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An unspoken allegiance: Formation of white racial identity in the 21st century

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Concepts like multiculturalism and diversity have been institutionalized in post civil rights America, yet systems of white racial privilege persist. White appearing people continue to have access to the best of the nations resources and hold the majority of wealth. Though the topic of race has become more prevalent in discussion whiteness and its connection to power and privilege remains ignored and overlooked, especially in the social sciences. The project was conducted by using and critiquing current sociological literature on white identity formation a three-phase model was constructed. The model consists of phases early childhood (phase I), adolescence (phase II) and adulthood (phase III) The phase model allows white racial identity formation to be viewed as both learned and a process, much like the racial identity formation of people of color. Furthermore, the three-phase model allows white racism and formation of white identity in the 21st to be viewed as both systemic in structure and a catalyst for the preparation of white privilege instead of individually perpetuated.