

# Same Race, Different Color

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(She/Hers/Her)

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Biracial- Caucasian and Black

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This is a  
Constructive  
Convo

# A Common Misconception

- We often generalize the African-American community as the following:
  - Heterosexual
  - Christian
  - **An Individual Of A Darker Complexion**
  - Able-Bodied
- Those who do not fit the preconceived identity or multiple identities of the group tend to feel as if they do not belong.
  - **“A minority within a minority”**



# Intrasectionality



To recognize and respect all identities within one's OWN community.

## Examples:

- LGBTQIA2PS
- Not Of Christian Faith
- **An Individual Of A Lighter Complexion**
- **Biracial**
- African Community
- An Individual With A Disability

# Racism and Colorism



## What is Racism?

The (incorrect) belief that race is the sole determinant of character, quality, and capability. Racism is a social construct designed to categorize groups into a hierarchy of power and privilege.

## What is Colorism?

A term coined by Alice Walker's In Search of our Mothers' Gardens in 1983.

"Prejudicial or preferential treatment of same-race people based solely on their color."

## Important Takeaways:

- Colorism is NOT a synonym of racism.
- Colorism goes BOTH ways!
- Colorism unfortunately exists in EVERY culture.

# Colorism in Different Communities

## Caucasian Community

- Tanning beds, oils, and lotions
- Those of darker skin are viewed as beautiful, wealthy, desirable

## Hispanic Community

- Lighter skin is more acceptable
  - Assumed to deal with less racism, less judgement, etc.

## Asian Community

- Darker skin is found unattractive and poor

Every culture plays an element into the social issue of Colorism.



# Light and Dark Girls

OWN Network

Dark Girls



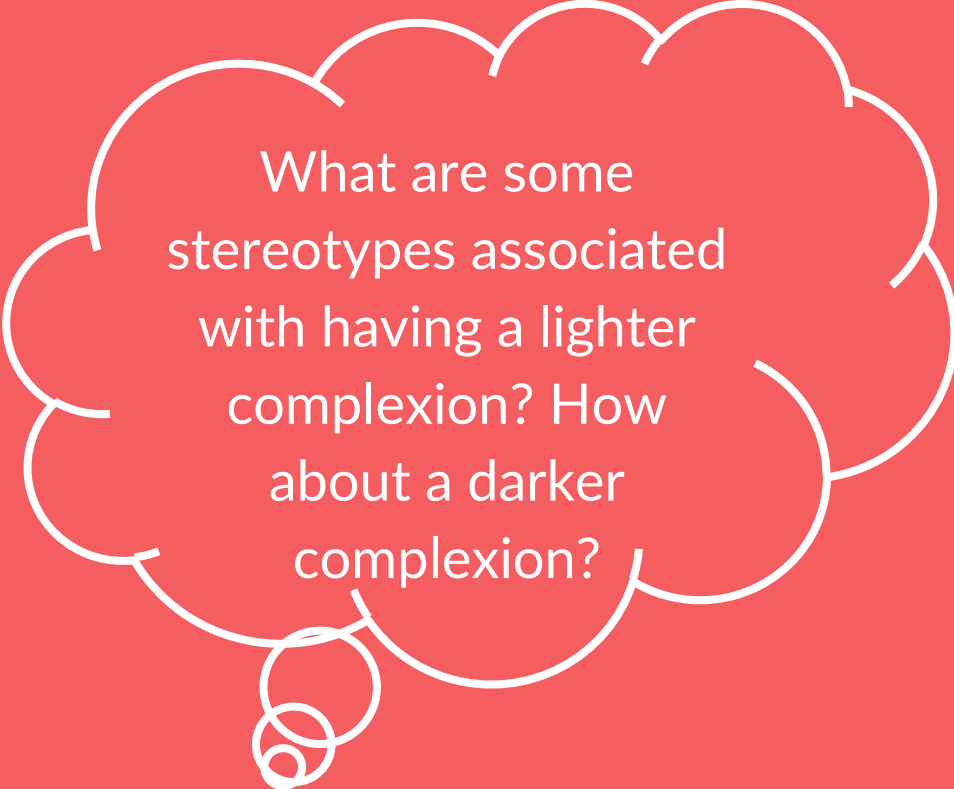
Light Girls

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# Question #1

The Great Debate:  
Light vs. Dark Skin



What are some stereotypes associated with having a lighter complexion? How about a darker complexion?

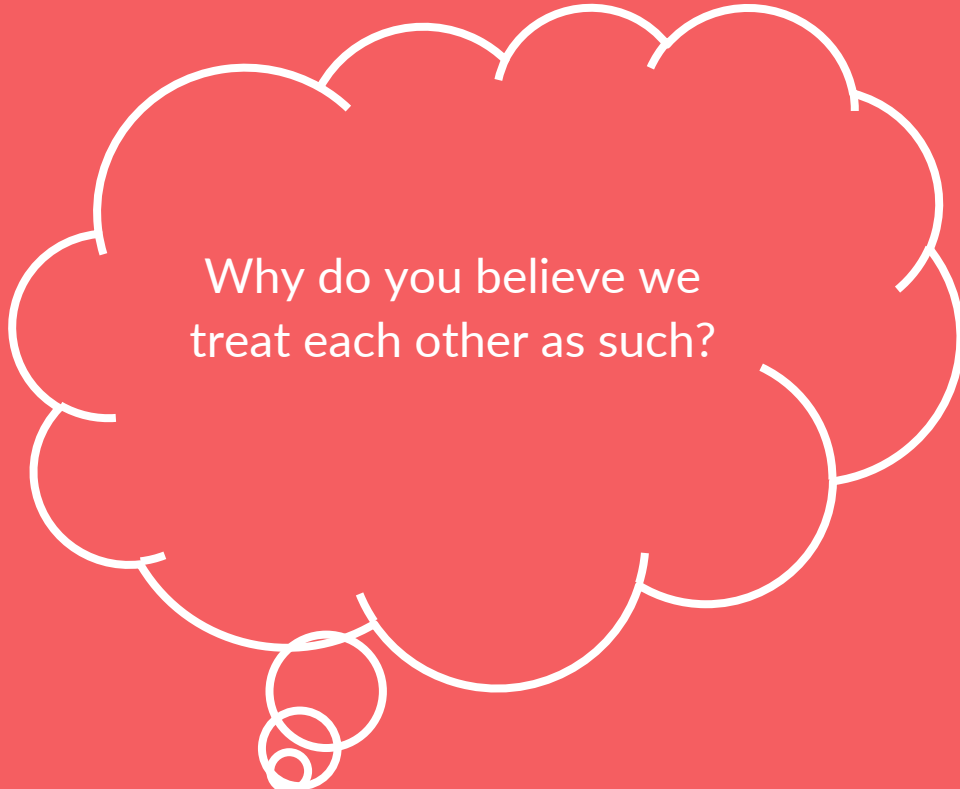
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# Stereotypes



## Question #2

The Great Debate:  
Light vs. Dark Skin



Why do you believe we  
treat each other as such?

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# Our History

“Skin color has been used as a tool of separation and preferential treatment”



- **Slavery**

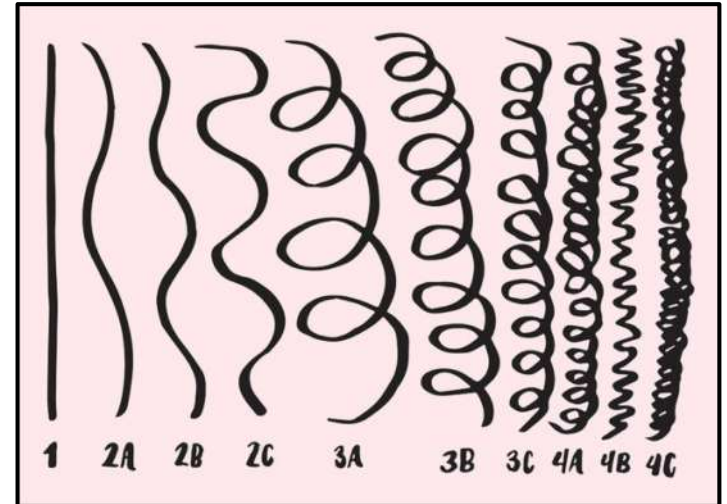
- Female slaves were often taken advantage of by their masters.
  - Resulting in children of a lighter complexion
- House Slave v. Field Slave
  - Lighter individuals worked inside the house
  - Darker individuals worked in the fields
  - Therefore; hostility grew...

- **Paper Bag Test**

- A test where an individual had to be lighter or equal to the shade of a brown paper bag to gain admission to social events, churches, etc.

- **Ruler Test**

- A test where an individual's hair had to be as straight as a ruler



School Daze (1988):  
Good or Bad Hair

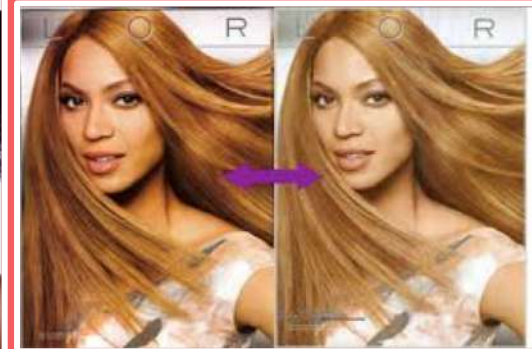
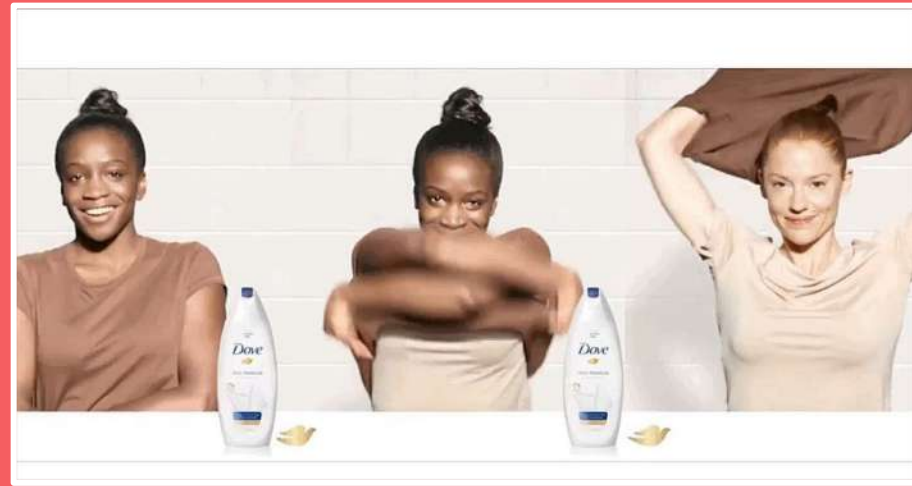






# Modern- Day Media

The Influence of Media on Colorism




"Fetishes"

And unfortunately  
we, as a community,  
continue to use that  
mindset.



# Question #3

The Great Debate:  
Light v. Dark Skin

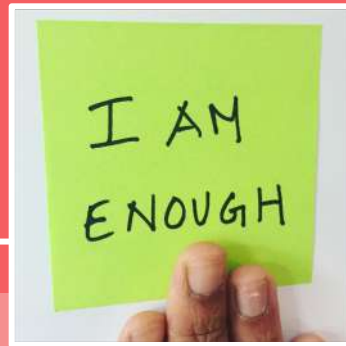


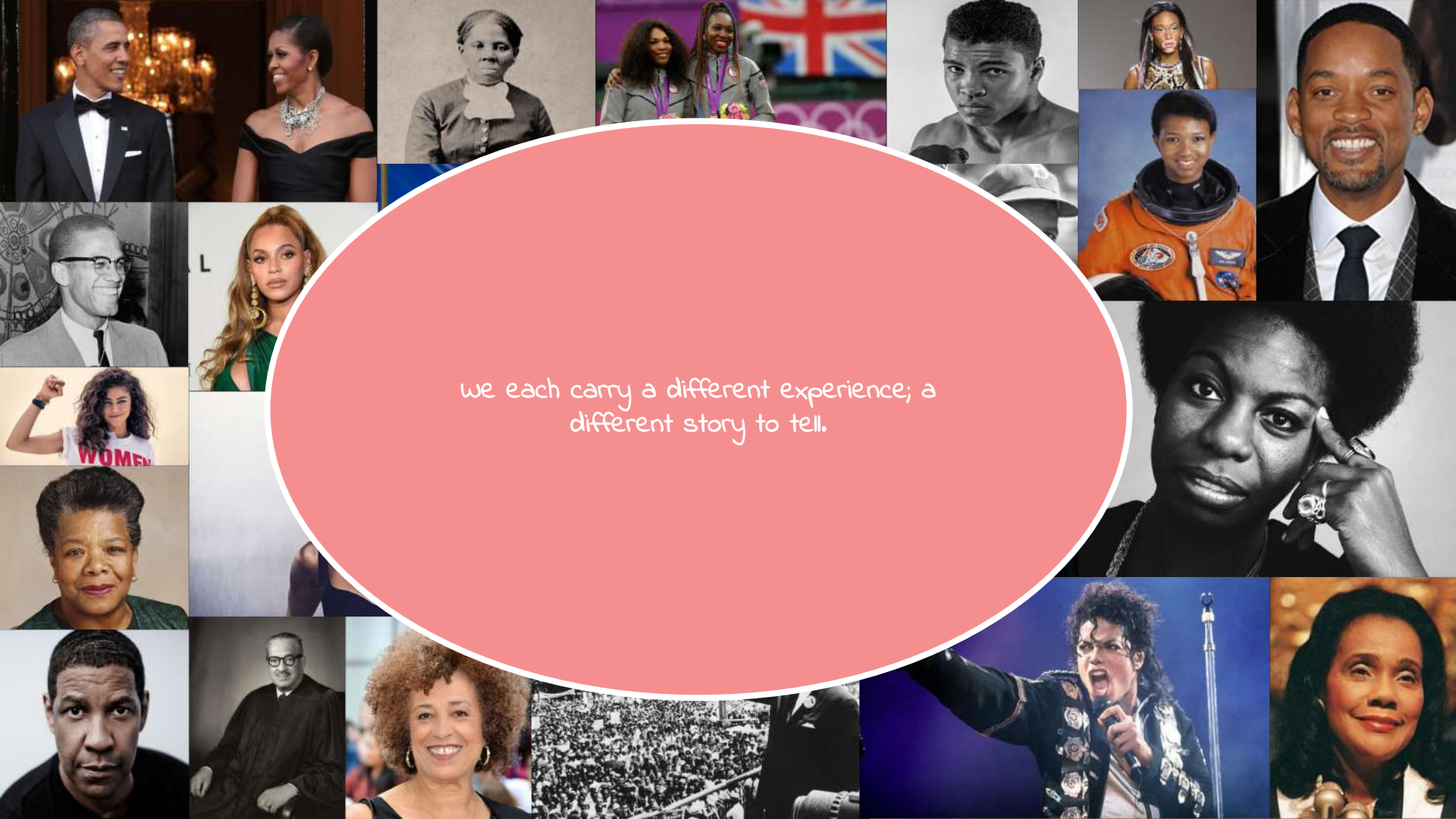
What can we do to fix  
this?

**TREAT OTHERS  
THE WAY  
YOU WANT TO BE TREATED.**

[www.THEOPLIFE.com](http://www.THEOPLIFE.com)

# Recognize Your Worth





we each carry a different experience; a  
different story to tell.

>>> I Am My Sister <<<

We are the same  
race, just different  
colors.

Questions?



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**Thank You!**

Maryville video