

Anaya Massiah

ENG 1101

November 30, 2020

Professor Jennifer Sears

Artist's Statement

I came up with the idea of mitochondrial eve as a project because it was something that was on my mind around the time. I remember thinking a lot about race and genes. My inspirations, believe it or not, were albinos and paternity court. If you've ever seen it, you'd know that plenty of guys deny their babies because they're "too light", "too dark", or "white..." ridiculous, I know. Anyway, after the judge drops the DNA test results, the guys, they're completely flabbergasted at the thought of fathering a child who looks nothing like them (though a lot of the times they're blatantly ignoring the child's obvious resemblance to them and solely focusing on skin tone just to nitpick).

I decided to write in the genre I did because I could mix beauty with information in the form of a brochure. Words on their own are nice enough, but when paired with beautiful art, they're unforgettable. I chose black New Yorkers as my audience because I can relate to them, which makes it easier for me to write something they'd be able to understand and have time to read. I chose to talk about mitochondrial eve for my project because it was all the research had covered. I wanted my piece to show the beauty of African Eve. Making a brochure wasn't as easy as I thought it would be, since there is limited room. I worked it out by trying my best to squish information together.

After reviewing the finished project, I think it looks beautiful, but I'm a bit disappointed with how it turned out. I had many thoughts going into this unit but none of them were executed. If I could change anything it would be the research I did for this project. I would spend a lot more time looking for sources that'd really add something special to my project so that it could reach its true potential.