

Abstract

Various authors and media commentators have suggested that the candidacy of Barack Obama represents proof that America has moved beyond race that, in fact, the nation is post-race. Similarly, the growing number of mixed race individuals in the United States, including Obama, is taken, by some, as yet another indication of the post-race status of the nation. What happens when this concept of a post-race Obama America confronts Critical Race Theory, a framework that puts race at its very center? In this paper, the authors explore the experiences and status of mixed race persons in America from a Critical Race Theory perspective. Using central tenets of Critical Race Theory to examine historical and contemporary conditions surrounding persons of mixed racial heritage, the authors call into question the construction of America as a post-race nation.