

HSTAA 23 I
Race and American History

Professor Moon-Ho Jung

I. How has race defined the United States, as a nation and an empire, since its founding?

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3. How have different peoples mobilized and organized to struggle for racial justice?

Race, Nation, Power

I. What Is Race?

II. Historicizing the Nation

III. National Myths of America

What is race?

Phenotype, set of observable, physical characteristics.

Perceptions, self-perceptions of cultural or physical attributes, imposed externally or internally, based on real or perceived attributes.

Aesthetic differences that ignorantly categorize American society.

Ethnic or cultural background that can affect one's socioeconomic standing.

A social construct that organizes people into categories based on the person's skin color or outward biological characteristics. Historical contexts foreground race differently.

Race

A broad set of ideas, representations, and practices that define particular peoples as different from and somehow biologically or culturally inferior to others (i.e., white people in the U.S. context) to justify and perpetuate unequal social relations.

Benedict Anderson,
Imagined Communities (1983)

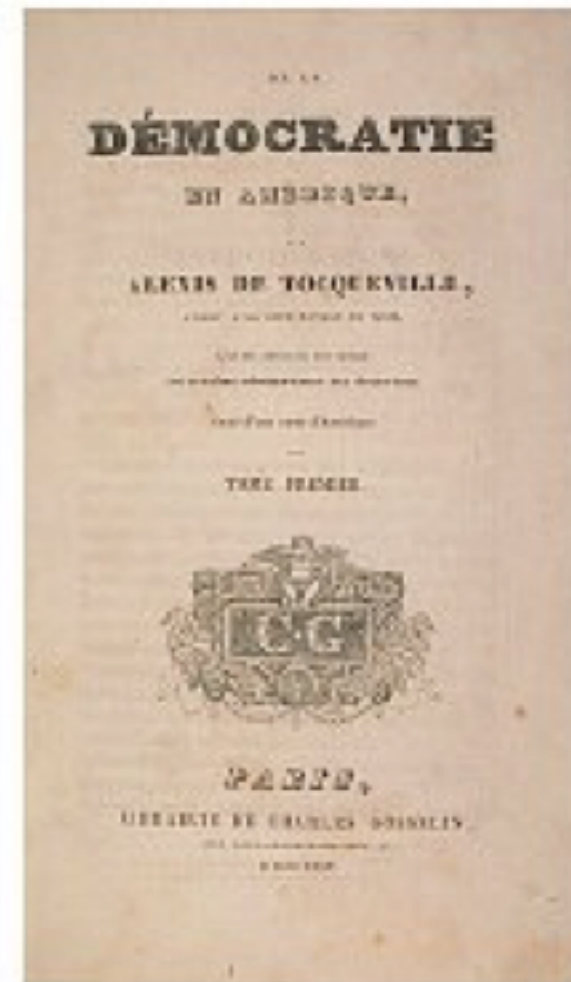
Imagined

Limited

Sovereign

Community

The United States is _____?



Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* (1835)

Logic of Race, Nation, and Empire

The inclusion of some has rested on the
exclusion of others.