

## List of Terms/Context

### Individual Racism (excerpt from book)

On the individual side of racism a person might believe social and economic inequality are acceptable, hold an attitude of blindness to racism, say negative statements based on race, and follow both conscious and unconscious behavior patterns that reinforce inequity. Not all aspects of individual racism are necessarily conscious. Individual racism can involve following customs and patterns that people consider race-neutral but actually uphold social and economic inequity.

### Systemic Racism (excerpt from book)

Institutional racism includes the maintenance of white-skin privilege, segregation, and formal and/or informal politics, practices, and procedures. Overall, this is what some people are talking about when they refer to *systematic dominating whiteness* or *systemic white supremacy*. Essentially, these terms call us to notice that white people, and our social norms and patterns, continue to wield controlling power within our social, economic, political, and educational structures in ways that maintain inequity. (The overwhelming power held by whites remains in effect even when we have isolated figures holding high positions of power, such as President Barack Obama, and when increasing numbers of people of color are beginning to influence public policy.)

### Sundown Towns

A sundown town is a town that is or was all white on purpose. The term came from signs that were allegedly posted stating that people of color had to leave the town by sundown. They are also sometimes known as "sunset towns" or "gray towns". Residents were often systematically excluded from living in or sometimes even passing through these communities after the sun went down. This allowed maids and workmen to provide unskilled labor during the day. They came into existence in the late 19th century during what sociologists have described as the nadir of American race relations. Sundown towns existed throughout the nation, but more often were located in the northern states that were not pre-Civil War slave states. There have not been any de jure sundown towns in the country since the legislation in the 1960s inspired by the American Civil Rights Movement, though de facto sundown towns existed at least into the 1970s. In some cases, signs were placed at the town's borders with statements similar to the one posted in Hawthorne, California which read "Nigger, Don't Let The Sun Set On YOU In Hawthorne" in the 1930s. In some cases, the exclusion was official town policy or through restrictive covenants agreed to by the real estate agents of the community. In others, the policy was enforced through intimidation. This intimidation could occur in a number of ways, including harassment by law enforcement officers. (see wikipedia)

### Redlining

Community activists in Chicago coined the term "redlining" in the late 1960s. It describes the practice of marking a red line on a map to delineate the area where banks would not invest; later the term was applied to discrimination against a particular group of people (usually by race or sex) no matter the geography. During the heyday of redlining, the areas most frequently discriminated against were black inner city neighborhoods. Through at least the 1990s this practice meant that banks would often lend to lower income whites but not to middle or upper income blacks. (see wikipedia)

## Minstrel Shows

The minstrel show, or minstrelsy, was an American entertainment consisting of comic skits, variety acts, dancing, and music, performed by white people in blackface or, especially after the Civil War, black people in blackface.

Minstrel shows lampooned black people in mostly disparaging ways: as ignorant, lazy, buffoonish, superstitious, joyous, and musical. The minstrel show began with brief burlesques and comic entr'actes in the early 1830s and emerged as a full-fledged form in the next decade. By the turn of the century, the minstrel show enjoyed but a shadow of its former popularity, having been replaced for the most part by vaudeville. It survived as professional entertainment until about 1910; amateur performances continued until the 1960s in high schools, fraternities, and local theaters. As blacks began to score legal and social victories against racism and to successfully assert political power, minstrelsy lost popularity.

Blackface minstrelsy was the first distinctly American theatrical form. In the 1830s and 1840s, it was at the core of the rise of an American music industry, and for several decades it provided the lens through which white America saw black America. (see wikipedia)

## Nativism

Nativism favors the interests of certain established inhabitants of an area or nation as compared to claims of newcomers or immigrants. It may also include the re-establishment or perpetuation of such individuals or their culture.

Nativism typically means opposition to immigration or efforts to lower the political or legal status of specific ethnic or cultural groups because the groups are considered hostile or alien to the natural culture, and it is assumed that they cannot be assimilated. Opposition to immigration is common in many countries because of issues of national, cultural or religious identity. The phenomenon has been studied especially in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States, as well as Europe in recent years. Thus nativism has become a general term for 'opposition to immigration' based on fears that the immigrants will distort or spoil existing cultural values. This may be expressed through criticism of multiculturalism.

In scholarly studies "nativism" is a standard technical term. However, in public political discourse "nativist" is usually used by the opposition, and rarely by nativists themselves (they call themselves "patriots."). Anti-immigration is a more neutral term that may be used to characterize opponents of immigration. (see wikipedia)