

**1. (a) Why is it impossible to sort people into consistent racial groups based on biological or physical differences?**

It is impossible to classify individuals into consistent racial groupings on the basis of physical differences due to the fact that by reviewing people's genetics, it has been established that there are no genetic markers which are within everyone of a certain race, as well as, within no one of another race. In other words, no genetic markers which define race.

**(b) How does genetic evidence refute the concept of biological race?**

Genetic evidence refutes the biological race concept in that it has proven that the genetic variation within human population is relatively small. Actually, genetically, it has been found out that humans are the most similar among all species. This is because just a single nucleotide out of each thousand nucleotides, which make up human's code, is different, one person from another.

**2. Why do we see differences in skin color in different human populations? How did different skin colors evolve?**

Differences within skin color on diverse human populations is brought about by the fact that certain genes, such as those that dictate skin color come in diverse forms. Diverse skin colors evolved because the few genes which control the melanin colors within people's skin, diverse alleles, and varying mutations took place, which were selected positively such that those people with considerably light skin ended up losing the capacity of making dark melanin. The dark melanin prevents some ultraviolet light and is present in areas of intense sunlight. On the other hand, light melanin is present in areas of less intense sunlight.

**3. Who has benefitted from the (incorrect) belief that we can sort people according to race and that there are natural or biologically based differences between racial groups?**

The whites are the ones that have benefitted from the misleading beliefs that people can be sorted in accordance to race. For instance, in the 20<sup>th</sup> C while the American society was emerging as an industrial power, white was considered to be the face of the nation's power, as well as, prosperity. In that regard, the whites occupied the top segment of the social hierarchy whereas the non whites were considered to belong to the bottom of the social hierarchy.

**4. Athletics is one area where talking about ideas of inborn racial differences remains common. Why do some populations or groups seem to dominate certain sports but not others? What does it mean that the groups that dominate those sports have changed over time?**

Certain populations or groups tend to have dominance in specific sporting events but not others because of their cultural and environmental backgrounds, in addition to their training. The groups which dominate such sports have changed in the course of time because people have come to realize that there are unique characteristics which make such group's more fit for the various sports.

**5. What is the difference between a biological and a social view of race?**

The difference between the biological and the social view of race is that the biological view makes use of people physical characteristics such as hair texture and skin color to classify people under diverse races whereas the social view makes use of people's achievements in diverse fields to group them in different races.

**6. At the beginning of the film, the students are asked to predict whom they will be most like when they compare their DNA samples. How did the results compare with your expectations? Did you share the students' surprise? If so, why?**

The students had predicted that their DNA samples will be quite similar in respect to the manner in which they shared their racial ancestry. The white students believed that their DNA samples would be matching with those of their white counterparts and quite different from those with Asian and African American backgrounds. Surprisingly, the results did not compare with my expectations. Similarly to the students I never expected that people from different racial backgrounds would share more similar DNA results that are actually quite different from those that belong to their own races.