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978-0-521-76373-8 - Theories of Race and Ethnicity: Contemporary
Debates and Perspectives

Edited by Karim Murji and John Solomos

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Theories of Race and Ethnicity

How have research agendas on race and ethnicity changed over the past two decades, and what new developments have emerged? *Theories of Race and Ethnicity* provides a comprehensive and cutting-edge collection of theoretically grounded and empirically informed chapters. It covers a range of key issues in race and ethnicity studies, such as genetics and race, post-race debates, racial eliminativism and the legacy of Barack Obama and mixed race identities. The contributions are by leading writers covering a range of perspectives employed in studying ethnicity and race, including critical race feminism, critical rationalism, psychoanalysis, performativity, whiteness studies and sexuality. Written in an authoritative yet accessible style, this volume is suitable for researchers and advanced students, offering scholars a survey of the state of the art in the literature and students an overview of the field.

KARIM MURJI is based in the Department of Sociology at the Open University.

JOHN SOLOMOS is Professor of Sociology at the University of Warwick, where he is also head of department.

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KARIM MURJI is based in the Department of Sociology at the Open University, United Kingdom, where he has contributed to a wide range of inter-disciplinary teaching in the social sciences. He has more than 80 publications in cultural and policy studies of ethnicity and racism and of criminology. He has edited two journal special issues, most recently, with Gargi Bhattacharyya, a special issue of *Ethnic and Racial Studies* on 'Race Critical Public Scholarship' (vol. 36, no. 9, 2013). With John Solomos, he is the editor of *Racialization: Studies in Theory and Practice* (2005). He is an editor of the journal *Sociology*.

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Other contributors

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Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Chairman, 1996–98). His books include *The Coloured Quarter* (1955), *West African City* (1957), *The Policeman in the Community* (1964), *Race Relations* (1967), *The Idea of Race* (1977), *Racial and Ethnic Competition* (1983), *Racial Theories* (1987; 2nd edn, 1997), *International Action against Racial Discrimination* (1996), *Ethnic and Racial Consciousness* (1997) and *The International Politics of Race* (2002).

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EDUARDO BONILLA-SILVA is chair and professor of sociology at Duke University. His first article, 'Rethinking racism: toward a structural interpretation', appeared in the *American Sociological Review* in 1996 and challenged social analysts to abandon the prejudice problematic and anchor race analysis structurally. His books include *White Supremacy and Racism in the Post-Civil Rights Era* (2001), *White Out: The Continuing Significance of Racism* (2003), *Racism without Racists* (2003), *White Logic, White Methods: Racism and Methodology* (2008) and *The State of White Supremacy: Racism, Governance, and the United States* (2011). Recently, he has worked on the idea that racial stratification in the USA is becoming Latin America-like, on a critique of Obama and the post-racial logic that orients his politics and on a book tentatively titled *The Racial Grammar of Everyday Life in America*.

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VICTOR E. RAY is a doctoral candidate in sociology at Duke University and an American Sociological Association Minority Fellow. His work has appeared in a number of journals, including the *Journal of African American Studies*, the *Journal of Marriage and Family* and *Contexts*. His dissertation research, supported by the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation, focuses on how race and gender shape the transition to civilian life for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. Using qualitative interviews, he explores how the possible mental health effects of life in a combat zone affect the daily lives of veterans as they reintegrate into work and family.

MIRI SONG is professor of sociology at the University of Kent. Her research interests include race and racisms, ethnic identity, mixed race and second-generation integration. She is currently working on a Leverhulme Trust-funded project on the ways in which multiracial parents identify and raise their children in Britain. She is the author of *Helping Out: Children’s Labor in Ethnic Businesses* (1999), *Choosing Ethnic Identity* (2003) and *Mixed Race Identities* (with Peter Aspinall, 2013).

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ADRIEN K. WING is the Bessie Dutton Murray Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Iowa College of Law, where she has taught since 1987. Author of more than 100 publications, she is the editor of *Critical Race Feminism* (2003) and *Global Critical Race Feminism: An International Reader* (2000). Her research focuses on the intersection of race/ethnicity and gender, specifically the legal rights of women of colour. Her regional interests include the Middle East, Africa and black America.

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Preface

The process of developing and seeing an edited collection such as this one through to publication is inevitably longer than planned and sometimes tortuous. We started talking about the project initially when we felt that there was a need for more sustained discussion of the changing research agendas on race and ethnic relations that have emerged over the past two decades or so. As active participants in some of the debates, we had some understanding of key facets of these new agendas, but we saw a need for a collection of original chapters that explored key issues in more depth. It is with this overarching concern in mind that we started the process of bringing together the various contributions that make up this collection. As we talked, we felt that there were certain key areas of debate that have emerged over the past 20 years or more that we wanted to represent in this collection, and we have grouped these chapters in Part I. We also wanted to include a wide range of chapters that reflected developments within specific fields of scholarship; these are grouped together in Part II. We recognise that some themes and issues cannot be covered within the confines of a collection such as this one. This is partly why we have decided to include two substantive chapters by ourselves, as editors, which work both to provide the background to the issues that are covered in the book and to take a look forward at likely trends and developments in the future. We hope that the 15 chapters that make up this collection can help to encourage further debate and reflection at a time when questions about race and racism seem likely to continue to influence both political discourses and actions in civil society.

As editors, we are grateful to all the authors who have stuck with the project from the beginning. Without the hard work of the various authors, such a project would not be possible. We have also accumulated a number of debts for support, advice and intellectual stimulation during the time we have been working on this collection. In alphabetical order, we would like to say thank you to a number of people who have discussed this with us and encouraged us along the way: Claire Alexander, Les Back, Michael Banton, Gargi Bhattacharyya, Alice Bloch, Martin

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Bulmer, Milena Chimienti, Patricia Hill Collins, Max Farrar, Paul Gilroy, Vicki Harman, Michael Keith, Marco Martiniello, Nasar Meer, Sarah Neal, Liza Schuster, Stephen Small, Satnam Virdee and Aaron Winter. We also thank the anonymous reviewers of the initial proposal and the manuscript for their suggestions and support for the book. We are also grateful to John Haslam and Carrie Parkinson from Cambridge University Press for their patience and understanding about the unavoidable delays such a project seems to involve.

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