

**Our Shared Future, Reckoning with Our Racial Past Forum:
Our Voices
Race and Lived Experiences**

Forum Date: August 26, 2021

Video Length: 3 minutes

Graphics on screen

Our Shared Future Reckoning with Our Racial Past
Smithsonian Forum

Narrator

Our Shared Future, Reckoning with Our Racial Past Forum. Reckoning with Race,
Wealth and Wellness.

Graphics on screen

Reckoning with Race, Wealth and Wellness

Graphics on screen

Our Voices
Race and Lived Experiences

Graphics on screen

Lisa

Lisa

I would say I'm mixed white and Latina.

Graphics on screen

Jasmin

Jasmin

Asian American.

Graphics on screen

Gary

Gary

I'm white.

Graphics on screen

Alex

Alex

I identify mostly with the African American race.

Graphics on screen

Eryn

Eryn

White. Jewish.

Graphics on screen

Anirudh

Anirudh

Indian.

Graphics on screen

Shanti

Shanti

Other.

Graphics on screen

Jaiden

Jaiden

In Nigeria, I was just a person. In America, I'm a Black person.

Graphics on screen

Viviana

Viviana

I remember in elementary school, I don't know what my teacher said to me exactly, but it was something really derogatory about being mulatto. I didn't know what mulatto was, I was like what's a mulatto?

Graphics on screen

Anirudh

Anirudh

Something like oh, Indians are hairy or we smell different.

Graphics on screen

Timothy

Timothy

I got suspended for three days because a white kid told the teacher that I stole 10 cents from him, then the same kid ended up stealing something else. Only, he didn't get suspended.

Graphics on screen

Soo

Soo

There's a background of racism among Korean Americans because of lack of understanding.

Graphics on screen

Shanti

Shanti

Racism is based on just people not accepting you at all and it has nothing to do with, you know, your skin color. It could be because you're disabled.

Graphics on screen

John

John

I asked a lady for directions. She immediately grabbed her child which had to be, like, seven or something and said, "We don't talk to them."

Graphics on screen

Lisa

Lisa

Even though I'm half white, people don't see that. When I would go somewhere with my dad, who's--he's darker than I am, security would follow us. People would be like, "Sir, are you supposed to be parking here? Are you actually frequenting the store?" And whenever I went with my mom, it was like, "Oh, can we get you a changing room?"

Graphics on screen

Gary

Gary

Was trying a case one time...where I was representing a Black person and I had a judge who called me in the back room. "Why are we wasting time on this little 'N' case, why don't you just have him go ahead and plead guilty and get this thing over with where we can get to the more important stuff?"

Graphics on screen

James

James

During my teenage years, I had a chance that I could drive a tractor or work in the fields, and because of the color of my skin, I had to work in the fields, I couldn't drive a tractor. My dad explained to me that we are Black African men and we are workers of the fields.

Graphics on screen

Jasmin

Jasmin

I am not good at math. I'm horrible. I'm a decent driver.

Graphics on screen

John

John

You know how many times I was asked, do I play football? No, I did gymnastics.

Graphics on screen

Alex

Alex

You can do this because you're African American. No, I can't, because that's not what I do.

Graphics on screen

Eryon

Eryon

My experience with racism has been being married to a woman who is Black and Mexican. We used to work together and someone in our office, actually, was talking about how, in their opinion, Black people were less intelligent than other people and saying how this was scientific fact.

Graphics on screen

Jasmin

Jasmin

Growing up, I always wanted to be, you know, a European or not Asian at all. Now that I'm older, I have a huge respect for it, and I'm very happy to be who I am and proud.

Graphics on screen

Watch the entire forum and view additional resources at OurSharedFuture.SI.edu/race