para. 2; para. 23)</p>	<p>Cole also discusses his feelings when asked this question. He suggests that a simple truthful answer is always followed by "but where are your <i>really</i> from?", which he believes implies that he doesn't belong because of his race. (para 10)</p>
<p>Both authors talk about the specialness of being different.</p>	<p>While Hune-Brown tempers his positive feelings about being biracial with annoyances and awkward experiences, he talks about his experiences as a mixie child in a predominantly positive light, as a "badge of honour", especially when identifying other mixies. (para 1)</p>	<p>Cole, for the most part, describes his experiences of being black around others who are not black as predominantly negative. He does, however, suggest that by greeting black strangers on the streets, both in Oshawa and in Toronto, the implied shared feelings of racial experiences gives him "comfort and reassurance." (para 27)</p>

B: Current local and/or international news events



I don't think there is 'white privilege'.



Parker, P. (2015, October 31). R.I. House Speaker Mattiello: 'I don't think there is a white privilege'. *Providence Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.providencejournal.com/article/20151031/NEWS/151039920>

C: Your personal experiences

When I was growing up, not in Toronto, but in a smaller town in southern Ontario, there were very few non-caucasian families. In my elementary school, there was one black girl and one Indian boy. I don't remember them being isolated from the other kids, but I do remember wondering how it must feel not to have any other children like them around. When we were in high school, they both mentioned that they felt they needed to try much harder in school and be more polite to adults of authority so that they could be regarded on the same level of me, who just existed on a certain level because I was white.

