

Khanna, Nikki. 2004. "The Role of Reflected Appraisals in Racial Identity: The Case of Multiracial Asians." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 67: 115-31.

PRIMARY ARGUMENT: The author argues that reflected appraisals (shaped primarily by one's phenotypical characteristics) and cultural exposure influences the racial identification of multiracial Asians.

IMPORTANT DEFINED CONCEPTS:

- Racial Identity: a person's self-categorization of themselves as a racial person.
- Reflected Appraisals: how others treat/see us is how we come to see ourselves. Their perceptions of us become our perceptions of us.
- Phenotype: physical appearance traits such as hair color, eye shape, and skin color that can be used to figure out someone's racial background.
- Cultural Exposure: gaining an understanding of a region or a people through experiences and values.

PRIMARY FINDINGS:

1. Phenotype and cultural exposure mostly influenced a respondent's racial identity. If a respondent was likely to be perceived as Asian, they would identify as Asian. The more cultural exposure a respondent had, the more likely they were to identify with Asian. Otherwise, they were likely to identify as non-Asian.
2. Respondents that *lived* (for some time) in Asian countries were less likely to identify with the Asian racial category, than those who never lived in an Asian country
3. The perception/ treatment of others, based on phenotypes/ cultural knowledge, affected how respondents identified; ex: if their cultural group perceived them to be fully Asian, they would identify accordingly
4. Having a father with high socioeconomic status decreased the possibility of biracial Asians identifying with Asian racial category

KEY QUOTE: "The perceived reactions of others (Asian and non-Asian) to one's cultural exposure are likely to influence racial identity. Previous research has shown a relationship between exposure and ethnic identification; exposure may encompass a number of factors" (118).

QUESTION: Are political views influenced by an individual's racial identity? More specifically, if a multi-racial Asian identifies as white, are they more likely to have conservative political opinions? Are they likely to adopt a white lens?