Sadiquah Adams

Class Notes for 2/26/15

**Announcements**

1. Submit questions for guest by tomorrow **(2/27/15)**
2. In Class Assessment Tuesday **(3/3/15)** Quiz #2
3. No Class **(3/5/15)** - Watch guest lecture film on Open Lab and respond in comments section
4. Post reaction/reflection to film (*Race The Power of an Illusion* Episode 2) by Thursday **(3/5/15)**

*Race: The Power of an Illusion* Episode 2 - The Story We Tell

Meritocracy - a fair chance to be anything you want to be no matter where you come from

* “American Dream”
* Historically not all races were given this opportunity of equality

***“All men created equal”***

Race – how people assign meanings on how you look

* + Evolves over time
  + Lens on how we view our world
  + Thomas Jefferson- 1st person to mention the idea of race
    - 1619- 1st blacks in Virginia- status determined by religion and wealth
    - European descendants were seen as white people whether poor or rich
    - Blacks were seen as slaves
    - Indians not much different than Europeans, they were good human material, dark skin (due to sun exposure), fought to maintain their freedom and land, and they were hunters and gatherers
      * U.S. cheapest way to keep the Indians land and avoid war with them was to “civilize the Indians”
    - Separated groups by producing the idea that blacks are inferior to whites
    - Tries to get scientist to discover a scientific reason for racial rationing

***Who can be “civilized”?***

1803 - Louisiana Purchase- U.S. expanded

Cherokees transformed their culture – became “civilized Indians”

* Lived in smaller villages
* Sold over 90%of their land to the U.S.
* Children learned the Christian religion; and spoke English in schools
* Developed a Cherokee alphabet
* Developed a Constitution patterned after the U.S.
* Gave up hunting and gathering and became farmers
* Some owned slaves

1828 – Andrew Jackson wanted to move all Indians (West) from Georgia

1830 – Indian Removal Act - Removal of the Indians was passed

1838 – Trail of Tears - U.S. forced Indians out at gunpoint

America became more democratic causing a favoritism for the males of the white race

* Believed West belonged to white Americans

1840’s debate Slavery vs. Anti-slavery

* Questions of race became relevant

Jefferson’s term “all men” did not scientifically include blacks

1857 – Dred Scott v Sanford – U.S. Supreme Court decision that enslaved or free blacks can never become American citizens

* + Blacks = no rights

***White Man’s Burden***

* idea to rationalize territorial expansion

Principle of white supremacy- “whiteness” unifies Americans based on race

* Pear’s soap - businesses capitalized upon the idea of the White Man's Burden.
  + The first step to lightening the White Man’s Burden is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness. Lightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, whilst putting the U.S. on a pedal stool

20th Century

1904 - Philippines exposition - celebrate the 100th anniversary of the purchase of the Louisiana Territory by the US from France.

* shows citizens what the U.S. has conquered and who was and was not civilized