

Cross-Racial Horizontal Oppression among College Students of Color

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Abstract

There is currently a narrow body of literature related to cross-racial horizontal oppression; what does exist is literature with a focus on interracial relations, internalized racism, and horizontal hostility in feminist literature. By reviewing this literature, the author attempts to show a correlation between those themes and cross-racial horizontal oppression among students of color. This paper reviews extant literature on horizontal oppression, describes the significant themes from previous research, offers possible explanations for gaps in the literature on cross-racial horizontal oppression in particular, and argues for further research on this topic. Freire's (2000) *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* is used to frame analysis of cross-racial horizontal oppression and the themes in related literature. The author makes recommendations for future research and scholarship to analyze deeper connections between internalized racism, intraethnic/intraracial group tensions, and cross-racial horizontal oppression. Social justice educators in higher education can hopefully benefit from reading the author's views on the state of research on cross-racial horizontal oppression and understanding how future research could broaden the knowledge base for those working with students of color and diminish the taboo associated with the topic.