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Stancetaking and the projection of ethnic  
identity in YouTube comments on two videos  
about African American Vernacular English

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## 1. Introduction

It is well known that the new media play an important role in people's lives nowadays. What seems remarkable is the fact that traditional communication practices are being redefined and new ones have emerged as a consequence of the uses people make of these new media. For instance, online environments allow people the possibility of being part of virtual social spaces where they can gather around a topic without the necessity of making up a community. According to Warner (2002: 72, cited in Granato and Parini 2015) these networked or mediated publics "do not exist apart from the discourse that addresses them".

One of the most important online environments in which people interact intensely is YouTube. YouTube is a video-sharing facility which is part of the new media called Web 2.0. Georgakopoulou (2003, cited in Androutsopoulos 2011: 280) suggests that new media are "by no means a homogeneous and centralised site: in contrast, [they] encourage hybridity, diversity of voices and ideologies, and expression of difference".

Considering online environments such as YouTube for sociolinguistic analysis can be a productive research experience. As Androutsopoulos (2011) puts it, researchers have used ideas from pragmatics, conversation analysis, stylistics and interactional sociolinguistics in order to study new media not primarily as technological containers of speech, but as sites of users' social activities with language.

Concerning YouTube, since it was launched, its emblematic video-sharing (vlogging) facility has attracted considerable attention as a social networking system of cultural production. In addition to vlogging, YouTube offers a text facility through which YouTubers share and negotiate opinions (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012).

It is also important to notice that YouTube interaction is not significantly different from in-person interaction. "While the stance markers used in YouTube comments tend to differ from those used in face-to-face interaction (notably the use of acronyms and punctuation marks as affective markers), their interactive functions appear to be very similar" (Benson 2015: 89-90).

As online environments such as YouTube are spaces which encourage people to discuss ideas openly and express unreservedly their points of view on an issue, analysing the way YouTube posters perform acts of stancetaking can prove to be particularly fruitful.

According to Du Bois (2007: 139) "one of the most important things we do with words is take a stance. Stance has the power to assign value to objects of interest, to position social actors with respect to those objects, to calibrate alignment between stancetakers, and to invoke presupposed systems of sociocultural value".

Martin and White (2005) claim that all utterances are seen as in some way stanced or attitudinal. They share with Stubbs (1996: 197, cited in Martin and White 2005: 92) the view that "whenever speakers (or writers) say anything, they encode their point of view towards it".

It is important to take into account that the act of taking a stance is not isolated from the context in which it takes place. Therefore, "the linguistic systems indexed by stance are all embedded in political, social, ideological, and cultural fields of action. All individual acts of stance are thus, by definition, *indirect indices* of these fields, and play a mediating role in processes of identification" (Jaffe 2009: 13).

Stancetaking is a rich area of investigation because by analysing deeply people's stances, one can grasp the real meaning of what they try to convey. "Stancetaking also plays a complex role with respect to the naturalization of social and linguistic ideologies and the social structures they legitimate. On the one hand, stancetaking plays a naturalizing role because it activates such ideologies indirectly. When ideologies are presupposed rather than articulated outright, they are represented as not being open to question or contestation, and the relationships between linguistic forms and social meanings may be perceived as direct" (Jaffe 2009: 22).

African American Vernacular English is generally considered a non-standard variety of English, so analysing how people take stances as regards this issue proves to be especially interesting. Particularly, the importance of African American Vernacular English as an expression of ethnic identity for its speakers is an attractive topic that triggers lively debate in online environments, especially in YouTube. This heated discussion can be reflected not only in the considerable amount of comments that posters make, but also in the wide variety of opinions that they express freely. That is the reason why the interest of this work is focused on analysing how posters take stances and project their ethnic identities through their comments on two YouTube videos about African American Vernacular English.

Ethnic identity is another concept that has been considered for the purposes of the present study. Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985) state that claims about ethnicity are often closely involved with linguistic questions and that language is frequently used as a defining characteristic of ethnic groups. "The individual creates for himself the patterns of his linguistic behaviour so as to resemble those of the group or groups with which from time to time he wishes to be identified, or so as to be unlike those from whom he wishes

to be distinguished” (Le Page and Tabouret-Keller 1985: 181). Moreover, Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985: 238) posit that “it is evident that language plays a very complex role in relation to ethnic or national or racial identity”.

It is worth mentioning that despite its popularity as an online space for social interaction, research into YouTube is scarce, especially within language-based disciplines (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012). Therefore, this work contributes to addressing this imbalance by focusing on how YouTube posters take stances and project their ethnic identities through their comments on two videos about African American Vernacular English.

Both videos approach the topic from two different perspectives: one is a personal narration and the other an educational/institutional video. The purpose of the present study is thus to show how YouTube posters perform acts of evaluation through their comments as reactions to the two videos. Another aim is to try to reveal the main objects of evaluation. Furthermore, I will try to find out if YouTube posters react similarly to the two videos, considering this twofold perspective. I will also focus on how YouTube posters take stances through their evaluative comments. Last but not least, I will show how YouTube posters project their ethnic identities through the linguistic expressions “black”, “African American” and “white” as well as through discursive resources and functions.

This work is organised as follows: this introduction is followed by a second section that presents an overview of some of the theories which are connected with YouTube as an online environment, stancetaking, ethnic identity and African American Vernacular English. The third section deals with the methodology carried out to fulfil the purposes of the present study. The fourth section is devoted to the analysis of the data. Finally, the last section presents some concluding remarks, with the limitations encountered and some ideas for further research.

## 2. Theoretical framework

### 2.1 YouTube as an online environment

According to Granato and Parini (2015) new media environments constitute sites of tension between viewpoints and ideologies. Furthermore, different online environments are used as new social gathering spaces where personal views can be freely expressed and ideas and issues strongly contested.

Granato and Parini (2015) also state that online communicative environments have become social spaces where participants construct and preserve interpersonal relationships and convey interpersonal meaning through the adoption of different stances. Besides, online encounters do not necessarily constitute an alternative to encounters in the physical world, but rather they are often characterised as complementary to face-to-face interactions.

It seems to be fundamental to analyse stancetaking and the projection of ethnic identity in online environments because, following Parini’s (2014) line of thought, “given the fact that much of the process of socialisation in contemporary society, or liquid modernity in Bauman’s term, is carried out online, it seems reasonable, if not necessary, to look at online social practices as complementary to offline social practices”.

Online environments offer authentic opportunities for analysis because “as there is no physical co-presence and there is anonymity, participants may disinhibit themselves and act in ways that would be considered more face-threatening in the physical world. In these cases the interactants may be said to be acting more as ‘themselves’” (Parini 2014). Following the same line of reasoning, Granato and Parini (2015) claim that the extent of anonymity offered by online environments may allow participants to raise the force of their evaluative comments without the risk of losing personal face as it could happen in face-to-face interactions.

One of the most important online environments in which people interact intensely is the video-sharing website YouTube. “Launched in February 2005 under the slogan ‘Broadcast Yourself’, in 2006 YouTube was sold to Google with an activity rate of 100 million views and over 65.000 daily video uploads” (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012). Since then, its popularity has continued to grow and its increasing influence encompasses a range of social domains (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012). YouTube’s popularity and influence owes principally to its video-sharing (vlogging) facility, which is regarded as its emblematic form of participation and cultural production (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012).

YouTube vlogging has attracted considerable academic attention, including research into its individual identity construction and social networking function (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich

2012). "In addition to vlogging, YouTube offers a text facility through which YouTubers are able to post comments on previously uploaded video files. YouTubers are thus able to share, negotiate, agree, and challenge opinions, often with seemingly no other end in mind than to interact and be in touch with other, often unknown, YouTubers" (Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012).

Also, it is important to mention that "as the fastest growing web service of recent years, YouTube now ranks third behind Google and Facebook in measurements of web traffic. YouTube has also attracted academic interest in an emerging literature that tends to view it as a technological, media or cultural phenomenon" (Benson 2015: 82).

Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich (2012) state that "because of its open, public nature and the highly persistent textual record it generates, YouTube interaction not only tends to involve a sizeable number of participants but also to do so over a prolonged period of time". Furthermore, Burgess and Green (2009: 81, cited in Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich 2012) argue that "YouTube is a potential site of cosmopolitan cultural citizenship – a space in which individuals can represent their identities and perspectives, engage with the self-representations of others, and encounter cultural difference." Indeed, Bou-Franch, Lorenzo-Dus and Garcés-Conejos Blitvich (2012) affirm that the YouTube universe constitutes an unquestionable force within contemporary popular culture, a universe created collectively by all its participants. This universe is inhabited not only by video-producers and viewers but also by an important group of YouTubers that engage in textual interaction. YouTube's text-commenting facility provides a space for coherent textual discussion, an online space, therefore, for social interaction; this needs to be seen as contributing to the participatory culture of YouTube.

Finally, it is essential to make clear that comments on YouTube are not only motivated by the video, but also in response to other comments. As Benson (2015: 88) clearly states it, "analysis of written comments provides a good deal of evidence that they are not simply comments on the video prompt or metatext, but interactive turns that complete or prolong exchanges that begin with the uploading of a video".

## 2.2 Stancetaking

*Stance* is a sophisticated concept, that is the reason why it has been defined in several ways. Perhaps one of the most straightforward definitions of *stance* is the one provided by Jaworski and Thurlow (2009: 220): "stance is [...] an act of self-identification and social identification by which I say something not only about myself and my view of the world, but by which I also make a judgment about you and about others as being like me or unlike me".

More technically speaking, Kiesling (2009) argues that people's primary way of organising interaction is through stances. *Stance* is the person's expression of their relationship to their talk (their epistemic stance – e.g., how certain they are about their assertions), and a person's expression of their relationship to their interlocutors (their interpersonal stance – e.g., friendly or dominating).

Following a similar reasoning, Johnstone (2009) asserts that *stance* has to do with the methods, linguistic and other, by which interactants create and signal relationships with the propositions they utter and with the people they interact with. As taking a particular attitude towards propositions may index a particular social relationship or attribute, stancetaking inevitably has to do with both epistemic and interactional aspects of perspective-taking in discourse.

For Jaffe (2009) *stancetaking* implies taking up a position with respect to the form or the content of one's utterance. She emphasises the centrality of stancetaking because speaker positionality is built into the act of communication. So, although some forms of speech and writing are more stance-saturated than others, there is no such thing as a completely neutral position vis-à-vis one's linguistic productions, because neutrality is itself a stance.

Irvine (2009) relates stance to the speaker or author's evaluation and assessment, either of some object of discourse or of an interlocutor. For this author, there are three types of stance – although he concedes that they are not exhaustive of the ways stance has been discussed in the scholarly literature. The first type is epistemic stance, which concerns the truth-value of a proposition and the speaker's degree of commitment to it. The second is affective stance – the speaker's feelings about a proposition, an utterance, or a text –, an attitude, that is, towards some bit of discourse. And the third type concerns a speaker's self-positioning in relation to an interlocutor, or some social dimension of an interaction and its personnel.

Similarly, Englebretson (2007) subdivides stance into evaluation (value judgments, assessments and attitudes), affect (personal feelings) and epistemicity (commitment).

In order to fulfil the purposes of the present study, Du Bois's (2007) views on stance have been deemed the most productive. In the comments which have been considered for analysis, YouTube posters tend to

be inclined to take stances by evaluating objects, positioning themselves and aligning/disaligning with other posters. That is the reason why Du Bois's (2007) stance triangle seems to be the most helpful theoretical model to carry out the analysis.

### 2.2.1 Du Bois's stance triangle

According to Du Bois (2007) one of the most important things we do with words is take a stance. In his own words, "stance is a public act by a social actor, achieved dialogically through overt communicative means, of simultaneously evaluating objects, positioning subjects (self and others), and aligning with other subjects, with respect to any salient dimension of the sociocultural field" (Du Bois 2007: 163).

Du Bois (2007) states that perhaps the most salient form of stancetaking is evaluation. The evaluative target may be called the object of stance. In general terms, evaluation can be defined as the process whereby a stancetaker orients to an object of stance and characterises it as having some specific quality or value.

Du Bois (2007: 143) sustains that "as speakers position themselves affectively, they choose a position along an affective scale – as, for example, either glad or so glad. Such utterances have often been described as indexing affective stance. Speakers may position themselves not only along an affective scale, but also along an epistemic scale, for example, presenting themselves as knowledgeable or ignorant."

In the view of Du Bois (2007) the general concept which subsumes both affective and epistemic stance acts is *positioning*, which can be defined as the act of situating a social actor with respect to responsibility for stance and for invoking sociocultural value.

Du Bois (2007) affirms that agreement normally implies agreement with someone, which in conversation is usually the person being addressed. The general term for this kind of stancetaking is *alignment*. Alignment can be defined as the act of calibrating the relationship between two stances, and by implication between two stancetakers. Du Bois (2007: 162) also claims that "stances are aligned by subtle degrees, so that stance alignment can be relatively positive or negative – or, more precisely speaking, convergent or divergent to some degree."

According to Du Bois (2007: 163) the clearest way to represent the stance model he proposes is in the form of a triangle (Figure 1).

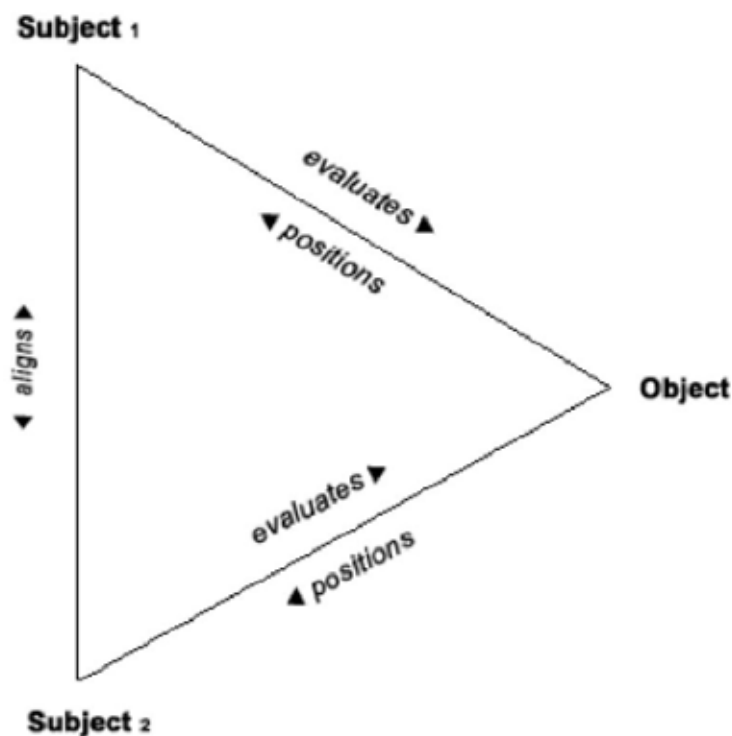


Figure 1. The stance triangle (Du Bois 2007: 163)



Du Bois (2007) explains that the three nodes of the stance triangle represent the three key entities in the stance act, namely the first subject, the second subject, and the (shared) stance object. The three sides of the triangle represent vectors that organise the stance relations among these entities. The stance triangle comprises the three subsidiary acts of evaluating, positioning, and aligning. Two of the three sides represent evaluative vectors directed from one of the two stance subjects towards the stance object. The third side of the triangle (the vertical line on the left) represents alignment between the two subjects. For each vector of directed action in the diagram, an arrowhead points in the direction of action's object or target.

### 2.3 Ethnic identity and African American Vernacular English

Barth (1969: 10-11, cited in Le Page and Tabouret-Keller 1985: 207) posits that an ethnic group: "1) is largely biologically self-perpetuating; 2) shares fundamental cultural values, realised in overt unity in cultural forms; 3) makes up a field of communication and interaction; 4) has a membership which identifies itself, and is identified by others, as constituting a category distinguishable from other categories of the same order." However, Barth (1969, cited in Le Page and Tabouret-Keller 1985) believes that although this ideal type definition continues to serve the purposes of most anthropologists, it is misleading because it suggests that boundary maintenance between ethnic groups is unproblematical and follows from the isolation which the itemised characteristics imply: racial difference, cultural difference, social separation and language barriers, spontaneous and organised enmity.

Nevertheless, Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985) claim that people do believe themselves to live in a world of discrete or distinct ethnic or racial groups – these among other social groups they also believe in. That belief is grounded in the use of terms of identity, words that are used in discourse which illuminates the concept each user attaches to each term. Such terms function as symbols ready at hand for identities to hang on, providing the links between individuals and groups, the instruments therefore of identification. They allow the members of a group to achieve unity by 'focusing' their use of the terms; at the same time, they mediate the concepts of differences between (perhaps also of barriers between) individuals, and between groups.

Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985) state that claims about ethnicity are often closely involved with linguistic questions and that language is frequently used as a defining characteristic of ethnic groups. "The individual creates for himself the patterns of his linguistic behaviour so as to resemble those of the group or groups with which from time to time he wishes to be identified, or so as to be unlike those from whom he wishes to be distinguished" (Le Page and Tabouret-Keller 1985: 181). Moreover, Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985: 238) posit that "it is evident that language plays a very complex role in relation to ethnic or national or racial identity".

As regards the connection between language and identity, Smitherman (1977, cited in Hecht and Ribeau 1988: 163) avers that "an individual's language is intricately bound up with her or his sense of identity and group consciousness". McGroarty (1996: 3) states that "language is an intimate part of social identity" and there is "a deeply felt bond between language and selfhood, a bond demanding that any language variety used by speakers during natural communication take its place as a legitimate form of expression".

However, it is important to mention that not all varieties have the same value for people. Cameron (1995) believes that varieties are differently evaluated because of social prejudice and that there is widespread bias against non-standard Englishes.

In the view of Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985: 187) "people come to believe that a particular way of speaking is *intrinsically* 'good' or 'bad', 'correct' or 'incorrect', and unchangeable". Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985: 192) claim that "the concept or stereotype of being a 'correct' user of the language, or alternatively, of being somebody *capable* of using 'correct language', is a powerful one in many societies". Le Page and Tabouret-Keller (1985: 227) also affirm that "the stereotypes themselves are important in binding together groups of individuals who interact according to their stereotypes, or in providing and maintaining boundaries around social groups".

Following this line of thought, Lanehart (1999: 213) holds the view that "some language varieties get tested more often than others. African American Vernacular English (AAVE) is one example of a language variety spoken by those whose right to choose how to speak is sorely tested. AAVE is not a high-prestige language in the view of mainstream society. Many view AAVE as a bastardised form of English that is spoken because the speakers do not know any better". Lanehart (1999: 216) adds that "AAVE is considered a nonstandard or even substandard language variety of American English by many nonlinguists".

However, "AAVE survives because there is a population of speakers who use it in their daily lives and know that it is the appropriate style of speaking for their personal needs. Like most language varieties

that are considered nonstandard, it developed and continues to persist, in part, because the communities who speak it often do not have much contact with other ways of speaking or because such communities define themselves partly by their speech" (Lanehart 1999: 213).

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1 Research methods

In order to focus on the way YouTube posters take stances and project their ethnic identities through their comments on two videos about African American Vernacular English, I will try to offer an interpretation of the corpus by means of a qualitative analysis. This type of analysis will be accompanied by the quantification of some relevant data because it is assumed that a quantitative analysis can prove to be fundamental when it comes to gaining a richer understanding of the facts.

#### 3.2 Data sources and collection techniques

The comments that have been chosen for analysis were retrieved from the comments section of two YouTube videos about African American Vernacular English. As regards the selection criteria, three main factors were considered: the videos had a large amount of views (more than 200.000), they received a considerable amount of comments (more than 1.500) and they were still receiving comments at the moment of beginning this study (September 2015).

The first video ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1w4NaMu\\_5s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1w4NaMu_5s)) is a personal narration entitled "Black people that talk white" and was uploaded on 14 December 2011 by a YouTuber called Chris Sanders, a black man who defines himself as "a motivational speaker and nerd hoping to inspire others through the promotion of nerd culture and positive thinking". In his own words, "my goal is to provide a unique perspective and a positive attitude to counteract the negativity within our culture". At the moment of beginning this work, the video had received 220.790 views and 1.938 comments.

In this video, Chris Sanders addresses the camera directly and talks about his own experience as regards the implications of black people who talk white. He starts by asking a rhetorical question: "why is it that when a black man speaks professionally, everyone goes 'that man's talking white?'" He claims that he never remembers there being a point in his life when he decided to talk like that (i.e., talk "white"). He says that "white people don't all talk the same, they have different dialects". He asks another question: "why is it that because I don't speak in complete slang, then I talk white?" He then tells a personal anecdote about high school when he was answering questions posed by his teacher and one of his classmates reproached him for "talking white".

He also said that he had heard that for years and shouted at her: "because my parents taught me how to freaking read!" He remembers being tired of people telling him that he talked "white". He says loudly: "I'm not white, I'm black. Look at me! This skin is lovely. It's awesome. I love it, I love being black. I don't want to be white. Nothing against white people, I just don't want to be that. I'm happy with being who I am, and I like the way I talk".

Finally, he advises his audience by telling them that if they are being ostracised because of the way they talk, or if they are called "Oreo" or something they do not identify themselves with, they should not worry because "at the end of the day, how you speak is not like identify who you are. Now, people might try to do that, don't let them. Just don't let them. That's it. Keep doing you and one day people will love you for the person you are. I don't know how long it's gonna take you. It took me about like ten years until people started accepting me for the person I am".

The second video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIWOU9FHm-I>) is an educational/institutional video entitled "Black guy teaches how to pronounce words like ask" and was uploaded on 16 May 2007 by a user called *truefaithisle* (there is no description available about himself/herself). At the moment of beginning this study, the video had received 536.997 views and 3.257 comments.

This video is a recording of a special report on Fox News about Garrard McClendon, a black teacher who has been teaching high school and college English for 15 years in the Chicago area. According to the anchorwoman, McClendon is "targeting bad grammar". He has written an educational book called "Ax or ask? The African American guide to better English" (with CD and DVD versions in stores and online) to help black children "improve their English". The anchorman adds that "his emphasis on targeting African

Americans is causing a backlash". He also says that some might be offended by his mission but, according to McClendon, his book isn't about selling out; in fact, it's about gaining clout.

In the video, there is footage of the teacher showing high school students how to pronounce certain words correctly, such as "ask", a word which is generally pronounced as "ax" by African American speakers. Then McClendon claims: "the black community is losing countless children; parents aren't correcting children; teachers, who are supposed to teach, aren't correcting children. I've got a serious problem with that. How can a person call him or herself a professional educator if you're not willing to correct a person's grammar?" After that, the reporter says that "for the kids, breaking the language barrier is a battle against society". Then one of the students says: "in the area I grew up in we talk slang, we don't talk proper English at all". McClendon tells the reporter that "African American children are suffering the most".

Next, there is footage of the teacher advising the students to make sure they pronounce the "th" sound in words like "birthday" or "bathroom" because when they go out on job interviews, people will be looking at how they speak. The reporter says that that is ultimately why the school staff invited McClendon. An academy teacher explains that he wants students to speak so that they can gain enough skill with the language and thus be accepted professionally. He adds that "this (i.e. good grammar) is what's accepted professionally".

When interviewed, the Academy Director says that the way black Americans speak is the form of a subculture, a subculture that just goes from one generation to another just passing on poor language skills. Finally, McClendon tells the reporter: "people are losing out on opportunities every day because of the way they speak; I gotta do this".

As analysing all of the comments addressed to the videos would entail going far beyond the scope of this work, only a sample of comments from each video has been considered for the analysis. In order to attain a balanced sample, both corpuses are similar in the number of words. Therefore, Corpus A (from the personal narrative video) consists of a total of 200 comments (9.372 words) and Corpus B (from the educational/institutional video) consists of 252 comments (9.303 words).

The YouTube page has a tool which offers the possibility of arranging the comments according to two criteria: *latest comments first* or *top comments first*. For the present study, the second one has been applied to select the comments as it is assumed that the top comments are the ones which generate more discussion and receive more responses, thus enriching the analysis.

### 3.3 Ethical considerations

The data for the present work has been collected simply with the intention of analysing linguistic, discursive and pragmatics aspects. In no case has the data been used to evaluate people's own opinions or to infringe on their private affairs. As people's YouTube comments were intended to be public, accessible to any individual even without a YouTube account, and to generate debate and discussion with other participants openly, it is assumed that no consent was needed to incorporate them as part of the present analysis.

In any case, bearing this in mind, the posters' names/nicknames have been deleted so as to protect their identities. Nonetheless, it is worth mentioning that their names/nicknames as well as their comments are publicly available on the internet and can be retrieved freely from YouTube.

## 4. Analysis of the data

### 4.1 Stancetaking: objects of evaluation, position and alignment. Polarity

The research questions that have motivated the present work are the following:

1. How do YouTube posters perform acts of evaluation through their comments as reactions to two videos about African American Vernacular English?
2. What are the main objects of evaluation?
3. Do posters react similarly to the two videos, taking into account that the issue is approached from two different perspectives (personal narration and educational/institutional)?
4. How do YouTube posters take stance through their evaluative comments?

5. How do posters project their ethnic identities through the linguistic expressions “black”, “African American” and “white” as well as through discursive resources and functions?

To begin with, it is essential to take into account that whenever YouTube posters take a stance through their comments, they have an object of evaluation in mind. In the case of the comments on the personal narrative video – entitled “Black people that talk white” – four objects of evaluation have been identified: *self evaluation* (that is, when the posters evaluate themselves through their comments), *other posters’ comments*, *video content* (what happens in the video is evaluated) and *video narrator* (in this case, the YouTuber Chris Sanders is evaluated). Moreover, when YouTube posters take a stance, they imbue their comments with a certain polarity, which can be *positive*, *negative* or *neutral*.

Before beginning with the analysis of the comments, it is important to consider the fact that analysing all the comments of both corpuses would involve going far beyond the scope of this study. Therefore, only the most representative comments will be taken into account for the analysis.

Considering a straightforward comment such as the following, both instances of analysis described above can be easily spotted:

**Comment #10** 4 months ago  
*Anyway man! Good video. LOL*

In this comment, the object of evaluation is the content of the video, which is described as “good”, and the polarity of the comment is clearly positive, not only because of the encouraging phrase “anyway man!” and the use of the adjective “good”, but also because of the acronym “LOL” (i.e. laughing out loud) which implies that the poster of this comment enjoyed watching the video.

In the following comment, the object of evaluation is twofold:

**Comment #18** 1 year ago  
*You still sound black to me but maybe its just the ghetto ass people you live around that sound uneducated.*

On the one hand, the poster of comment #18 is evaluating the content of the video. This poster disagrees with what the narrator tries to show throughout the video (that he talks like what is generally considered as “white”) when he/she writes “you still sound black to me”. It is noticeable the use of the adverb “still” to emphasise his/her stance. On the other hand, he/she also evaluates the video narrator when he/she writes “maybe its just the ghetto ass people you live around that sound uneducated”, implying that the narrator lives in a poor area (“ghetto”) surrounded with uneducated people. As regards polarity, it is undoubtedly negative due to the challenging expression “you still sound black to me”, the degrading qualification “ghetto ass people” and the use of “uneducated” to describe the way black people talk.

Moving a step further in the analysis, and bearing in mind Du Bois’s (2007) stance triangle, it can be noticed that the poster of comment #18 not only evaluates the video content and the video narrator negatively, but he/she also positions himself/herself socially and ideologically distant as regards the narrator’s stance. By using the adverb “maybe” he/she takes an epistemic stance to imply that the narrator is supposed to sound black because he may live in a ghetto area. Besides, this poster evidently disaligns with the video narrator by implying that he/she is not part of that ghetto area so he/she does not sound black or uneducated.

In the next comment, as in the previous one, the object of evaluation is also twofold:

**Comment #31** 1 year ago  
*Story of my life. In my opinion people who think like that are internally racist/insecure. I am happy with who I am (regular black dude), and comfortable in my own skin. Oh and fuck stereotypes lol they’re so stupid... From people saying shit like that to me my whole life I’ve learned to be more open minded and non-judgemental. Also, I’ve realized down the line that I have nothing to prove to anyone, and likewise they don’t have to prove anything to me either and that is fine with me. Lastly, some of the best advice from one my most cherished friends that summarizes I’ve written is, “you shouldn’t have to be anything but yourself.”*

The poster of comment #31 begins his/her comment by positively evaluating the content of the video: “story of my life”, implying that something similar has happened to him/her and thus agreeing with Chris Sanders’s opinion. He/she also evaluates himself/herself when he/she claims “I am happy with who I am (regular black dude), and comfortable in my own skin”. When it comes to polarity, the overall tone is positive,

which can be perceived from expressions such as “story of my life”; “I am happy [...] and comfortable”; “I’ve learned to be more open minded”; “you shouldn’t have to be anything but yourself”; and the acronym “lol”.

Taking into account Du Bois’s (2007) stance triangle, apart from evaluating the content of the video, the poster of comment #31 positions himself/herself closer to the video narrator’s stance. When he/she states “in my opinion people who think like that are internally racist/insecure”, he/she is taking an epistemic stance to convey the idea that he/she also agrees with Chris Sanders’s views expressed in the video, thus assuming they share similar ideologies. To complete the triangle, it is evident that he/she aligns with Chris Sanders from the very beginning of the comment (“story of my life”). Also, he/she concludes his comment with an opinion (“you shouldn’t have to be anything but yourself”) which resembles what the narrator expresses in his video: “keep doing you and one day people will love you for the person you are”.

In the case of the comments on the educational/institutional video – entitled “Black guy teaches how to pronounce words like ask” – also four objects of evaluation have been identified: *self evaluation*, *other comments*, *video content* and *video participants* (i.e. the people that appear in the video: the anchorpersons, Garrard McClendon – the teacher –, the students and the Academy Director). Concerning polarity, the possible instances are the same as in the personal narrative video: *positive*, *negative* and *neutral*.

Considering the following comment for analysis, it can be stated that the object of evaluation is other comments, as it was made in response to two posters’ comments (in YouTube, the symbol @ is used to indicate an addressee):

**Comment #215** 4 years ago in reply to another poster

*@another poster why do white guys like to portray yourself like you are so mighty and have so many standards when in fact your race and gender are most notoriously known for inbreeding, being pedophiles and bestiality. THATS DISGUSTING and it shows how much low self-esteem and fucked up mentality you people really have. STOP with your no self-esteem lies. Whites are disgusting creatures.*

Here it can be noticed that the poster of comment #215 does not agree with the other posters’ comments, as he/she challenges them with a rhetorical question: “why do white guys like to portray yourself like you are so mighty and have so many standards when in fact your race and gender are most notoriously known for inbreeding, being pedophiles and bestiality”. Then he/she adds “THATS DISGUSTING” to reinforce his/her negative evaluation. It is noticeable the use of capitalisation to sound more categorical. The defiant rhetorical question as well as expressions like “THATS DISGUSTING”, “fucked up mentality”, “no self-esteem lies” and “whites are disgusting creatures” clearly imbue the comment with a negative polarity.

In view of Du Bois’s (2007) stance triangle, not only does the poster of comment #215 evaluate negatively other posters’ comments, but he/she also positions himself/herself ideologically separate from the stances taken in those comments. His/her expression “THATS DISGUSTING” could be paraphrased as “I feel disgusted at the way your race behaves” thus positioning himself/herself in an affective scale at odds with the other posters’ stances. Furthermore, the poster of comment #215 clearly disaligns with both posters when he/she writes: “STOP with your no self-esteem lies. Whites are disgusting creatures”.

Taking into account the next comment for analysis, it can be held that its object of evaluation is one of the participants of the video:

**Comment #193** 2 years ago

*“Don’t nobody teach me how to say AXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX “, maybe he will be able to tie his shoes by the age of 20, doubt it.....just stick to sports, no deep thought required*

Here, the poster of comment #193 is mocking one of the students who appear in the video because of his use of the double negative, which is considered ungrammatical in Standard English. When this poster ironically writes “doubt it”, he/she is implying that the student will not be intelligent enough to learn to tie his own shoes even at the age of 20. That is why, to reinforce his/her negative evaluation, he/she advises the student to focus his energy on sports instead of studying as there is “no deep thought required” in physical activities. Alongside this negative evaluation, the polarity of this comment is unquestionably negative.

Taking into consideration Du Bois’s (2007) stance triangle, apart from evaluating the video participant negatively, the poster of comment #193 positions himself/herself culturally distant as regards the student’s use of the language. By means of the adverb “maybe” and the verbal phrase “doubt it”, he/she imbues his/her epistemic stance with a sarcastic tone, implying that the student will not progress in the future (that is to say, that he will not be able to use the language “correctly”). To complete the other component of the triangle, it proves to be obvious that the poster of this comment disaligns with the student.

In order to achieve a better understanding of the material analysed, it might be useful to compare the data found in the comments on both videos. The instances of the objects of evaluation in the comments on the personal narrative video are shown in Figure 2.

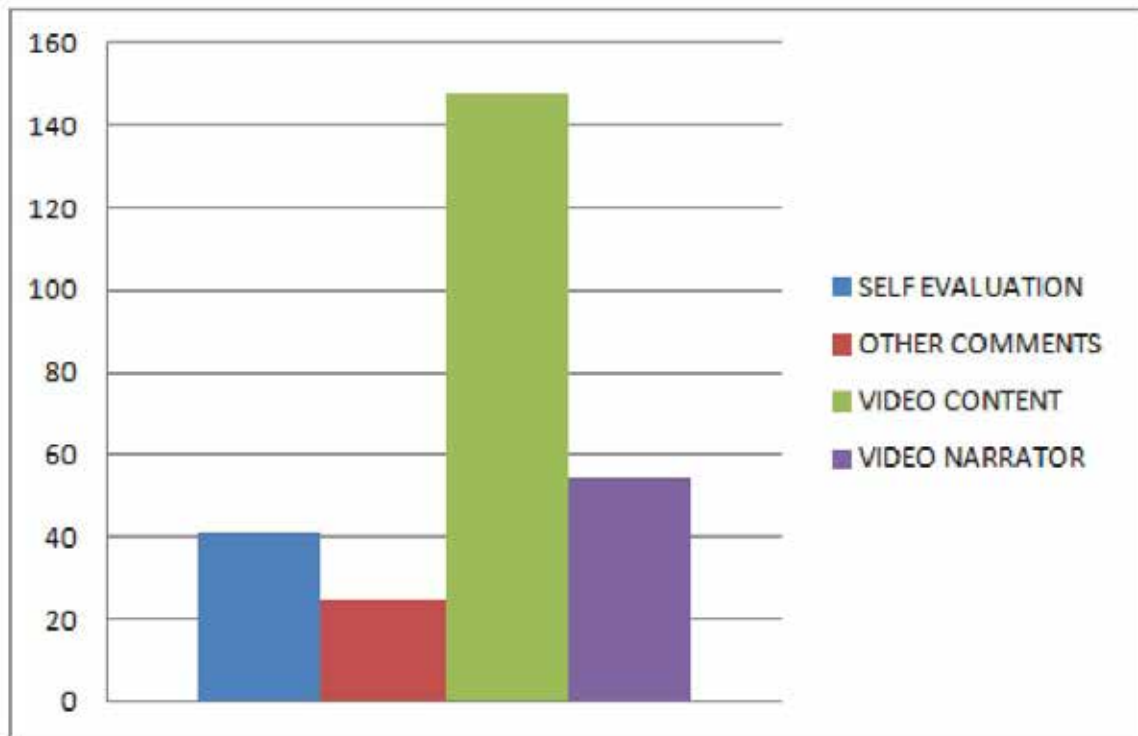


Figure 2. Objects of evaluation in the comments on the personal narrative video.

The instances of the objects of evaluation in the comments on the educational/institutional video are shown in Figure 3.

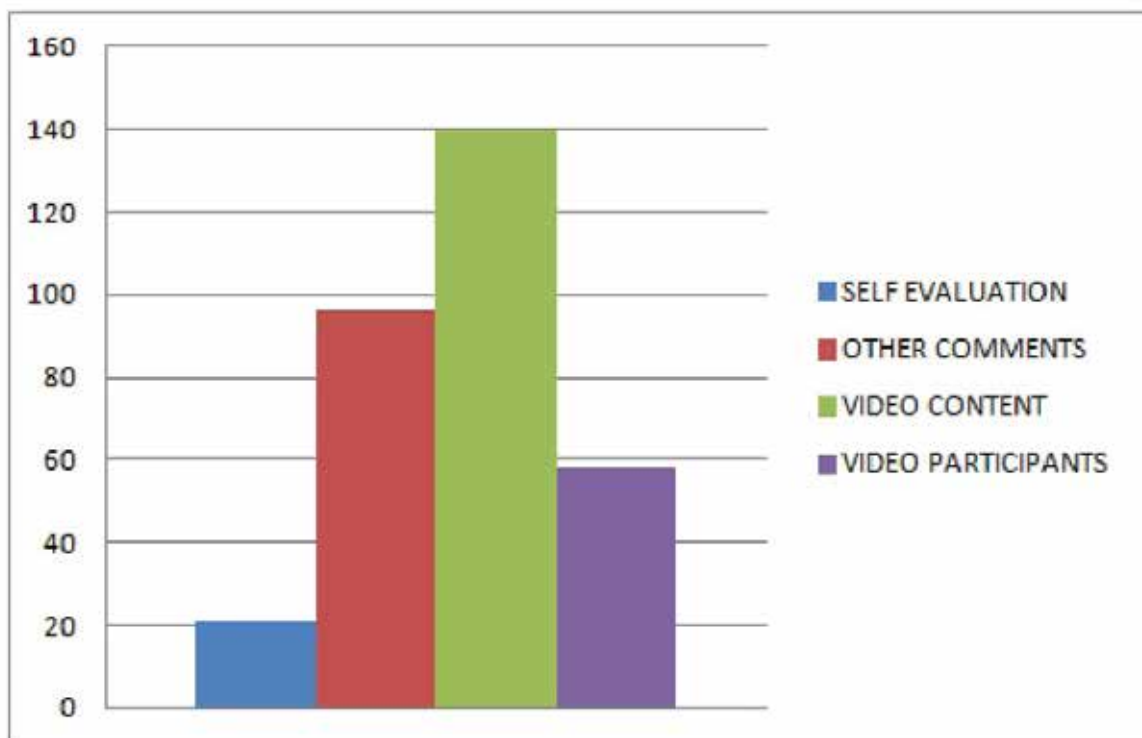


Figure 3. Objects of evaluation in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

In spite of the fact that in both videos there is a tendency from the part of YouTube posters to evaluate mainly the content of the video, it is worth noticing that evaluating other comments is the second preferable choice in the educational/institutional video, whereas in the personal narrative video it is the least desired option. Another interesting point to mention is that in the comments on the personal narrative video, self-evaluation seems to be more important than in the comments on the educational/institutional video. These tendencies could be explained by the fact that as in the personal narrative video Chris Sanders addresses the camera directly and faces his audience openly, expressing his views frankly and accompanying his account with an intimate anecdote, YouTubers may be encouraged to feel connected ideologically with him. Thus, YouTubers who watched this video and posted comments on it apparently tended to identify themselves highly with the narrator's points of view and relate his accounts with their own life experiences. That is the reason why self-evaluation seems to be more important in the comments on the personal narrative video than in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

In the educational/institutional video, self-evaluation does not seem to be as important as evaluating other posters' comments. As a way of explanation, it could be stated that as this video shows part of a TV news programme in which educational issues are discussed by a teacher, and thus its tone is not as personal or intimate as Chris Sanders's video, YouTubers may not feel cheered to post comments on their own personal matters. Instead, they tend to focus their interest on evaluating other comments.

When it comes to polarity, the instances in the comments on the personal narrative video are represented in Figure 4.

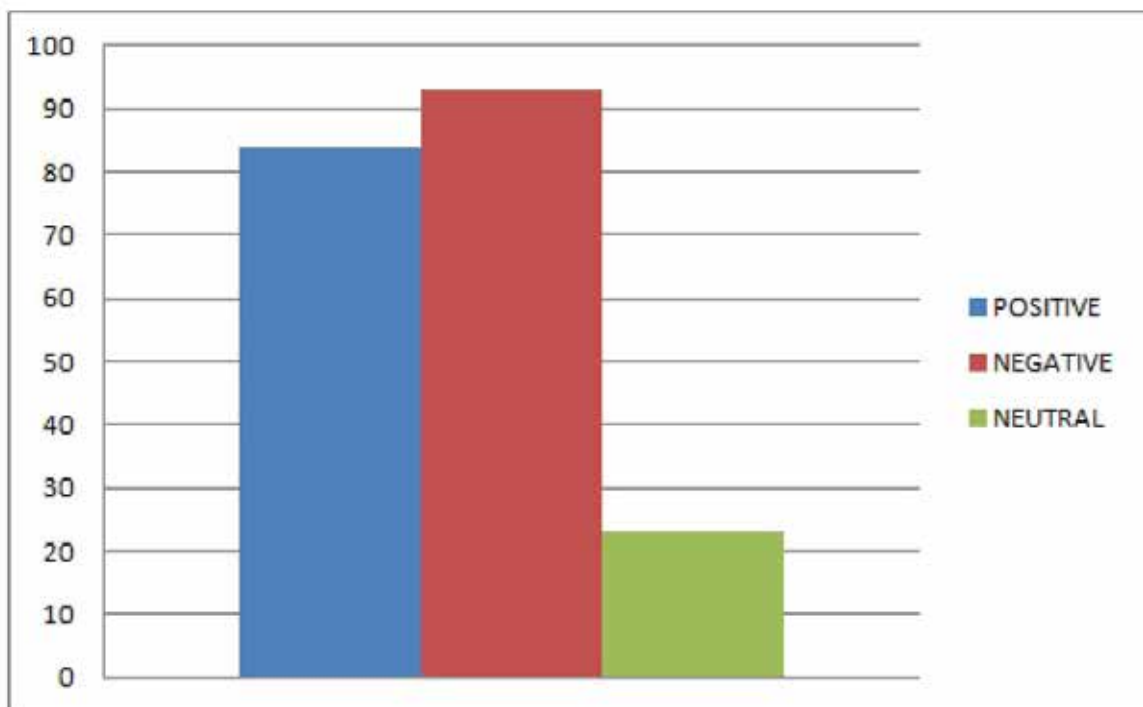
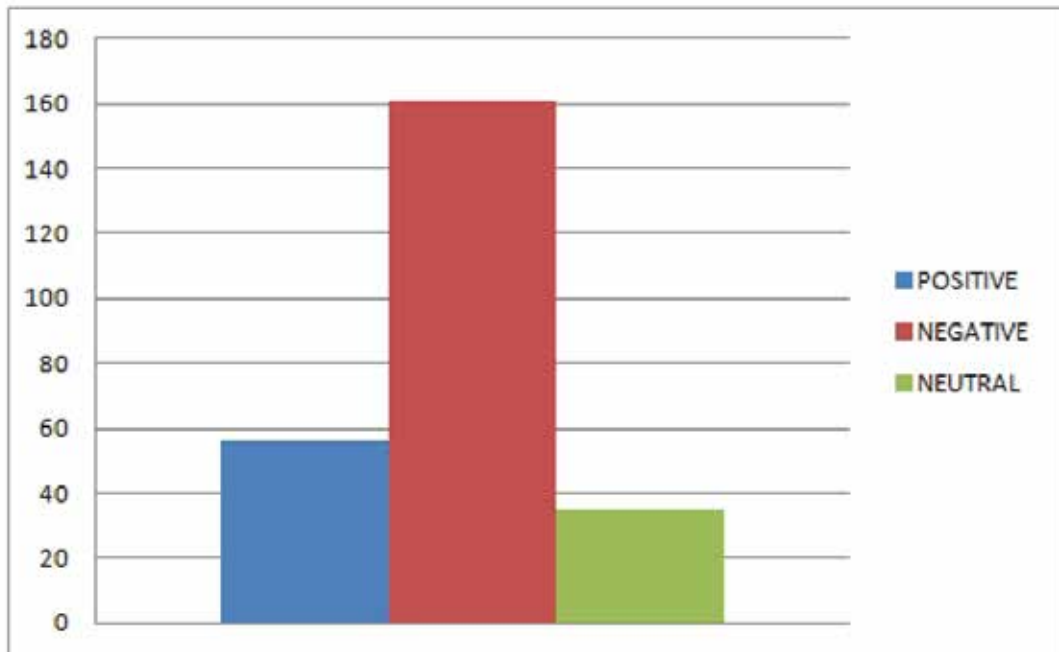


Figure 4. Polarity in the comments on the personal narrative video.

The instances of polarity in the comments on the educational/institutional video are shown in Figure 5.



**Figure 5.** Polarity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

It is important to notice that whereas in the personal narrative video there is no significant difference between the amount of positive and negative comments, in the educational/institutional video the negative comments outnumber the positive ones. Apparently, an educational/institutional video like the one considered here, in which a teacher is trying to change black people's way of talking, generates more antagonism and hostility among YouTube posters, which is reflected in the considerable disparity between negative and positive comments.

#### 4.2 Addressivity

In addition to having an object of evaluation and a polarity, the comments also entail an addressivity. In the comments on the personal narrative video, three types of addressivity have been found to occur: *cross-turn addressivity* (that is, when comments are addressed towards other posters' comments), *indirect addressivity* (when comments have no particular directionality but are expected to be read by all the participants) and *video narrator addressivity* (when comments are addressed directly to Chris Sanders).

To begin with, the following comment was posted in reply to another YouTube poster, that is why it carries a cross-turn addressivity:

**Comment #137** 2 years ago *in reply to another poster*

*You are an idiot. He talks like an educated person. Race is not an accent and has ZERO to do with how we speak. That is determined by how you grow up and learn. Idiot.*

The following comment was addressed to no one in particular, that is the reason why it can be said that it has an indirect addressivity:

**Comment #29** 8 months ago

*I find it harder to talk to people who use slang all the time*

In the following comment, the addressivity is towards the video narrator:

**Comment #16** 8 months ago

*Oh goodness, THANK YOU CHRIS! You understand me here. ^\_^*



This poster is evidently satisfied after watching the video and thus posts a comment to thank Chris Sanders. His/her use of capitalisation reinforces his/her gratitude towards the video narrator.

In the case of the comments on the educational/institutional video, also three types of addressivity have been found to occur: *cross-turn addressivity*, *indirect addressivity* and *video participants addressivity*.

The following comment was posted in reply to another YouTube poster's comment, so it has a cross-turn addressivity:

**Comment #48** 2 years ago *in reply to another poster*

*actually "axe"(aks) was first...study linguistic and learn something about language..it changes and evolves..there is no "right grammar"*

The next comment does not have a specific addressee. As it is intended to be read by anyone, it can be said that it has an indirect addressivity:

**Comment #199** 4 years ago

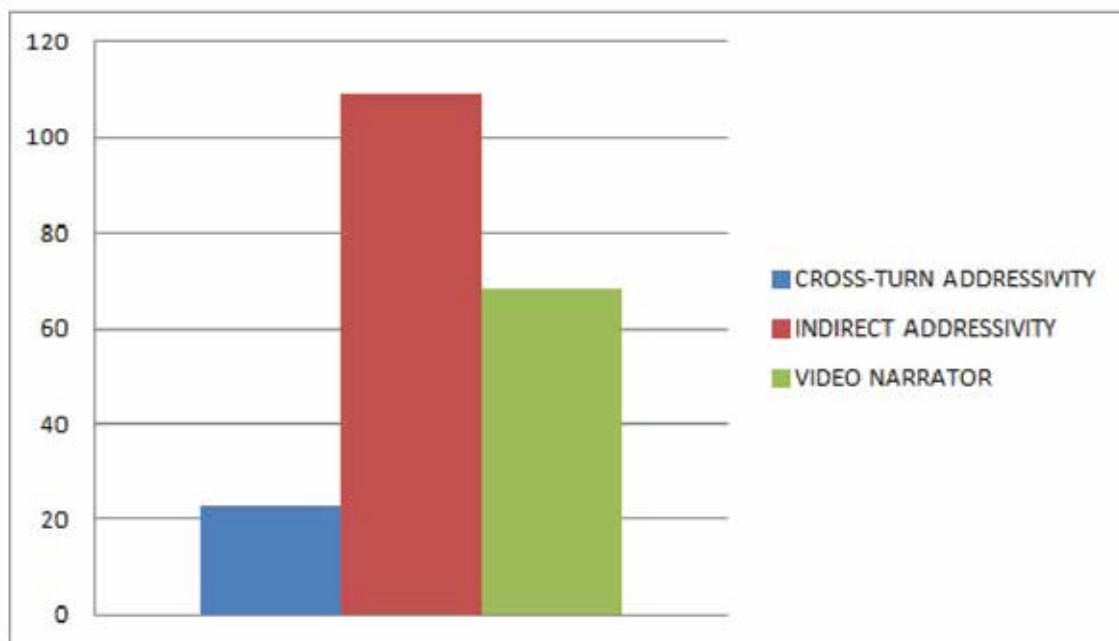
*good to see someone fix the ghetto.*

In the following comment, the YouTuber poses a question to Garrard McClendon, the teacher who concludes his appearance in the video with the words "people are losing out on opportunities every day because of the way they speak; I gotta do this". Therefore, the comment has a video participants addressivity.

**Comment #219** 4 years ago

*@3:40 "I gotta do this" I believe you meant to say "I have to do this". Would I be correct, or was that....just you hanging out with the troubled youth?*

Once again, it might be helpful to compare the data found in the comments on both videos so as to attain a better understanding of the instances of addressivity considered for analysis. Figure 6 represents the cases of addressivity in the comments on the personal narrative video.



**Figure 6.** Addressivity in the comments on the personal narrative video.

Figure 7 shows the cases of addressivity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

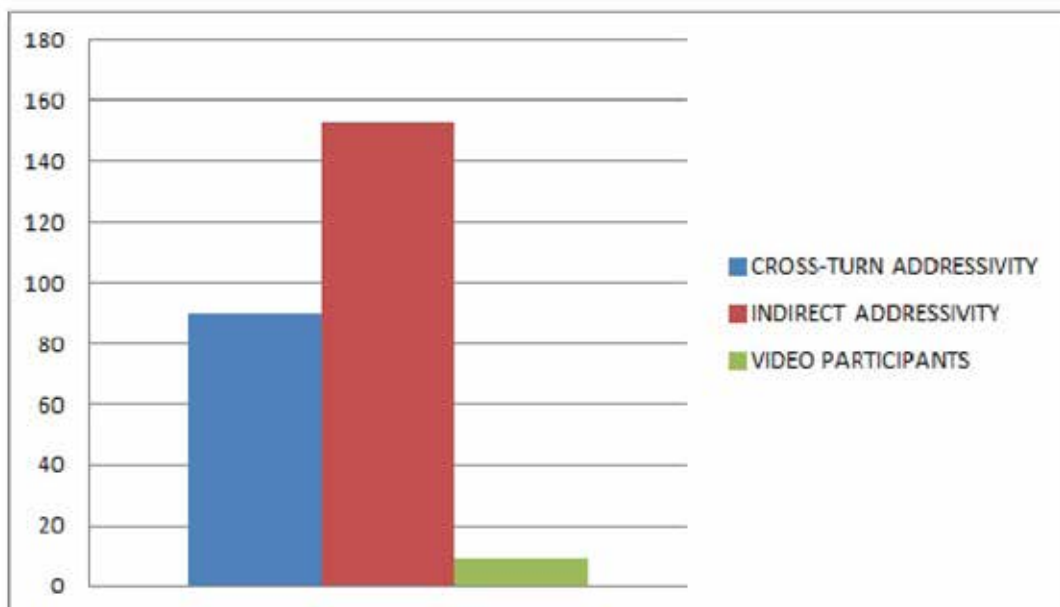


Figure 7. Addressivity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

Despite the fact that in both videos there is a tendency from the part of YouTube posters to imbue their comments with an *indirect addressivity*, it can be seen that *video narrator addressivity* is the second preferable choice in the personal narrative video, whereas in the educational/institutional video, *video participants addressivity* is the least desired option. This observation is clearly connected with the suggestion mentioned earlier: that this type of personal narrative video, in which the narrator, Chris Sanders, faces his audience openly and expresses his views frankly, may encourage YouTubers to feel identified ideologically with him and relate his accounts with their own life experiences. As a consequence, a vast majority of the comments are addressed to the narrator of the video.

Nevertheless, this does not seem to be the case in the educational/institutional video. The identification with the participants does not seem as strong as in the personal narrative video; that is why the amount of comments addressed to them is not significant.

Another key point to mention is that *cross-turn addressivity* seems to be more important in the comments on the educational/institutional video than in the personal narrative one. Once again, this observation is connected with the suggestion that as this video deals with a section of a TV news programme in which educational concerns are discussed by a teacher, and thus its tone is not as personal or close as Chris Sanders's video, YouTubers may not feel stimulated to post comments on their own personal issues. As an alternative, they tend to post more comments in response to other posters' comments. That is the reason why *cross-turn addressivity* has a predominance in the comments on the educational/institutional video that does not correspond to the comments on the personal narrative video.

#### 4.3 The projection of ethnic identity through the linguistic expressions “black”, “African American” and “white”

With the help of a web application ([www.tagcrowd.com](http://www.tagcrowd.com)) both corpuses – from the personal narrative video and the educational/institutional video – have been jointly analysed so as to find out which expressions present the highest frequencies of occurrence. As a result, a word cloud has been obtained, which can be appreciated in Figure 8.



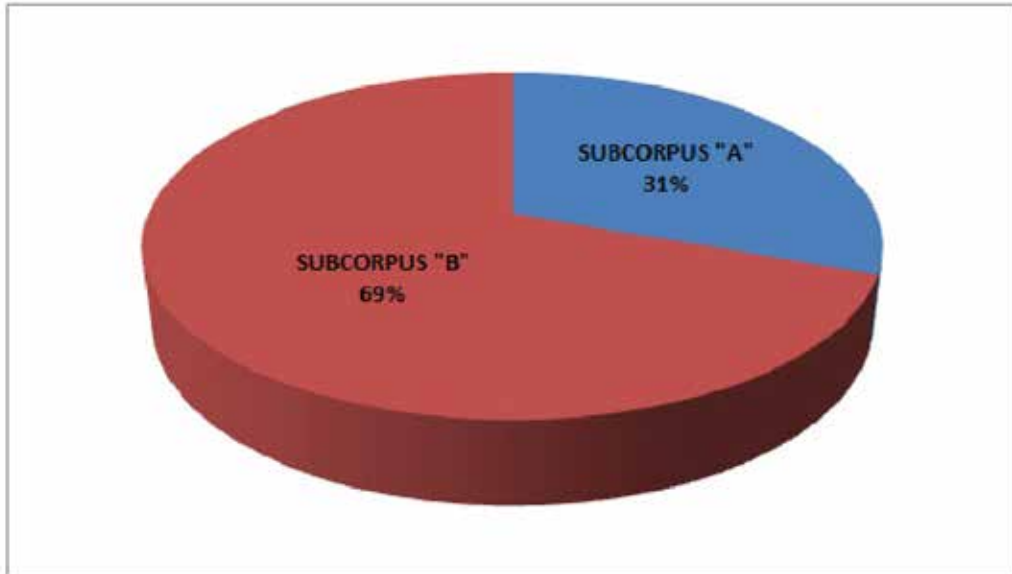


Figure 10. Percentage of comments in each subcorpus of the educational/institutional video.

An interesting fact that emerges when comparing both charts is that in the personal narrative video, more than half (56%) of the comments of the corpus include at least one occurrence of “black”, “African American” or “white”. However, in the educational/institutional video there is only a small percentage (31%) of comments which contains at least one instance of these expressions. A plausible explanation that can be offered here is that in a narrative video like the one considered for this work, in which Chris Sanders gives an account of his personal feelings sincerely as regards the connection between being black and talking “correctly”, YouTubers tend to be inclined to imbue their comments with words that signal a strong association with ethnic issues. This does not seem to be the case in the educational/institutional video, apparently due to the fact that its tone is not as intimate as in the personal narrative video, and the approach to the topic is performed through a more professional, objective manner.

As regards the amount of occurrences of “black”, “African American” and “white”, it can be noticed from Figure 11 that in Subcorpus “A” from the personal narrative video “white” is the most frequently used of the three, followed closely by “black”, whereas “African American” is rarely used.

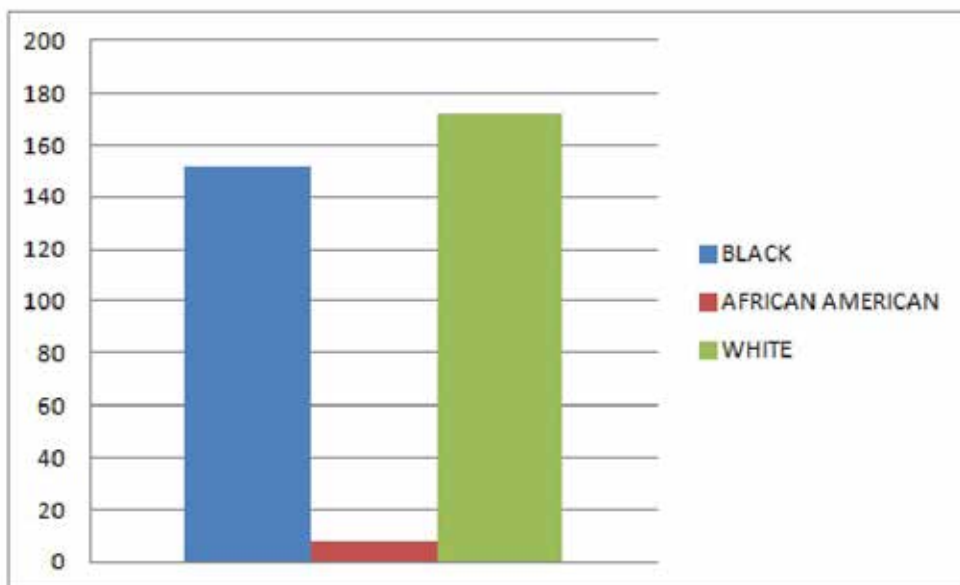
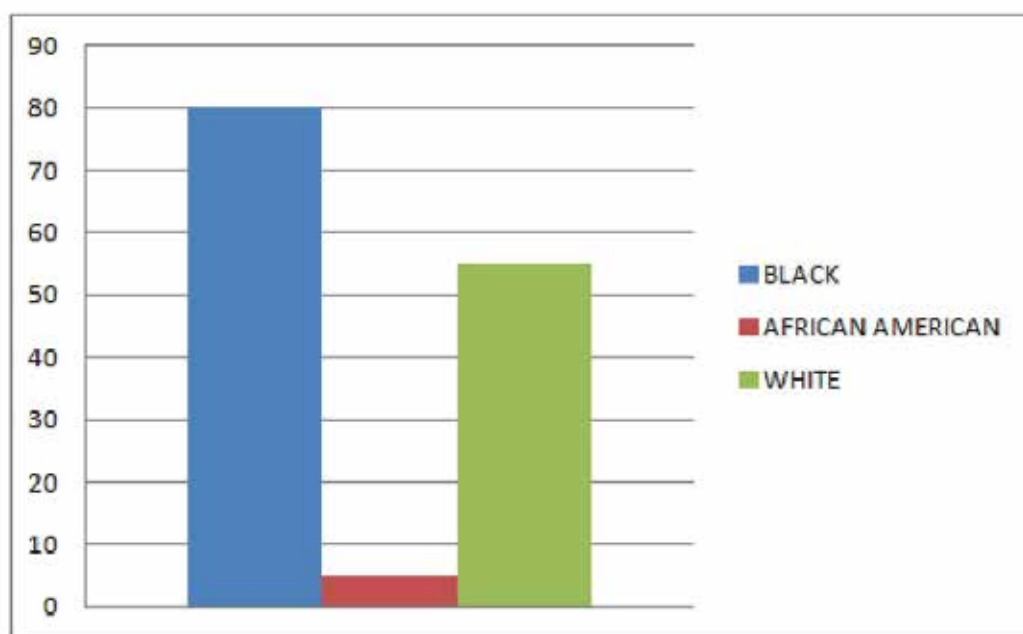


Figure 11. Instances of “black”, “African American” and “white” in Subcorpus “A” of the personal narrative video.

Even though in Subcorpus “A” from the educational/institutional video “African American” is also the least used, it is worth noticing that “black” and not “white” turns out to be the most frequently used. This can be appreciated in Figure 12.



**Figure 12.** Instances of “black”, “African American” and “white” in Subcorpus “A” of the educational/institutional video.

Going a step further in the analysis, it appears to be necessary to focus on the different functions that YouTube posters try to fulfil by means of using the expressions “black”, “African American” and “white” in their comments.

There are four main purposes that have been identified as regards these expressions: *in-group ethnic marker* (that is, YouTube posters intend to make clear that they belong to certain ethnic group), *out-group ethnic marker* (posters try to show that they do not belong to certain ethnic group), *way of talking/behaving marker* (posters describe the way they or others talk or behave), and *no membership ethnic marker* (posters do not specify which ethnic group they or others belong to).

In the next paragraphs, these four functions will be analysed through comments. The first three comments considered for analysis have been taken from Subcorpus “A” of the personal narrative video. In the first comment, “white” is used as a *way of talking marker*:

**Comment #3** 1 month ago

*There is no such thing as talking white that’s just the normal way to talk*

According to this poster’s stance, there is no place for a dichotomy between “talking white” and “talking black”, because the only normal way to talk is “white”. He/she seems to be projecting his/her ethnic identity by implying that he/she is a white person who does not acknowledge the way black people talk as valid. Finally, it is important to consider that in this comment, “white” is used negatively (i.e. it has a negative polarity).

In the following comment, there are several instances of “black” and “white”:

**Comment #71** 10 months ago

*This ‘talking white thing’ exists because for some reason, black people love to embrace their negative aspects. All this embracing ‘the hood’ bullshit. Black folks love to keep each other down. There is no talking white or black, there is talking educated and talking ghetto, it just happens that most of the population living in the ghettos are black.*

Firstly, “white” is used as a *way of talking marker* (“This ‘talking white thing’ exists because for some reason”); then, there are two consecutive instances of “black” which are used as *out-group ethnic markers*

(“black people love to embrace their negative aspects” and “Black folks love to keep each other down”); then, both “white” and “black” are used as *way of talking markers* (“There is no talking white or black”); finally, “black” is used again as an *out-group ethnic marker* (“it just happens that most of the population living in the ghettos are black”).

Evidently, the poster of comment #71 signals his/her ethnic identity by making a clear distinction between black people (whom he/she devaluates) and white people (whom he/she seems to belong). He/she debases black people by stating that they “embrace their negative aspects”, the hood which they belong to is a “bullshit”, they “love to keep each other down”, their way of talking is not educated and most of them live in ghettos. He/she also associates “talking educated” with white people and “talking ghetto” with black people. To conclude with the analysis, it is important to notice that all the instances of “black” and “white” in this comment are imbued with a negative polarity.

The next comment includes two instances of “black”, two of “white” and one of “African American”:

**Comment #33** 10 months ago (edited)

*For All Of You Black JACKASS In The Planet! Telling A Black Guy That He Talks White Is Actually A Compliment, To Understand That? Talk Stupid, Be Stupid, Sag Your Ass Out, Smoke Weed And Being A Gangster Are Treated As A Representation Of The African-American Crazy Right? Therefore, YOU NIGGAS Are Insulting Yourself By Saying White People Are Better At Being Intelligent And Improved*

Firstly, “black” is used twice as out-group ethnic markers (“For All Of You Black JACKASS In The Planet!” and “Telling A Black Guy [...]”); then, “white” is used as a *way of talking marker* (“[...] That He Talks White Is Actually A Compliment”); next, “African American” is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* (“[...] And Being A Gangster Are Treated As A Representation Of The African-American Crazy Right?”); finally, “white” is used as an in-group ethnic marker (“YOU NIGGAS Are Insulting Yourself By Saying White People Are Better At Being Intelligent And Improved”).

It is clear that the poster of comment #33 is projecting his/her ethnic identity straightforwardly by addressing black people as “You Black JACKASS” and “YOU NIGGAS” (it is worth mentioning the use of capitalisation to give more prominence to these derogatory terms). This YouTube poster seems to be a white person who demeans African Americans as people who talk and behave like stupid, smoke weed and are gangsters. He/she also claims white people’s superiority by asserting that “Telling A Black Guy That He Talks White Is Actually A Compliment”. He/she also believes that black people insult themselves when they say that “White People Are Better At Being Intelligent And Improved”. To finish this analysis, all instances of “black” and “African American” carry a negative polarity, while both instances of “white” convey a positive polarity.

The next three comments have been taken from Subcorpus “A” of the educational/institutional video. In the first comment, “African American” is used as an *in-group ethnic marker*:

**Comment #115** 3 years ago

*BRILLIANCE!!! It's only a BIG deal b/c all of the children are African Americans. He's helping our children, not hurting them GOSH! Let EVERYONE learn academic English.*

The poster of comment #115 makes clear that he/she belongs to the African American community when he/she addresses the African American children appearing in the video by means of the possessive adjective “our” (“he is helping our children”). Apparently, he/she believes that the YouTubers debate hotly about the video because the children being taught how to talk “correctly” are African Americans (“It’s only a BIG deal b/c all of the children are African Americans”), so he/she wants to convey the idea that he/she is also part of that community and demands that the children should be given the opportunity to learn to speak “correctly”. Therefore, he/she takes a stance in favour of Garrard McClendon’s work (“BRILLIANCE!!! [...] He’s helping our children, not hurting them GOSH! Let EVERYONE learn academic English”). It is worth noticing the use of capitalisation to give more emphasis to his/her stance. Finally, it is important to consider that in this comment “African American” is used with a positive polarity.

In the following comment, there are four instances of “black” and one of “white”:

**Comment #90** 2 years ago

*It is my opinion that this so-called “Ebonics” does not have to be considered a negative stereotype, but a distinctive feature indigenous to the Black-American community. I am a Black university professor, noted by Blacks and whites for my good diction. But my philosophy*

*has been that Blacks can “let their hair down” when amongst themselves, but when in a different environment, it is best to be linguistically versatile; especially whne applying for a position or public speaking.*

First, “black” is used as a *no membership ethnic marker* (“[...] but a distinctive feature indigenous to the Black-American community”); then, there are two consecutive instances of “black” which are used as in-group ethnic markers (“I am a Black university professor, noted by Blacks [...]”); next, “white” is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* (“[...] and whites for my good diction”); finally, “black” is used as an *in-group ethnic marker* (“But my philosophy has been that Blacks can ‘let their hair down’”).

The poster of comment #90 makes clear that he/she is a black person who seems to be proud of his/her social position and his/her use of the language (“I am a Black university professor, noted by Blacks and whites for my good diction”). Even though he/she does not acknowledge that he/she speaks Ebonics, he/she takes a stance to value it and defend it against those who degrade it: “It is my opinion that this so-called ‘Ebonics’ does not have to be considered a negative stereotype, but a distinctive feature indigenous to the Black-American community”. To conclude, it is important to mention that all the instances of “black” and the only instance of “white” carry a positive polarity.

In the following comment, there are three instances of “white” and one of “black”:

**Comment #40 1 year ago**

*Hey why dont white kids have to learn how to speak...maybe because they first...go to school and actually pay attention!!!! Yayyy ...maybe because whites on a whole are actually smarter, yep we are. Go google test scores like the ACT or SAT of different races and see for yourself, this is a fact. Awwwhh, is the white man bringing you blacks and your brain down again? Its our fault right! Go fuck yourselves!*

Firstly, “white” is used as a *no membership ethnic marker* (“Hey why dont white kids have to learn how to speak”); the second instance of “white” is used as an *in-group ethnic marker* (“maybe because whites on a whole are actually smarter, yep we are”); finally, the third instance of “white” is used again as an *in-group ethnic marker*, while “black” is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* (“is the white man bringing you blacks and your brain down again?”).

The author of this comment projects his/her ethnic identity by claiming that white people are more intelligent than black people, and that he/she belongs to the first group: “maybe because whites on a whole are actually smarter, yep we are”. He/she also maintains that this has been proven through test scores: “Go google test scores like the ACT or SAT of different races and see for yourself, this is a fact”. Moreover, he/she wants to convey the idea that white people are superior to black people: “Awwwhh, is the white man bringing you blacks and your brain down again? Its our fault right!” and then he/she concludes his/her comment with an insult: “Go fuck yourselves!” It seems obvious that he/she debases black people completely. To conclude with the analysis, it is important to mention that all the instances of “white” carry a positive polarity, whereas the only instance of “black” conveys a negative polarity.

With the intention of attaining a better understanding of the material analysed, it might be helpful to compare the data found in the comments of both Subcorpuses “A”. To begin with, Figure 13 shows the number of instances of the four functions of “black” and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the personal narrative video.



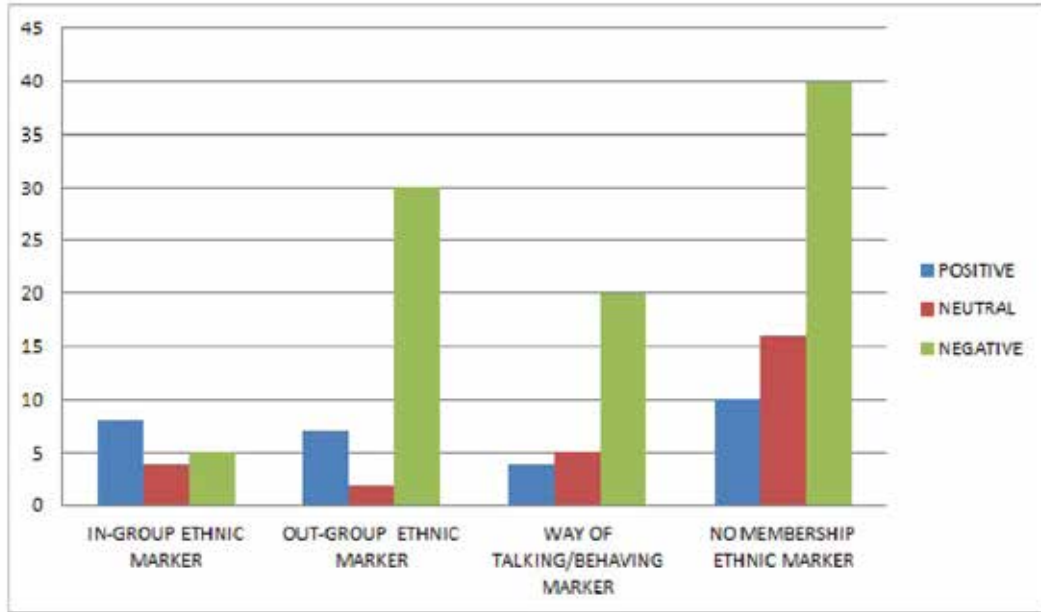


Figure 13. "Black": Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the personal narrative video.

The number of instances of the four functions of "black" and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the educational/institutional video are represented in Figure 14.

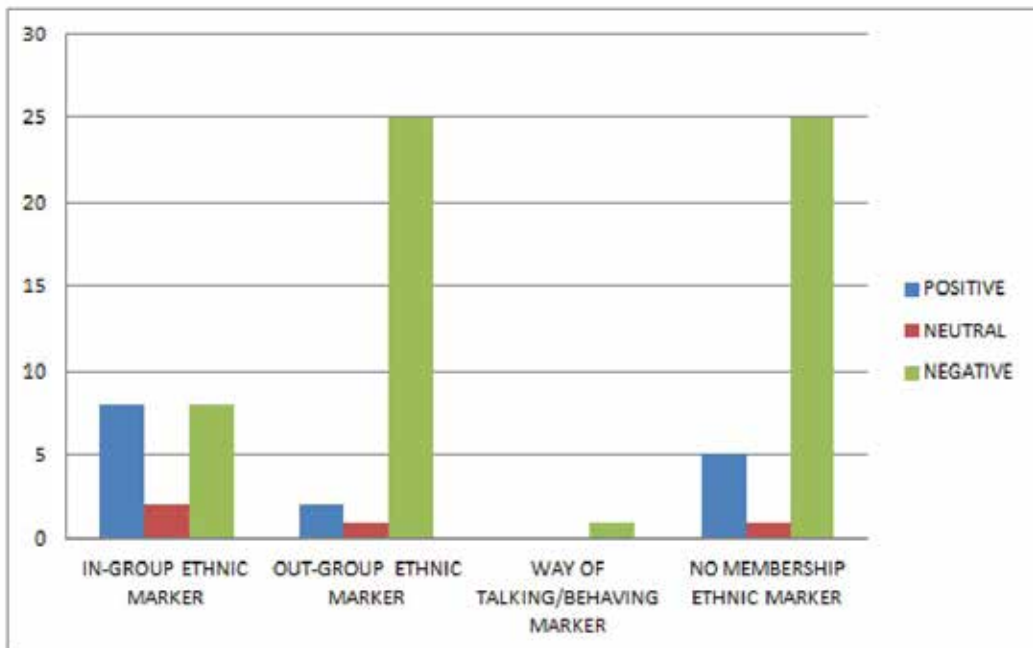


Figure 14. "Black": Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

By analysing the charts, it can be noticed that "black" is mainly used as a *no membership ethnic marker* in both the personal narrative video (66 instances) and in the educational/institutional video (31 instances). It is also noticeable that in the educational/institutional video "black" is rarely used as a *way of talking/behaving marker*.

As regards polarity, in the educational/institutional video the highest frequency of "black" imbued with a positive polarity occurs when it is used as an *in-group ethnic marker*; and the highest frequency of "black" imbued with a negative polarity occurs when it is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* and as a *no*



*membership ethnic marker*. This finding could be connected to the logical fact that YouTube posters may feel inclined to describe the ethnic groups which they belong in positive ways and the groups they are not part of in negative ways (although it is important to point out that the number of instances of “black” as an *in-group ethnic marker* with a positive polarity is the same as when it is used with a negative polarity).

In the personal narrative video, the highest frequency of “black” imbued with a negative polarity occurs when it is used as a *no membership ethnic marker* in the first place and when it is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* in the second place. This could also be considered a coherent result. What appears to be surprising is the fact that the highest frequency of “black” imbued with a positive polarity does not occur when it is used as an *in-group ethnic marker* but when it is used as a *no membership ethnic marker* instead. However, what seems predictable is the fact that there are more instances of “black” as an *in-group ethnic marker* with a positive polarity than with a negative polarity.

As regards “African American”, the number of instances of the four functions and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the personal narrative video are depicted in Figure 15.

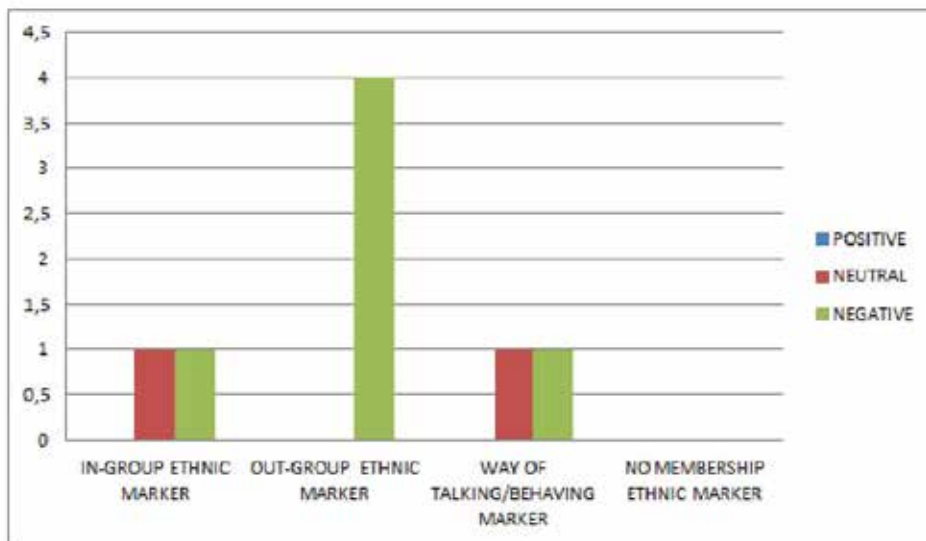


Figure 15. “African American”: Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the personal narrative video.

Figure 16 shows the number of instances of the four functions of “African American” and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

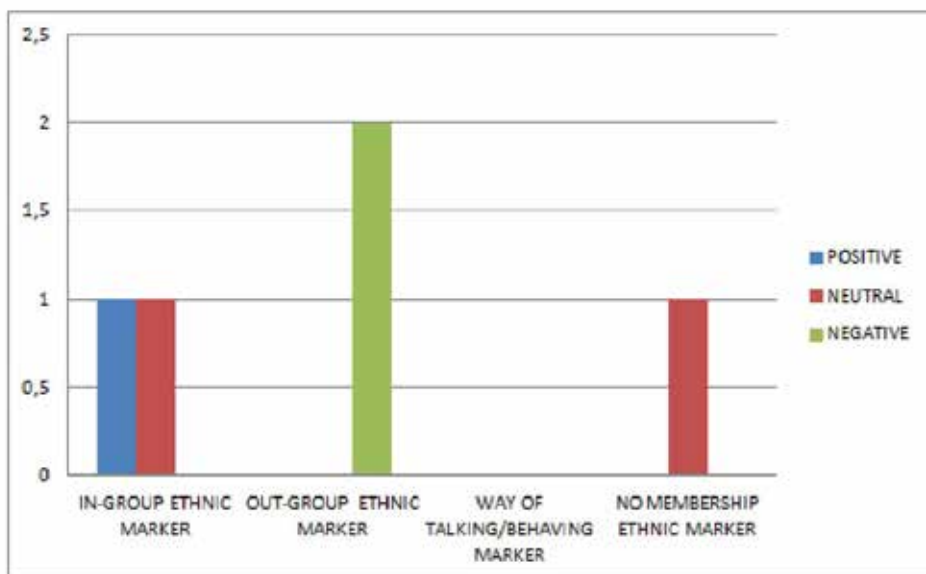


Figure 16. “African American”: Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

From the two charts, it can be perceived that “African American” is mainly used as an *out-group ethnic marker* in both the personal narrative video (4 instances) and in the educational/institutional video (2 instances), although in the educational/institutional video “African American” is also used twice as an *in-group ethnic marker*. It is also appreciable that in the personal narrative video “African American” is never used as a *no membership ethnic marker* and in the educational/institutional video it is never used as a *way of talking/behaving marker*.

As regards polarity, there is a tendency towards neutral and negative rather than towards positive polarity. The highest frequency of “African American” imbued with a negative polarity occurs when it is used as an *out-group ethnic marker* in both videos (in fact, all the instances of “African American” which carry a negative polarity in the educational/institutional video only occur when this expression is used as an *out-group ethnic marker*). This result is not surprising bearing in mind that YouTube posters may feel inclined to describe the ethnic groups which they do not belong in a negative way.

What seems surprising, though, is the fact that there is not a single instance of “African American” imbued with a positive polarity in the personal narrative video. In the educational/institutional video there is only one instance of “African American” with a positive polarity, and it is naturally used as an *in-group ethnic marker*.

As to “white”, the number of instances of the four functions and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the personal narrative video are portrayed in Figure 17.

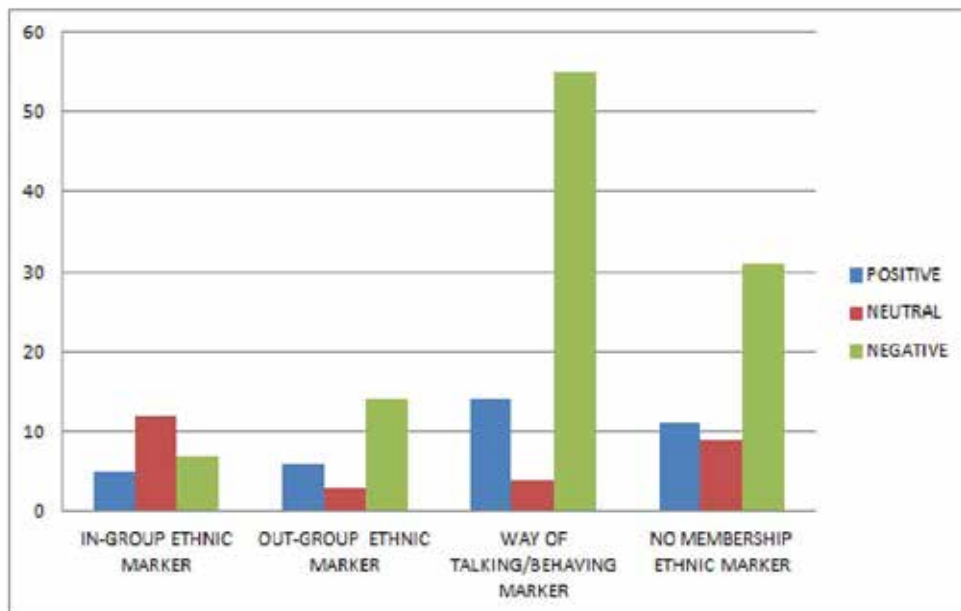


Figure 17. “White”: Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the personal narrative video.

Figure 18 shows the number of instances of the four functions of “white” and their corresponding polarities in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

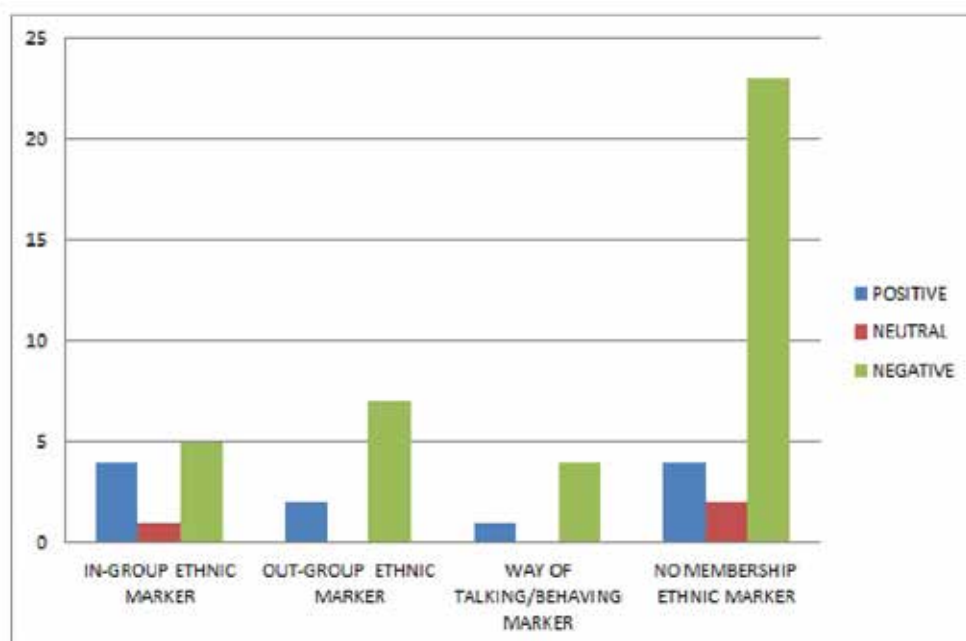


Figure 18. "White": Instances according to function and polarity in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

By observing both charts, it can be noticed that whereas in the personal narrative video "white" is mainly used as a *way of talking/behaving marker* (73 instances), in the educational/institutional video it is hardly ever used with that purpose. As a matter of fact, in the educational/institutional video "white" is mainly used as a *no membership ethnic marker* (29 instances).

As regards polarity, when "white" is used in the personal narrative video as a *way of talking/behaving marker*, it carries the highest frequency of instances of positive as well as negative polarity. What seems surprising is the fact that there are more instances of "white" as an *in-group ethnic marker* with a neutral and negative polarity than with a positive polarity. However, when "white" is used as an *out-group ethnic marker*, the number of instances with a negative polarity is higher than with a positive polarity, which seems reasonable.

When it comes to the educational/institutional video, the instances of "white" as a *no membership ethnic marker* imbued with a negative polarity highly outnumber the instances of the other groups. The second place belongs to the instances of "white" as an *out-group ethnic marker*. Once again, this finding can be related to the fact that YouTube posters tend to describe the ethnic groups which they are not part of in a negative way.

As regards positive polarity, the highest frequency of instances of "white" occur, unsurprisingly, when this word is used as an *in-group ethnic marker* (although it is important to point out that the number of instances is the same as when "white" is used as a *no membership ethnic marker*).

#### 4.4 The projection of ethnic identity through discursive resources and functions

This section focuses on describing what other resources and functions YouTube posters employ to project their ethnic identities when they do not use the expressions "black", "African American" or "white". To fulfil this purpose, both Subcorpuses "B" (from the personal narrative video and the educational/institutional video) have been analysed so as to demonstrate the use of discursive resources and functions. It is imperative to remember at this point that each Subcorpus "B" encompasses all the comments in which there are no instances of "black", "African American" or "white".

The main discursive resources and functions that have been identified to be used by YouTube posters to project their ethnic identities are listed below. It is important to mention that these resources and functions comprise a cline of strategies used by posters which range from highly specific uses of discursive features, such as the use of the personal pronoun "we", to more general, conceptually broad resources, such as irony. These resources and functions will be explained and described through comments.

a) *Distancing (they/them)*: The YouTube posters try to keep a distance between the ethnic group they belong to and other groups, as in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #136** 2 years ago

*After 400 years, they still can't speak the English language. Remember, k sound comes at the eeend". But it's about time someone is teaching them how to speak at least one word properly. He is RIGHT, that the parents, teachers, and PRINCIPALS in ghetto schools all speak ebonics. Then they wonder why nobody wants to hire them.*

b) *Hedging*: Some YouTubers try to be cautious when they refer to ethnic issues so as not to sound too categorical and thus give place to other people's voices, as in the following comment taken from the personal narrative video:

**Comment #101** 1 year ago (edited)

*I am not Caucasian, but I am trying to speak proper English because it shows I am serious and educated. Don't get me wrong I have an accent and it does come out from time to time, but just because I am trying to speak Standard English does not mean I am trying to be Caucasian. It just means I am trying to be educated and professional.*

c) *Identifying*: Sometimes YouTube posters make a connection between what members of a certain ethnic group have said or done and their own lives. It can be demonstrated in the following comment taken from the personal narrative video:

**Comment #52** 1 year ago

*Race is not a sound!! Such a good point! I have heard everything you said my whole life lol*

d) *Impersonal (you/one)*: When YouTubers do not want to address someone in particular, they use certain pronouns ("you", "one", "everyone", etc.) to address people from an ethnic group in general, as in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #152** 4 years ago *in reply to another poster*

***@another poster** These women laying around on welfare that quit school to have 3 - 6 babies are the ones to blame.....then that cycle repeats itself and I remember when I was in high school, nobody was participating in sex to have a baby. FOR YOUR OWN SAKE STAY IN SCHOOL SO YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO COMMUNICATE TO MAKE YOU LIFE BETTER.....it is either going to be the TRAILER or the GHETTO if you do not. YOU DON'T DESERVE THE CARDS YOU ARE DEALT BUT YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR PATH!!!! IT IS HARD FOR ALL*

e) *Inclusive "we"*: This resource is used by YouTube posters to acknowledge other posters as members of a shared ethnic group. It makes people feel closer, so it can be said that it is the opposite of *distancing (they/them)*. It can be shown in the following comment taken from the personal narrative video:

**Comment #172** 2 years ago *in reply to another poster*

*We all bleed red bro, no matter what color we are. I see what you mean too. It just gets really annoying having to put up with all of this stereotypical bullshit.*

f) *Irony*: YouTube posters use this resource to sound mocking about other ethnic groups; it is generally used to express criticism. It can be demonstrated in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #19** 10 months ago

*"Ay nigga cum ova heeya. I gotz ta AX u a qweshin"*

g) *Issuing commands*: This function is used by YouTubers to tell members of other ethnic groups to do something in an emphatic way, as in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #9** 3 months ago

*This is one of the biggest thing that annoys me. Ignorance is not an excuse. Learn to speak English.*

h) *Judging*: Sometimes YouTube posters make judgements through their comments about other ethnic groups, as in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #174** 3 years ago

*testasis, i heard this 1 nigger say " TEEFASIS" not teeth, but TEEF, u can't teach a stupid race nuttin, just ax em' THIS COUNTRY WOULD BE SOOOOOOOO MUCH BETTER WITHOUT THE 99% OF THE NIGGERS THAT ARE HERE, MY GOD, THEY R SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO STUPID*

i) *Rhetorical questions*: YouTube posters sometimes criticise members of other ethnic groups by posing questions whose answer is implied rather than required. It can be shown in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #171** 4 years ago in reply to another poster

*@another poster your going to keep your african roots? thats crazy sounding. in africa they learn proper english and can speak english far better then you and you were born here! i can promise you their spelling is better aswell.*

j) *Suggesting*: This function is used by YouTube posters to advise members of their own or other ethnic groups about doing something in particular, as in the following comment taken from the educational/institutional video:

**Comment #38** 1 year ago

*This guy should get a national statue. This kind of person changes the world. You cannot really blame the youth, they are stuck in the ghetto and look up to rappers and their homies as role models. It will be a long hard road out of 'spelling-hell', but the government needs to invest in this cause. But they probably won't because they want to keep the masses blind and dumb. So the community has to support this! You KNOW what I am saying?*

k) *Supporting/encouraging*: This function is used by YouTube posters to show that they agree with what a member of their ethnic group thinks or does. It can be demonstrated in the following comment taken from the personal narrative video:

**Comment #77** 1 year ago

*Awesome job +Chris Sanders you did an excellent job explaining that just because we speak proper English does not mean we are trying to be something else.*

l) *Taking a defiant stance*: Sometimes YouTube posters disagree sharply with posters who belong to other ethnic groups and thus defy them openly, as in the following comment taken from the personal narrative video:

**Comment #111** 1 year ago

*nigga who the fuck u talking to...lmao the wall? fucking dumb ass close ur mouth too*

All the instances of the different discursive resources and functions that appear in the comments of both Subcorpus "B" (from the personal narrative video and the educational/institutional video) are depicted in Figure 19.

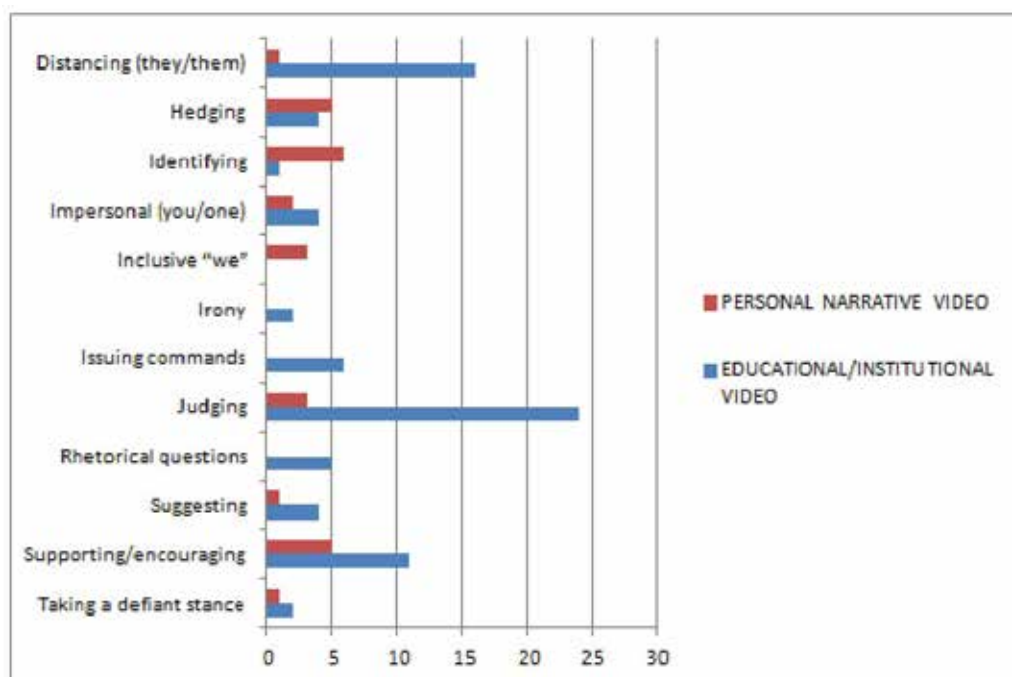


Figure 19. Instances of discursive resources and functions in the comments of both Subcorpus "B".

It is noticeable from the chart that the comments on the educational/institutional video carry more instances of *judging* (the most frequent strategy) than the comments on the personal narrative video. It is also worth noting that the comments on the educational/institutional video convey more instances of *distancing (they/them)* (the second most frequent strategy) than the comments on the personal narrative video.

This finding could be related to a fact which has already been highlighted in previous sections of this analysis: that the educational/institutional video, in which the teacher's purpose is to change black people's way of talking, is liable to engender more animosity and opposition among the YouTubers. The tone of this video (which deals with part of a TV news programme and thus approaches the topic through a more professional, objective style) does not seem to be as friendly or intimate as in the personal narrative video. As a consequence, YouTubers may not feel stimulated to identify themselves with the participants. This reality is reflected in the considerable amount of instances of *judging* and *distancing (they/them)* that YouTube posters make use of in their comments on this video.

Not only do the comments on the educational/institutional video carry more instances of *judging* and *distancing (they/them)*, but they also convey, as expected for the reasons that have just been suggested, instances of *irony* and *issuing commands*, whereas none of them can be detected in the comments on the personal narrative video. In addition, it appears to be coherent that there are more instances of *taking a defiant stance* in the comments on the educational/institutional video than in the comments on the personal narrative video.

To conclude with the analysis, it does not seem surprising the fact that the comments on the personal narrative video carry more instances of *identifying* than the comments on the educational/institutional video. As mentioned above, the personal narrative video, in which the narrator talks to his audience sincerely and expresses his views honestly, is likely to encourage YouTube posters to identify themselves with him and at the same time make a connection between his accounts and their own life experiences. As a consequence, several comments are posted by YouTubers with the intention of identifying with the narrator for what he said or did.

Furthermore, it appears to be absolutely logical the fact that instances of *inclusive "we"* can be found in the comments on the personal narrative video whereas none of it can be detected in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

## 5. Conclusion, limitations and ideas for further research

This study has explored stancetaking and the projection of ethnic identity in YouTube comments on two videos about African American Vernacular English. The analysis has demonstrated that posters tend to react differently to the two videos, probably because the issue is approached from two different perspectives: personal narration and educational/institutional.

As in the personal narrative video the narrator – Chris Sanders – addresses the camera openly and faces his audience honestly, expressing his views sincerely and accompanying his account with an intimate anecdote, YouTube posters may experience a disposition to feel connected ideologically with him. Therefore, YouTubers who watched this video and posted comments on it apparently tended to identify themselves highly with Chris Sanders's points of view and relate his accounts with their own lives. As a consequence of this, self-evaluation seems to be more important in the comments on the personal narrative video than in the comments on the educational/institutional video.

In the educational/institutional video, self-evaluation does not seem to be as important as evaluating other posters' comments. This finding could be connected with the fact that as this video shows part of a TV news programme in which educational issues are discussed by a teacher, and thus its tone is not as friendly or intimate as Chris Sanders's video, YouTubers may not feel encouraged to post comments on their own personal affairs. Consequently, they tend to focus their interest on evaluating other comments instead.

It has also been shown that whereas in the personal narrative video the difference between the amount of positive and negative comments is insignificant, in the educational/institutional video the negative comments outnumber the positive ones. These findings suggest that an educational/institutional video like the one considered here, in which a teacher is trying to modify black people's way of talking because it is deemed incorrect, generates more opposition and aggression among YouTubers, which is reflected in the considerable disparity between negative and positive comments.

Furthermore, the analysis has demonstrated that *video narrator addressivity* is the second preferable choice in the comments on the personal narrative video, whereas in the educational/institutional video, *video participants addressivity* is the least desired option. In addition, *cross-turn addressivity* seems to be more important in the comments on the educational/institutional video than in the personal narrative one. Once again, it is suggested that these dissimilarities may be due to the fact that YouTube posters tend to react differently to the two videos, probably because the issue is approached from two diverse perspectives.

As regards the projection of ethnic identity through the linguistic expressions "black", "African American" and "white", it has been found out that more than half of the comments of the personal narrative video corpus include at least one occurrence of these expressions. Nevertheless, in the educational/institutional video there is only a small percentage of comments which contain at least one instance of these expressions. This finding suggests that in a narrative video like the one considered for this study, YouTubers tend to be inclined to imbue their comments with words that signal a straightforward connection with ethnic issues. This does not seem to be the case in the educational/institutional video.

This work has also demonstrated that, naturally, YouTube posters may feel generally inclined to use the expressions "black", "African American" and "white" to describe the ethnic groups to which they belong (*in-group ethnic markers*) in positive ways and the groups they are not part of (*out-group ethnic markers* and *no membership ethnic markers*) in negative ways. This tendency has been observed in the comments on both videos.

With reference to the projection of ethnic identity through discursive resources and functions, it has been shown that the educational/institutional video, in which the teacher's purpose is to change black people's way of talking, is liable to engender more enmity and antagonism among the YouTubers. This is reflected in the number of instances of *judging* and distancing (*they/them*) that YouTube posters make use of in their comments on this video.

On the other hand, as the personal narrative video is likely to encourage YouTube posters to identify themselves with the narrator for what he said or did, a considerable amount of comments are posted by YouTubers with the intention of making a connection between his accounts and their own life experiences (thus making wide use of the *identifying* resource).

Additionally, it has been demonstrated that whereas the comments on the educational/institutional video carry instances of *irony* and *issuing commands*, none of them can be spotted in the comments on the personal narrative video. Moreover, there are more instances of *taking a defiant stance* in the comments on the educational/institutional video than in the comments on the personal narrative video. These appear to be logical findings bearing in mind the reasons that have been suggested above. Furthermore, it seems natural that instances of *inclusive "we"* can only be found in the comments on the personal narrative video.

To conclude, when it comes to limitations it is important to mention the fact that it is impossible to know the real identities of the people who posted the comments in the YouTube comments section of the two videos and which comprise the corpus of this study. The degree of anonymity provided by YouTube offers participants the possibility of concealing or adapting their genuine identities and adopting others, perhaps with the mere purpose of experimenting with other posters' reactions.

Moreover, it is imperative to remember that as analysing all of the comments in the YouTube comments section of the two videos would have implied going far beyond the scope of this study, only a sample of comments from each video has been considered for analysis. Therefore, the corpus cannot be said to be entirely representative of YouTube posters' acts of stancetaking and their projection of ethnic identities on either of the two YouTube videos in particular or on YouTube as an online environment in general. The corpus is small and is just indicative of the tendencies observed in the data analysed in this work. Future studies should carry out a more comprehensive analysis of a larger sample of comments posted in the YouTube comments section of these two videos or, alternatively, of other videos with different approaches to the topic besides the ones considered here.



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## APPENDIX

### A. Personal narrative video corpus

**Comment #1** 1 year ago

Your shit sucks

Reply • 1

**Comment #2** 2 weeks ago

Thanks for this post, I've always gotten slack from my own colour for speaking proper, you sound like your California, you speak proper, your a white girl when you speak, and the all time favorite is are you a Northerner ?you sound like you're from the north and that comes from both sides, I must admit that it has kept me from really wanted to speak publicly,and leave voice messages but now I'm at a point in my life where I don't care , I am Who I am and it is what it is.!

Reply •

**Comment #3** 1 month ago

There is no such thing as talking white that's just the normal way to talk

Reply •

**Comment #4** 5 months ago

I've heard people accuse others of sounding black or white as if we have to fit our stereotype they place on us.

Reply •

**Comment #5** 1 month ago

You can speak how ever you want, just as long as you realize how people speak in corporate America. I speak english all day long at work, but when I leave work then I leave english behind.

Reply •

**Comment #6** 8 months ago (edited)

It doesn't matter if you're white, black, brown, or purple...if you use proper English, clearly spoken and enunciated, you have a greater chance of being successful in the world than someone who speaks Ebonics, or Surfer dialect, or Hillbilly, or Cholo, or Cajun, or whatever. You can call it "speaking white", but if you let that stop you from using it, you're only putting up barriers for yourself.

Reply • 1

**Comment #7** 4 months ago (edited)

Well, I don't think the way people talk has anything to do with their nationality! Of course, there isn't anything wrong with having an accent that corresponds to the environment one was brought up in. It's called colloquial speaking! Furthermore, as far as I'm concerned, there's no such thing as talking "white" or "black" or "yellow" or whatever color one might choose. There is, of course, Proper American English. There's also Proper Spanish! What if a white guy speaks proper Spanish? Is he speaking Mexican? Dude, we're all human beings!

Reply •

**Comment #8** 2 weeks ago

Ethenticity lol

**Comment #9** 1 year ago (edited)

My job at college was at the front desk at the dorms, where I'd have to check the IDs of the guests of the students. And this one time this white girl was checking in a black guy, and I had to check his ID. When he was handing me it, she grabbed the ID and looked at the picture and goes, "Oh my Gosh, you're the whitest black guy I know!" and laughed. He gave me the saddest/most disgruntled look ever and I knew in that moment his pain with his identity always having to be associated with either acting "white" or acting "black." No words were needed. LOL it is really ridiculous how everyone wants the world to be super simple and boil everything down to the easiest, most bite-sized chewable bits of information. "Now

I'm acting white! Now I'm acting black!" No one is good at navigating the GRAY ZONE where everything that's really real exists

Reply • 14

**Comment #10** 4 months ago

Anyway man! Good video. LOL

Reply •

**Comment #11** 1 month ago

"Why you be talkin like you still a slave?" Ha love it

Reply •

**Comment #12** 2 months ago

He doesn't sound white, and when black people think they sound white you can always tell over the phone you not talking to a white person, even Tiger Woods don't sound white!

Reply •

**Comment #13** 6 months ago

I'm a Black Man that had always been told that I talk like I'm white, but I sound black. To me black and white can range from different varieties of people. There are people with Black skin that are of a different origin than African American and there are people with White skin that aren't Caucasian... So what does that really mean? Uncle Ruckus from the Boondocks really sounds White to me but he's black due to his "skin condition". People that claim this assumption are just ignorant.

Reply • 1

**Comment #14** 5 months ago

There is no such thing as "Talking White". It is called speaking Fluently! Which means that you can speak your language correctly! African American Vernacular English (AAVE) or "Ebonics" is not the language of Black people in America. It is nothing more than a butchered version of the English language that is thought of as cool within an uneducated atmosphere (usually among youths). I have witnessed Black people condemning other Black people for wanting to represent themselves as educated individuals. I cannot even imagine the pressure that a well educated Black person must endure within their own community. All I can do is shake my head and pray that one day things will change.

Reply • 2

**Comment #15** 7 months ago (edited)

Actually I was looking for a video where a white man talks like a black man, but thanks to you I now realised how funny ludicrous my idea was. :D Btw I'm blue and I speak dabedi dabedei. xD

Reply •

**Comment #16** 8 months ago

Oh goodness, THANK YOU CHRIS! You understand me here. ^\_^

Reply • 2

**Comment #17** 6 months ago

There is no talking white there is only Ebonics vs Regular speech. And it only exists because of slavery and the effort to sound dumb so that nobody knows you can read, write, or whatever. True black people don't speak in Ebonics as it justifies the way they are perceived and generally treated by the greater public.

Reply •

**Comment #18** 1 year ago

You still sound black to me but maybe its just the ghetto ass people you live around that sound uneducated.

Reply • 7

**Comment #19** 7 months ago

Colors don't have a sound! The whole idea that if you actually speak a language correctly you are "acting" like anything is ridiculous! I am a white southern man and I can speak with or without an accent or in slang or proper English. It depends on what I am doing or who I am talking to. Not that I am trying to impress

anyone or pretend to be something I'm not but because I have options! My mother who is a hillbilly taught me and my siblings to speak proper English because she knew it mattered! Black people haven't cornered the market on sounding ignorant despite what some people believe! There is no such thing as 'acting white' or 'speaking white'! There is 'speaking proper English' and I still don't know what 'acting white' means vs 'acting black'. Scumbag comes in all colors all around the world and so do good people. My friend in Africa is black but he doesn't sound or act like the people here that look like him. Would he be accused of "not talking black" or "acting black"? That is borderline retarded! It is merely a concept in the minds of the ignorant to encourage ignorance among others that might seek to better themselves. It happens among whites as well. If you think that someone who speaks properly is trying to cater to someone else in order to be accepted by them, it isn't because they are trying to be superior, it is because you feel inferior and you don't like seeing them do something that you can't or aren't willing to do. Why are blacks that "talk white" that are businessmen or women, political figures or athletes called names and said to be "not really black" while drug dealers, race hustlers, pimps, dog fighters and thugs are considered "real niggas"? That tells you all you need to know!

Show less

Reply • 2

**Comment #20** 8 months ago

im that person at my school but i run them streets

Reply •

**Comment #21** 5 months ago

Talking black is a dialect called african american vernacular english. So technically talking black is a real thing but only because someone gave it a label. "Proper english" is also a label. So is the word "dialect" you cant say i speak a language because i say "we were" but you speak a dialect because you say "we was." 99% of people do not speak english as it is taught in a book. People cut -ing down to -in, they run words together, they say whatchu wanna instead of what do you want to etc. The problem is not how people speak, the problem is thinking the way you speak is superior to another's.

Reply • 1

**Comment #22** 7 months ago

tap dancer

Reply •

**Comment #23** 4 months ago

Right on man

Reply •

**Comment #24** 5 months ago

+Chris Sanders What if your a white person and your the outcast cause you have no sass that's me ;(

Reply •

**Comment #25** 10 months ago

I REALLY FUCKING HATE IT BECAUSE I'M BLACK AND I'M TRYING TO BE MYSELF AND PEOPLE ASK ME 'WHY U SHOULD WHITE" I FEEL VERY FUSTRATED!!! WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOST TO DO!!

1

**Comment #26** 8 months ago

Why do black people always talk about their skin colour or say something like (because im black) but for white people it doesn't really seem to matter?

Reply •

**Comment #27** 7 months ago

you the man chris!!

Reply •

**Comment #28** 8 months ago

Yeah I never understood the whole acting white or talking white thing from black people to each other. You either talk with good enunciation so people understand you or you don't= everyone has some accent but speaking clearly and acting professionally shouldn't be equated to a color and I dislike how people like to drag others down and resent them for succeeding or wanting to succeed.

**Comment #29** 8 months ago

I find it harder to talk to people who use slang all the time

Reply • 1

**Comment #30** 6 months ago

That shirt is killing it!

Reply •

**Comment #31** 1 year ago

Story of my life. In my opinion people who think like that are internally racist/insecure. I am happy with who I am (regular black dude), and comfortable in my own skin. Oh and fuck stereotypes lol they're so stupid... From people saying shit like that to me my whole life I've learned to be more open minded and non-judgemental. Also, I've realized down the line that I have nothing to prove to anyone, and likewise they don't have to prove anything to me either and that is fine with me. Lastly, some of the best advice from one my most cherished friends that summarizes I've written is, "you shouldn't have to be anything but yourself."

Reply • 1

**Comment #32** 10 months ago

Heh, great vid, great points!

Reply •

**Comment #33** 10 months ago (edited)

For All Of You Black JACKASS In The Planet! Telling A Black Guy That He Talks White Is Actually A Compliment, To Understand That? Talk Stupid, Be Stupid, Sag Your Ass Out, Smoke Weed And Being A Gangster Are Treated As A Representation Of The African-American Crazy Right? Therefore, YOU NIGGAS Are Insulting Yourself By Saying White People Are Better At Being Intelligent And Improved

Reply • 7

**Comment #34** 11 months ago

There is nothing like: you talk like a white or a black. All ppl have their own slangs and it doesn't have to do at all with the skin color or do brunettes talk different than blondes, lol? Nope! It depends where you grew up, your education, your friends etc.

Reply •

**Comment #35** 11 months ago

its called jealousy. Misery loves company and they want to see just as ratchet as they are.

**Comment #36** 1 year ago

Eth-en-ticity lol

Reply •

**Comment #37** 1 year ago

You are not wrong.

Reply • 2

**Comment #38** 10 months ago

I love absolutely love black guys who are proper and speak proper it is such a turn on for me the ghetto black guys are such a turn off with their slang and the saggy pants just ridiculous

Reply • 2

**Comment #39** 1 year ago

I'm glad you love being black. But if a black person doesn't speak perfect English, don't judge them. Don't say it's because they can't read! Lol! Accept them the way they are just like you want to be accepted the way you are. Thanks for your video!

Reply • 1

**Comment #40** 1 year ago

Thank you and urban dictionary "hit the nail on the head" bahaha now I'm talking white

Reply •

**Comment #41** 1 year ago

"where are you from"? Me-Everywhere.

Reply •

**Comment #42** 1 year ago

LMFAO!!! "Why you be talkin like you still a slave?!!!!"

Reply • 2

**Comment #43** 11 months ago (edited)

The idea of speaking white/black is stupid. Are not all blacks allowed to speak a proper English because it's considered white? I'd be damn if a white or black person asks why I speak like I speak.

Reply • 1

**Comment #44** 9 months ago

Story of my life. My parents are immigrants and thought me how to speak proper English and because of that I've been called oreo and stuff, like just because I speak English don't listen to rap and don't have a ghetto name, doesn't mean I'm not black.

**Comment #45** 11 months ago

My english teacher was texan and really white, I met her son, whom is black, and he really does talk like a white guy. I mean his voice isn't gross or anything like that, even my other teachers would tell us that his brothers said he was the whitest black boy. So according to my experience, it all comes down to the way and by whom you were raised as a kid.

Reply •

**Comment #46** 1 year ago

What I find more ridiculous is when White kids talk like they're from "the hood" . I think that's racist in itself. Why? Because that is what THEY think being Black is all about. They know nothing of history, the actual struggle of Blacks in the past. All they know is keep your pants hanging down and learn to rap and you're in. Friggin disgraceful. I am White of Italian decent grew up in NY so I had many people wondering if I was Mafioso. Far from it. My god daughter is Black/Hispanic and I would gladly die for her. She is the future of this country and exactly what I see as a model American. We all have our "ways" but we are all human and Americans and races are crossing over whether you like it or not. Hell you go to the South and you see White women pushing strollers with Black babies, White men walking with Black girlfriends or wives. THIS is going to be our strong point one day because once we stop identifying each other as a color and embracing each other as countrymen and women this will be the greatest place to live. Badabing! Oh there goes that Italian thing again. Sorry. Just the way I grew up.

Show less

Reply • 11

**Comment #47** 1 year ago

This guy gets it. It annoys me so much when people speak like that.

Reply •

**Comment #48** 10 months ago

Story of my life bro

Reply •

**Comment #49** 10 months ago

like like like like like you say that a lot lol like stop making vids

Reply •

**Comment #50** 1 year ago

Too smart? You get called a nerd. Same thing. Just another way for those who lack something to feel better about themselves. When did being a dumbass become cool?

Reply • 4

**Comment #51** 1 year ago

You're awesome!

Reply •

**Comment #52** 1 year ago

Race is not a sound!! Such a good point! I have heard everything you said my whole life lol

Reply • 3

**Comment #53** 1 year ago

I get this alot at my school this is what i say - White Person or Ignorant Black Person- You talk like a white boy - Myself- So you're saying that black people talk ignorant, and whites are intelligent-so you're insulting the black race. White Person or Ignorant Black Person- silent.....

Reply • 4

**Comment #54** 1 year ago

The way you talk is awesome

Reply •

**Comment #55** 1 year ago

Now reverse this video (white guy rants)... guess who would be called a racist?

Reply •

**Comment #56** 1 year ago

I honestly do believe that you can distinct a white man's voice from a black man's voice I am white and People are always surprised at my voice they say I sound black and noits not because I try to talk like a thug like sup homie wana chill I don't speak like that and when I'm playing call of duty and I talk in the Mic I get racist remarks all the time

Reply •

**Comment #57** 1 year ago

Respect man. You're not talking white, you're speaking English.

Reply •

**Comment #58** 1 year ago

So you speak American english , that is the problem?????????. Stupid I wish all people black , white , asian , hispanic whatever would speak American english period!!. It would be a lot easier to understand everyone in America if they did!!. Speak white???? , just ignorant thanks for understanding and being bigger than that , another American!!. Peace.

Reply •

**Comment #59** 1 year ago

YEEESSSS!!!!

Reply •

**Comment #60** 1 year ago

It comes down the to the values that person was raised with.

Reply •

**Comment #61** 1 year ago

Amen! I just recently moved to the south and every freakin time I speak I at least get 2-3 questions on why do you talk white. It gets on my last nerves that the African American community as dignified that talking with intelligence is talking white.

Reply • 3

**Comment #62** 6 months ago

I will answer your question, Chris Sanders. The common perception of African Americans that I have been given based on the location in which I live(Savannah GA) is that the "local" African American culture is mostly dominated by slang-speaking and gang shooting african americans who believe it's entirely "just fine" to live up to every negative stereotype that has been observed from their race. Every two or so days, on the news you will hear about another black on black murder, or theft. Or some black dude who kidnapped a skinny white girl, raped her, and then stuffed her in the trunk of a car before it lighting it on fire. SURE, racism exists, but the majority of the black population around MY area atleast does not, in the SLIGHTEST, want any kind of respect or equality. Not saying EVERY black person is like that. But AROUND HERE, just, holy shit. Don't go outside.

Show less

Reply •

**Comment #63** 1 year ago

It comes from your surroundings! Whatever culture, environment, people you surround yourself with, you'll adapt their speech habits. I learned from home and school to speak clearly and avoid slang. My hobbies and interactions with others improved how I vocalize my words.

Reply • 4

**Comment #64** 11 months ago

Ethnicity is a color. Race is human. Sorry I had to get this through.

Reply •

**Comment #65** 1 year ago

What is up with your skull lol it has a dent

Reply •

**Comment #66** 1 year ago (edited)

I also never got why many US blacks consider speaking conventional English as speaking white? Why is the opposite of speaking black slang automatically white? Ever consider that ALL other races who grow up in the US, no matter if they're Chinese, Korean, Asian Indians, Japanese, Latinos or white speak English alike? Also the mocking of all white people talking like some stuck up nerd is totally cliche. Maybe if certain black people in the US would start losing the slang and say THAT instead of DAT, all other people will be less prejudice against them. In Germany a black German sounds EXACTLY like a white German. If you just listen to him on the phone you couldn't tell if he is black or white. Does that mean he speaks German like a white person. Nope, it just means he speaks German.

Reply • 1

**Comment #67** 1 year ago

I tought it would be video of black guy imitating famous white people voices...

Reply •

**Comment #68** 1 year ago

Ah, I get this all the time Haha. I'm black and people claim I talk "white",and act "white" technically you can't talk/act like any race. You talk how you talk, and act how you act.

Reply • 1

**Comment #69** 9 months ago

You do talk too white, you can be educated and have good communication and still talk black. It is how you express yourself and your thoughts, it is white.

1



**Comment #70** Shared on Google+ • 1 year ago

This is so true!

Reply •

**Comment #71** 10 months ago

This 'talking white thing' exists because for some reason, black people love to embrace their negative aspects. All this embracing 'the hood' bullshit. Black folks love to keep each other down. There is no talking white or black, there is talking educated and talking ghetto, it just happens that most of the population living in the ghettos are black.

Reply •

**Comment #72** 1 year ago

My friend how you speak does define who you are. If I heard someone speak, regardless of color, with a ghetto accent, that my friend tells me something that that person is into gang banger, violence and not going to do good because of the ghetto culture. Black parents should start educating their kids and they need to instill moral values to them. Also, teach them how to speak proper.. Black people say white people are racist, but actually it's the black people that are racist

Reply •

**Comment #73** 1 year ago

Parents taught me how to read, lol. Funny Stuff. You should do a "grind me gears" weekly rant like peter griffen. You def. could pull it off!

Reply •

**Comment #74** 1 year ago

Thank you for sharing this video Chris Sanders, you make sensible points that are crucial and valid.

Reply •

**Comment #75** 10 months ago

Lmao bro you cant even try to sound black. You do talk like a white dude billy bob. With your star wars shirt. What brother you seen wearing a star wars shirt? Lol get he fuck on bro.

Reply •

**Comment #76** 1 year ago

Many people are listing about how they hate how people talk and use certain slang. Here's my pov..why give a fuck? People who use elegant words May not be what is considered smart. one who uses slang fiercely is not an idiot ..it's just how people talk.

**Comment #77** 1 year ago

Awesome job +Chris Sanders you did an excellent job explaining that just because we speak proper English does not mean we are trying to be something else.

Reply •

**Comment #78** 1 year ago

I call it proper grammar and proper English

Reply •

**Comment #79** 1 year ago

Yeah I feel you bruh am from Kenya n I talk black as fuck wit all ma homes n all da slang to so yea and am a light-skinned dude to lol

Reply •

**Comment #80** 1 year ago

Who talks like this

Who dat is

It is what it is

I be like..

What it be like  
What it do  
I seented it

Show less  
Reply •

**Comment #81** 1 year ago  
you're cute

**Comment #82** 1 year ago  
It seems the majority of people on here think talking "properly" is talking white, whatever the hell that means. Did Martin Luther King talk white? How about Malcolm X and Angela Davis? What about black news presenters do they talk white? I'm black and I speak the queens English and you wouldn't mistake me for a white English man. It's all about pronunciation not accent.  
Reply •

**Comment #83** 1 year ago  
Although there is no white accent, I covered the screen of my phone for 5 seconds and listened to your voice and picturing a white man talking, and it just it did not go. I am not from USA and I can easily say whether the speaker was black, cause you all have got that nasal sound and rythmical and melodical voice that just gives away your origin :D  
Reply •

**Comment #84** 1 year ago  
Hi. I love your stuff, Please check this out. Beneath Your Beautiful - The Fabsisters (Cover of Labrinth ft Emili Sande)  
Reply •

**Comment #85** 1 year ago  
ill be honest, if i didn't see you face i would no you are a black guy, you speak a modicum of good english but i would not brag too much, to be honest its like your trying to speak in a different dialect but you can tell its fake...I think you just seeking validation in thinking you speak well, when i could tell you are black without seeing you. get over yourself  
Reply •

**Comment #86** 1 year ago  
I really dislike 'ghetto' talk regardless of who does talk like it. It's weird. A weird creation of language!  
Reply • 1

**Comment #87** 1 year ago  
I find minorities that sound white hilarious. They sound like they got suspenders pulling their pants above their belly button.  
Reply •

**Comment #88** 8 months ago  
Its a way to keep you dumbed down its designed this way now blacks are conditioned to think that if you're not saying things like (nigga and cuz) after every damn sentence then you some how are talking white, if you have a ounce of intelligence then some how they assume you're acting white, even when white folks meet you they will assume you're going to sound like (Wacka flocka flame) then hear you speak and tell you i didn't expect you to sound like this and like that, one bitch tried telling me that i'm more interesting than i look but after thinking about it i realised her overall perception was a result of colored people on popular Urban channels often played in her area like Mtv base and so on speaking like pirates and walking with limps in their leg, sagging their pants and eating fried chicken while spitting a few bars in their music videos, so i guess they expect what they see on TV.  
Reply •

**Comment #89** 1 year ago

it seems lately that talking, as a well educated person would, is considered uncool by many people lately  
Reply •

**Comment #90** 1 year ago

I totally agree with him we all go to the same schools so we should talk the same I like this guy  
Reply •

**Comment #91** 1 year ago

Majority of black people put their pants down, hat backwards, regardless where they're at. So disrespectful and rude they'll turn up their radio at 3am. So annoying. They talk loud, like saying "yeah we're the bad guys". You guys should stop doing that. Sad to say but I hate the culture. It's not the race or your color  
Reply • 1

**Comment #92** 1 year ago

i like this video.  
Reply •

**Comment #93** 1 year ago

"Hello, Sir, how are you doing?" is annoying because the asker DOESN'T REALLY CARE HOW YOU ARE DOING! It's phony. It's not "white." It's middle class nonsense.  
Reply •

**Comment #94** 1 year ago

My subscribers say I talk white.  
Reply •

**Comment #95** 1 year ago

Its good that you can deal with this with such grace and humor. Race is indeed, not a sound. How we sound doesn't define who we are, either. But we communicate our self image, aspirations, and priorities to those around us, through our speech, our clothes, our body language, and our demeanor. Pursuant to a series of laws enacted since 1864, this behavior is LEGAL for every citizen of the US. Some people are still indoctrinating their children with the old rules for plantation behavior. The slaves knew that the master or his overseer would beat them all if some other slave 'got out of his place'. Apparently 'getting out of your place' includes: (1) speaking English in a way that maximizes the number of people who will understand what you are saying, (2) thinking of yourself as an individual and making decisions based on your own long-term best interests, (3) acquiring and further developing listening, reading comprehension and critical thinking skills, (4) having enough math background to support financial literacy, (5) ....., (97) will finish later. Show less  
Reply •

**Comment #96** 1 year ago

that's all bullshit, blacks acting all cool like more violent than whites. Yeah sure you are crazier than American whites, but there are more violent whites in other countries who are more violent than blacks. Chechens are white muslims, they are one of the most violent people in the world. They also strongest white people.  
Reply •

**Comment #97** 1 year ago

Many blacks (many not all) talk a lot "me this, me that, blablabla" but act little.  
Reply •

**Comment #98** 1 year ago

If you want to know what white people sound like to black Google Tracey Morgan "bullshat..fuck you... no fuck you"lmao..  
Reply •

**Comment #99** 1 year ago

Ethnicity ... what ??

Reply • 3

**Comment #100** 1 year ago

is ok to talk white, could make the difference on where you stand when talking to a judge. never heard an attorney tell the judge word up yo

Reply •

**Comment #101** 1 year ago (edited)

I am not Caucasian, but I am trying to speak proper English because it shows I am serious and educated. Don't get me wrong I have an accent and it does come out from time to time, but just because I am trying to speak Standard English does not mean I am trying to be Caucasian. It just means I am trying to be educated and professional.

Reply •

**Comment #102** 1 year ago

I'm mexican American and I get called a cocoanut all the time because I talk white and don't speak spanish! I love this video, it was funny and I can relate. Thank you!

Reply • 3

**Comment #103** 1 year ago

Funny story: When I was in the Navy, I sent an email to the ship I was assigned to, asking pretty general questions that a junior sailor would ask. When I arrived, the sailors in my division were surprised to see that I was black. When I asked why, they referenced the email and that it was written "so well". I just chuckled at their ignorant assumptions.

Show less

Reply •

**Comment #104** 1 year ago

Keep speaking proper English man fuck what the haters say it's awesome to speak with correct grammar-sincerely cool white dude

Reply •

**Comment #105** 1 year ago

Because ppl are ignorant dumb asses who group all blacks in the same group....yet a every other ethnicity are viewed as individuals. ...racist ass America I swear....

Reply • 6

**Comment #106** 1 year ago

Someone just said that to me recently and it really annoyed me. How the hell did speaking properly become a white only thing? So what about people like MLK or Malcome X or Neil deGrasse Tyson? Didn't they also speak properly? Should they be considered wanna be white people as well?

Reply •

**Comment #107** 1 year ago

Thanks for sharing this!! It brought tears to my eyes! I'm SOOOOOOO tired of ignorant people telling me that I talk white. To hell with them if they don't accept me for me.

Reply •

**Comment #108** 1 year ago

Bottom line is language HAS NO RACE! Blacks speak a bastardize version of English primarily because they seem to be linguistically lazy. A 3 yr old will say baf-room (bathroom) because it's easier as do many blacks. Oprah, Obama, Don Lemon, Bryant Gumbol, Connie Chung & Peter Jennings all speak exactly the same because that's how English is spoken. Why are blacks the only indigenous people who speak as if they come from another country? Stop "acting" black and just BE. Black English = ghetto English = an uneducated mentality.

**Comment #109** 1 year ago

If I were you, I would have turned around and bitch slapped that ignorant ghetto hoe for daring to question your articulateness! :) I grew up poor, Blatino and in the Bronx in the 80s and got that flack ALL THE TIME from my own kind! Yet Whites never bothered me or gave me any kind of flack for being who I was; an educated, smart articulate Latino from the hood. I sometimes find my own kind love to play the victim and blame Whites for their misery, poverty and lack of progress, but it is OUR OWN KIND who lag behind BECAUSE they truly BELIEVE being educated, speaking articulately and wanting to go to college is a WHITE THING and that it is betraying your own people do want to do that. Go figure. No thanks. I got out of the hood because of my determination and yearning for success, money and financial security. If that is ACTING WHITE, then so BE IT!! My own kind are still in the ghetto, bagging groceries, and bitching about the White man.

Show less

**Comment #110** 1 year ago

HI CUZZN

Reply •

**Comment #111** 1 year ago

nigga who the fuck u talking to...lmao the wall? fucking dumb ass close ur mouth too

Reply •

**Comment #112** 1 year ago

"Race wasn't a sound!" ahaha :D yes!

Reply • 1

**Comment #113** 1 year ago

If you want to be technical about it, everybody talks "white" if you talk English. Just because a person talks with ebonics does not excuse them from still speaking a form of English. They talking like African ancestors came off ship with a "hood" dialect or something.

Reply •

**Comment #114** 1 year ago

white is beautiful

Reply •

**Comment #115** 1 year ago

NICE COMMENTS CHRIS, so many black people want to keep all other black people down. I can always tell when I talk to a black person on the phone and it shouldn't be that way.

**Comment #116** 1 year ago

Sorry Ass Stereotypes! Love this video

Reply •

**Comment #117** 1 year ago

This is so TRUE!!!

Reply •

**Comment #118** 1 year ago

I dont wanna be white lol. As if skin color is something u can choose.lol....talking properly doesnt mean ur black or white or yellow or red,it means u got personality and ur parents work wasnt in vain.black ppl Talk in slang coz thats the way to pull attention to them,even tho if its in a negative way...

Reply •

**Comment #119** 1 year ago

naaaa mate u talk white U white in disguise

Reply •

**Comment #120** 1 year ago

1:39 exactly

Reply •

**Comment #121** 1 year ago

I think it's great your mom pushed you guys to talk properly. More black moms should do that.

Reply •

**Comment #122** 1 year ago

THANK YOU!!!!

Reply •

**Comment #123** 1 year ago

I get called reverse Oreo for talking professionally

Reply •

**Comment #124** 1 year ago

I get asked this just about EVERY time, I talk. I hate it, there is NO such thing as "talking white". Only idiots think there is.

Reply •

**Comment #125** 1 year ago

[http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=J95D\\_lwEaoFTpM&tbnid=9lnkp5vVHzyXFM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http%3A%2F%2FangelforIsrael.wordpress.com%2F2013%2F04%2F20%2Fchechen-terrorism%2F&ei=MfjeUuqiA8ilyAHlrYHQBg&bvm=bv.59568121,d.aWc&psig=AFQjCNE-6laoUxaYRB89EhU3IMSMK6vHDg&ust=1390430569501347](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=J95D_lwEaoFTpM&tbnid=9lnkp5vVHzyXFM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http%3A%2F%2FangelforIsrael.wordpress.com%2F2013%2F04%2F20%2Fchechen-terrorism%2F&ei=MfjeUuqiA8ilyAHlrYHQBg&bvm=bv.59568121,d.aWc&psig=AFQjCNE-6laoUxaYRB89EhU3IMSMK6vHDg&ust=1390430569501347)

Reply •

**Comment #126** 1 year ago

Your parents were good people haha. As a white person, I wouldn't say you were talking "white" just...proper/you actually gave a fuck about education. I personally hate "ghetto" talk, it aggravates me, black people who have been born and raised in the same area as I have, along with their parents, and their parent's parents, speak completely different than I do and I have no idea why. But I hate to say, most of the time in my experience, the "slang" also comes with an attitude and that is the most disturbing part. If a person was talking in "slang (ghetto)" and had good morals and acted like a productive member of society (yes some people would still be racist fucks and not care about a person being decent just their physical traits) not trying to run around in gangs/steal cars/start fights/shoot people, there would be different opinions. Not saying no other race/ethnicity does it because every race/ethnicity has their stereotypes, all of them just have there distinctive traits, (i'm just touching base on this specific one). But than again....I do live in Rockford....pretty shitty here haha.

Show less

1

**Comment #127** 1 year ago

Let's be real, a person can speak "educated" but still sound unmistakably "black". It's all about the accent and inflection's that alert me to when a black person mostly likely didn't grow up around a lot of black people (which there is nothing wrong with), no matter if they use proper grammar or strictly slang. There's many variables that have to be accounted for, and it's not just if you fully enunciate the "g" at the end of words like "fucking."

Reply •

**Comment #128** 1 year ago

Yes it is

Reply •

**Comment #129** 1 year ago

I was searching how to speak middle English to annoy people and found this somehow.

Reply •

**Comment #130** 1 year ago

My personal favorite: "You are the whitest black guy I know." I find this funny. Is it supposed to be an insult or a compliment? What exactly is being white? It's clear that we have pigeonholed black into a singular definition, but what exactly is being white? Is it country, emo, goth, metrosexual, speaking properly (do not flatter yourselves with this distinction; you are not nearly as adept as you would like to believe that you are), rock or hippie? Let's define what being white is first, then you can tell me if I'm being white or not.

Show less

Reply • 2

**Comment #131** 1 year ago

Hahaha why you be talking like that? Why you still talking like you a slave? Lmfao hahahaha

Reply •

**Comment #132** 1 year ago

WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP, CAN'T FIGHT, CAN'T FUCK. THEY ARE A DYING RACE BECAUSE ALL WHITE WOMEN CRAVE FOR BIG BLACK COCKS AND HATE SEX WITH WHITE MEN. THIS IS WHY WHITE MEN ARE SO OBSESSED WITH CHILD MOLESTATION: THEY HAVE TO MOLEST THEIR LITTLE SISTERS AND DAUGHTERS TO GET ANY!!!

Reply •

**Comment #133** 1 year ago (edited)

It's because you're educated. What I'm trying to say is that I guess some people of lower socio economic status' are ignorant (and think they're gangsters because they can't spell and they're uneducated etc) and that's essentially how they see it (again, obviously not all low-socio-economic people are like this, but there are definitely some people who are like this out there). These select people will then see you talking with an educated rigour (like you said you were in history class) and for some stupid reason (aka ignorance) they'll then stereotypically associate that with 'white talk' (despite the fact that being white doesn't necessarily mean you're more educated anyways). That's my completely unscientific hypothesis on the subject matter lol. And as you can see it's all a load of crap anyways. In the end people who say you "talk white" have no idea what they're even talking about themselves (even if their reasoning is different to mine, it probably won't be far off) therefore according to probability theory and logical deduction it would be safe to assume that if this is the case then you can (and should) therefore instantly & safely dismiss anything they say after they have spoken the words.. "talk white". :-)

Show less

Reply •

**Comment #134** 1 year ago

If i come of ignorant I apologize before hand.. If you are black and you "Speak white" The chances of you getting hired at the job you want becomes way better. (Ppl are judgmental and if you sound like you are from the hood the chances of you getting a good job becomes slimmer) I dont agree with it but this is how it is for the time being. So I say do not be ashamed of the way you speak as it can and probably will benefit you in the long run...

Reply •

**Comment #135** 2 years ago

This guy hit it on the head. He is talking like someone who speaks well. He forms sentences with the use of proper grammar and pronunciation. Proper speech is not held within a person's race. Their type of speech shows there intelligence or lack of intelligence.

**Comment #136** 2 years ago

If it wasn't the way you talked it would be something else. Wearing the wrong clothes, listening to the wrong music, watching the wrong movies... I'm mixed white and Mexican and I encountered similar ignorance from just about every type of person. I don't "sound Mexican" so dumb Mexicans didn't accept me. I don't quite "look white" so I'd constantly have dumb white people ask, "What ARE you?", like I was some new branch of the species. It's not a race issue, it's a stupid people issue.

**Comment #137** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

You are an idiot. He talks like an educated person. Race is not an accent and has ZERO to do with how we speak. That is determined by how you grow up and learn. Idiot.

**Comment #138** 1 year ago

Oh i watched the video now. If i just heard you talk i could tell youre black. You dont sound "white" at all. Js....

**Comment #139** 1 year ago

yeah, for some reason black folks think we all should sound alike, dress alike and enjoy the same stuff. I've been a rebel my whole life. if that makes me less black, so be it.

**Comment #140** 2 years ago

man im white and i talk black and people be saying WY are you talking black you not black your white so im with you bro

**Comment #141** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Same way bro. I even know a Native American who can speak in a country accent, but talks regularly.

**Comment #142** 2 years ago

Acting White: Being educated doesn't mean you are acting White. Being educated on strictly White curriculum and NOT knowing who you are is acting White. That's the difference. Many Black people talk about how other Blacks labeled them sell-outs because they are educated BUT many of the people who say that exhibit European mannerisms and behavior after being "educated" by European curriculum. Many of them have that European, "I'm superior to you" energy around them and people CAN pick.....

**Comment #143** 1 year ago

"BECAUSE MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME TO FREAKIN READ!" Someone should've started clapping, that was epic

**Comment #144** 2 years ago

Its called Ignorance. Young black people think they have to talk and write like that never passed grade school to be considered Black because the role models of black youth are ignorant rappers with no education dignity or sense and are content with sounding like that never passed a grade school grammar class. And a lot of White people are self centered judgmental undercover bigots full of stereotypical bullshit. It just shows how pathetic the majority of people in this world are today

**Comment #145** 2 years ago

I get this all the time in school XD I'm mostly called an oreo because I'm a light brown. What I really dislike though, is that my people ask if one of my parents are white just because of the way I look and speak. It really irks me.

**Comment #146** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Mikey Black is a trolling neo nazi.

**Comment #147** 2 years ago

I think the thing that irritated me more than black people asking me "why you talk white," is white people telling me, "you speak so well!" Is that supposed to be a compliment, lol? And I'm just like, "yeah, I've been doing it for a few years now..."

**Comment #148** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

(part 2) The same way it is with 'gay pride' and people complaining that it's less acceptable for them to say they have 'straight pride'. It doesn't make you racist to say such a thing. It's just that 'white pride' is a concept that is historically tied to extreme racist movements and ideologies. It isn't really worth saying you have white pride, because the whole of society has been set up for you to be proud of being white, whereas black people are told to be ashamed of their skin colour.

**Comment #149** 2 years ago

speak the truth!!!!



**Comment #150** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

GO fuck yourself stupid fuck

**Comment #151** 2 years ago

I'll answer this for you, because most blacks glorify speaking like a thug and acting like a thug. It isn't white to say nigga it isn't white to dress "black" it isn't white to listen to rap according to some black people and society. Its what black people claim they claim rap they claim how "black" people dress and they claim slang etc. So when you go against what is socially black it makes you differ from other blacks. It isn't really white to speak intelligently its just what we call it.

**Comment #152** 2 years ago

BE YOU!

**Comment #153** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

are you calling me a faggot

**Comment #154** 2 years ago

People has different accents. duh.

**Comment #155** 2 years ago

Awesome

**Comment #156** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

THIS COMMENT.

**Comment #157** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

LMAO

**Comment #158** 2 years ago

You are indeed, Black

**Comment #159** 2 years ago

Blah blah blah blah blah

**Comment #160** 2 years ago

If I didn't subscribe to you. I would have to live the rest of my life with a guilty conscience.

**Comment #161** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Whats worst that i go to a black college in New York and they use slang terms for examples for the professor to write on the board.

**Comment #162** 1 year ago **in reply to another poster**

The most part of the Black people they walk around with an inferiority complex, so when they go to a shop they grab the most expensive stuffs and come to the counter and not able to pay and apply for the credit card talking very big until they learn they are not qualified, if the sales person says we have a product they can afford they get pissed off and will ask how you know I cant afford...genuine sales person get gut instincts about customers almost 80% accuracy.

**Comment #163** 1 year ago

finally a smart black person, Shame the rest of his race will alienate him. If blacks don't understand that alienating men like this is a bad thing, there is no hope for them. Keep sounding stupid and killing each other by all means. Hopefully the intelligent ones like this guy are all that remains when they are done.

**Comment #164** 2 years ago

Its because of the Willy Lynch mentality. When we understand the true meaning of "divide and conquer:" more people will get it. We are who we are. Many of us are mixed anyway. People need to focus on moving forward in life instead of what others think of you.

**Comment #165** 2 years ago

What you're talking about holy crap look at yourself you're black outside but white inside so please

**Comment #166** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Well americans anyway,,,. The rest of planet earth has their own personality.

**Comment #167** 2 years ago

Lmao that happened to me. It was in highschool and my gifted history class. I'm from Louisiana so almost everyone is ghetto. And my friend said "y u be talkin' so white" I said "sorry are u speaking English?" he said "wat u mean" I replied "sorry ask me again when u can speak english"

**Comment #168** 2 years ago

You just made me lose THE GAME :(

**Comment #169** 2 years ago

It doesn't matter how one talks, character is all that matters.

**Comment #170** 2 years ago

This happens to me too. People say are you white washed? I just tell them I'm educated btw I'm mixed white & native

**Comment #171** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Exactly! I know certain people who use who you hang out with as a reason why you talk the way you do. Such as you talk white because you always hang out with white people. However how about a person like me? Who hangs out with everyone? I hang out with people who are Asian descent, Caucasian descent, Latin descent, islander descent, etc. Shoot I've met/am friends with people of non-African descent that know more slang than I do! They're not fake either, they just talk that way.

**Comment #172** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

We all bleed red bro, no matter what color we are. I see what you mean too. It just gets really annoying having to put up with all of this stereotypical bullshit.

**Comment #173** 2 years ago

talking white does not mean "black man speaking intelligently." black people generally have a rythm and a cadence to the way they speak which is calming. i'm not talking about grammar here. that's it's own thing. dr. j was an intelligent, well spoken black man. bryant gumbel "talked white." really nasal and uptight.

**Comment #174** 2 years ago

i went through that growing up to people would say i talk white hahaha no im just not ghetto

**Comment #175** 1 year ago **in reply to another poster**

Hes yo nigga, not ours. You can have him and all the rest of the generation y genderless, colorless, cultureless negro-peans, euro-blacks, wiggas mexiniggas, asianiggas, tough typin youtube nerds, skinny jean, pink hoody wearin ass feminine boys. FYI, girls don't like you either. Generation y the fuck are you here.

**Comment #176** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

u r white

**Comment #177** 1 year ago **in reply to another poster**

Your the one that sounds snooty.

**Comment #178** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

STFU... stupid white kid

**Comment #179** 2 years ago

I hate when white people do this to mixed and black people its annoying

**Comment #180** 2 years ago

I agree brotha! I don't talk like you, but my sister talks very well! And people call her an oreo.

**Comment #181** 2 years ago

When people here say I talk "white". I really want to punch them in the face. I know exactly where their mind is going and what their perception of talking "black" is. I refuse to meet expectations like that and I refuse to give myself a label like: "oreo", "otaku", "emo", "goth", "posh", etc. I feel like things like that limit me. I rather be free than to have boundaries.

**Comment #182** 2 years ago

HAhahahahahahahah, y u talking like u still a slave?? hahaha

**Comment #183** 2 years ago

let's talk gray :D!!!

**Comment #184** 1 year ago in reply to another poster

True, true.

**Comment #185** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

Racism really. You think this hurt people. People who try to put other people down are jealous or hateful. I pray you get saved by god. God doesn't like Racism. If you continue your sinful ways you will burn in hell!!!

**Comment #186** 2 years ago

Funny how white supremacy works to speak proper is to be white but to sound uneducated is to sound black..,

**Comment #187** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

okay let me break it down for you since its so hard for you to understand...Europeans were the original people who spoke English, with colonization and time english became the most common language in the world. Broken English and Black english are two languages that branched off from real english

**Comment #188** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

I know how you feel bro. We just have to show these people that we are who we are. Truth is there is no such thing as talking or acting like a white or black person, because everybody can act however they want too. People still like to label us with all these different titles and brand us with whatever they want too, but that won't change us no matter who we are.

**Comment #189** 2 years ago

The reason we have an ebonics dialect is much the same as most gay men have the same accent. its basically rooted in acceptance within a group. Ppl can switch it on and off, but its basically used to show "affiliation to a particular group or to identify with individuals within a group" I may not have explained it to the fullest but

**Comment #190** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

Speaking proper English is NOT speaking white.

**Comment #191** 2 years ago

The best line ever...'Race is not a sound!' I think I love you!

**Comment #192** 2 years ago

I get that a lot but its not for talking white, I get ragged on for "dressing" white which blows my mind completely. I don't understand it

**Comment #193** 2 years ago

There is no such thing call "talking like white" cause the proper name for that is "talking decently" and anyone can speak decently if they choose to. Black people should stop talking ghetto slang cause its rude and offensive, they should also stop calling every object "shit" and stop calling their women "bitches"

and stop calling each other “nigga” cause its sounds stupid and offensive. Be like Malcolm X or MLK or Barrack Obama and stop being a porch ghetto monkey.

**Comment #194** 2 years ago

its crazy that people think this way, but this just happened to me today, and it was by an asian lady in the drive thru.... so its ok for asian people to talk correctly but not a black guy... i just wrote a bad review for the restaurant online; it might not correct the problem but it made me feel better.

**Comment #195** 2 years ago

;\_\_\_; oh my god, I praise you for this. \*claps\*

**Comment #196** 2 years ago

Where can i take teaching class where i can talk like a black person? i think its so cool :D

**Comment #197** 2 years ago

why yo talkin white?

**Comment #198** 2 years ago

What’s even worse are people who try to rationalize that not speaking articulate is a good thing! It’s frustrating and I still hear it every so often when I speak to some one who thinks I should lower my vocabulary to that of a 1st grader!

**Comment #199** 2 years ago

You made my day. I have gone through the same thing, but it was only after i moved to the South. In Ohio, no one ever said I ‘talked like a white person’. I move down South, all of a sudden, I’m the weird kid in school because I love reading and learning new things, I articulate and enunciate my words properly and I can barely understand any slang term you throw at me.

**Comment #200** 2 years ago

This answered my question! I love all ethnicities. I was just wondering why some people white or black talk in slang but I must admit whites talking slang drive me nuts lol I am white myself and i feel like smacking them when i see aka pants half down and them trying to act a race they are not! Usually I roll my eyes and shake my head lol Is that just me or do you agree :) Be proud of the skin your in....and I love his this skin is lovely part :)

**B. Educational/institutional video corpus****Comment #1** 2 weeks ago

1:01 ummmmm i love the internet

Reply •

**Comment #2** 2 months ago

Interviewer: Why do you think no one has corrected you? Student: 'Cause nobody know it theyself. It's so sad. They can't even say a simple sentence in standard English.

Reply • 1

**Comment #3** 2 months ago

You don't talk English, you speak English.

Reply • 1

**Comment #4** 4 months ago

I'm mostly afraid that if I correct a black person's English (not that I'm an English expert), they will call me racist in a second. Not worth my time.

Reply • 1

**Comment #5** Shared on Google+ • 7 months ago

Ax or Ask?

Let me ax you something.

Let me ask you something.

Seriously? Yeah, seriously.

Finally someone to set the record straight.

Reply • 1

**Comment #6** 7 months ago

One word: 'Murica!

Reply •

**Comment #7** 5 months ago

Subculture passed down bad habits. Speaking well opens doors to opportunities. There is a right way and a wrong way to say a word. Just because mass slang is used by a mass amount of uneducated folks doesn't mean it should simply be accepted as the new way to speak. Good for this guy! I'm not being sarcastic in this comment at all. Seriously, we need more people like him in the world.

Reply • 4

**Comment #8** 10 months ago

People dont care enough to teach black kids a thing. Theyre just gearing them up for the prisons, and what language skills would you need in prison anyway?

Reply • 5

**Comment #9** 3 months ago

This is one of the biggest thing that annoys me. Ignorance is not an excuse. Learn to speak English.

Reply •

**Comment #10** 6 months ago

This had me laughing lolllol

Reply • 1

**Comment #11** 3 months ago

Don't ax me about if it's ask or ax

Reply •

**Comment #12** 3 months ago

They should be thanking him... Lebron still says ax, which I think is terrible for the kids..... wtf Lebron.....  
Reply •

**Comment #13** 3 months ago

This is a bullshit video

Reply •

**Comment #14** 1 year ago

I really don't understand the backlash he's receiving for what he's doing. We of the black community definitely suffer for using nonstandard English. It is true that all races suffer grammatically, but blacks will normally be judged more harshly by exhibiting this behavior. There is a time and place for Ebonics, and the professional world is not that place.

Reply • 4

**Comment #15** 3 months ago

"Yo I'm tryana git dis job"

Reply •

**Comment #16** 1 year ago

Dont nobody finna told me not to axxdeded about the testesis' know what im sayin???

Reply • 3

**Comment #17** 8 months ago

This is a serious video, and all some can do is make fun. This is wrong.

Reply •

**Comment #18** 8 months ago

One thing that might help with the word "ask" alone is to get people into the habit of practicing saying that word as part of a daily drill program. Take the word "ask" and if you say it slowly enough you will hear that to say the "k" in the proper place you must say the word "ass" first. So then all you have to do is say a word just after ass that starts with the letter K. For example; Ass kick, or ass kit, or ass kim, etc. etc. etc. Have the "student" say that 2 word phrase together for 3 minutes straight, 3 times a day, for at least one month until they get it into their head. Then if they ever fall back into their "aks" ways they'll know on their own how to get out of it. Another thing that might make people want to enunciate better as they go through life is to get them to practice saying "tongue twisters" as often as is suggested above. A few examples may include the following; bubble gum double bubble gum triple double bubble gum red leather yellow leather red leather yellow leather red leather yellow leather As for getting them to use proper sentence structure.....?????? That I couldn't help you with

Show less

Reply •

**Comment #19** 10 months ago

"Ay nigga cum ova heeya. I gotz ta AX u a qweshin"

Reply • 3

**Comment #20** 1 year ago

Dis craka dun do nuffin fo deez kids. Furreel.

Reply •

**Comment #21** 10 months ago

I say it like "ask" not ax. I dont understand it? Where me and my friend are from we say it like 'ask' not ax, thats just weird... :/

Reply • 1

**Comment #22** 10 months ago

I don't know about it

**Comment #23** 1 year ago

I like this guy. Respect!

Reply • 1

**Comment #24** 1 year ago

Americans also confuse the words “loan” and “borrow”, as in: “I axed him if he could borrow me the \$10., and he said hell no.”

Reply • 2

**Comment #25** 1 year ago

I am a white male. I own a Music store in a mixed race neighborhood. There are several black people that seek employment in my store. When I interview them I do judge them on their language skills. My black employees know about this and they support my judgment. BTW.. I expect the same from all my employees. Glad to see this guy doing this!

Reply • 9

**Comment #26** 10 months ago

Its not a black thing. Its southern dialect. Plenty of southern whites talk the same way.

Reply • 4

**Comment #27** 1 year ago

this is why i hate neggers so much

Reply • 1

**Comment #28** 1 year ago

I gotta ax if people actually say ‘learn me’ instead of ‘teach me’

Reply •

**Comment #29** 1 year ago

I always wondered why blacks insisted on axing people, now I know they just had a speech impediment!

Reply • 2

**Comment #30** 1 year ago

A guide to better English? Hol’ up! Is you ill? You putting my language, thus my culture, in an inferior position. Boy, stop! You sound STOOPID!

Reply •

**Comment #31** 1 year ago

There is a new show on DIY.. It is called “ Rev Run’s Renovations”... In the promo his wife keeps using the phrase... “ Witch Chew”... What the heck does that mean? “ Witch Chew” really? I thought this was DIY not the food network.

Reply •

**Comment #32** 1 year ago

“Whatchew all talkin’ ‘bout, is?” .....Scientists now believe that blacks will be able to speak English by the year 2215, but that’s just a soft target date.

Reply • 4

**Comment #33** 1 year ago

“Ax” is actually a very old pronunciation of “ask.” Do a quick google search. However, it has fallen out of proper and educated American pronunciation. Is “ax” linguistically incorrect? Probably not. Do people who say “ax” sound uneducated and unprofessional (read: non-employable)? Emphatically, yes.

Reply •

**Comment #34** 1 year ago

did he end it with God bless ya lol

Reply •

**Comment #35** 1 year ago

Maybe 1 day videos about grammar won't get racist comments

Reply • 1

**Comment #36** 1 year ago

Ironically enough, these speech patterns were brought to America by European aristocrats.

Reply •

**Comment #37** 1 year ago

Ax ask, earf earth, tesses tests, sammich sandwich, ambalance ambulance,

Reply • 1

**Comment #38** 1 year ago

This guy should get a national statue. This kind of person changes the world. You cannot really blame the youth, they are stuck in the ghetto and look up to rappers and their homies as role models. It will be a long hard road out of 'spelling-hell', but the government needs to invest in this cause. But they probably won't because they want to keep the masses blind and dumb. So the community has to support this! You KNOW what I am saying?

Reply • 1

**Comment #39** 1 year ago

theres alot more words that pretty much all black people cant pronounce: Their, Am, Are, Ambulance, Direction...and they pretty much dont use verbs at all in sentences or phrases. Just listen to a frickin sports analyst, athlete, etc. Yes Blacks are ignorant of the English language, they ignore how to use proper grammar and are destroying intelligence of their own race. Go back to Africa and learn tribal you pieces of shit.

Reply •

**Comment #40** 1 year ago

Hey why dont white kids have to learn how to speak...maybe because they first...go to school and actually pay attention!!!! Yayyy ...maybe because whites on a whole are actually smarter, yep we are. Go google test scores like the ACT or SAT of different races and see for yourself, this is a fact. Awwwhh, is the white man bringing you blacks and your brain down again? Its our fault right! Go fuck yourselves!

Reply •

**Comment #41** 3 years ago

Now pronounce " asked "

**Comment #42** 3 years ago

Teachers don't teach

**Comment #43** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

No it's saying they're lazy if they DONT

**Comment #44** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

ASKED

A few have trouble with this one. Note i'm in Australia. e.g. 'Ass' as in fat ass - we spell and pronounce it as 'arse' (silent e). 'Ass' is a donkey like animal. We say "arsk" not "assk". Asked = almost sounds like "arsed" (fart assed) in normal/fast talking speed. Very slight pronunciation of the k. The slower the word is said the more pronounced the 'k' becomes.

Show less

**Comment #45** 2 years ago

\*on :/

**Comment #46** 3 years ago

It ant Sexy...!!!!!!!



**Comment #47** 2 years ago

man so many ppl on here criticizing black on here just sound so dumb, speaking proper does not make u any smarter than someone who says most of their words wrong.

**Comment #48** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

actually "axe"(aks) was first...study linguistic and learn something about language..it changes and evolves.. there is no "right grammar"

**Comment #49** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

did you know that "axe"(aks) was actually used before "ask"? "In Old English (1000-1500 years ago), in ENGLAND, both pronunciations (and spellings) were common: ascian (ask) and axian (aks). This variation extended to another verb with a similar sound pattern: tascian (task, "to require") and taxian (taks, "to require"). This variation has been common throughout the history of English." Just admit you are a racist, lets see how your employer or potential employer would like that  
Show less

**Comment #50** 3 years ago

Everybody in the comments section below is crazy. Did Martin Luther king jr. Teach us nothing? Equality, we are all equal. And we need to treat each other as equals, as one race. Just because we have different skin tones, does not mean either dark or light has to view the other is inferior. We need to step up, as a group. Together, working together to create harmony. I am biracial, half and half. Meaning I am both. Part Caucasian, and African-American. Please, live to accept. And accept to live

**Comment #51** 2 years ago

I am black no one had to teach me that.

**Comment #52** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

shut up cracker before i teach you something

**Comment #53** 2 years ago

Obama phone

**Comment #54** 3 years ago

Amen! I'm so tired of hearing ignorant folks say stuff like you are "talking white" and I am sick of their backwards english. Please educate these children...

**Comment #55** 3 years ago

this guy is great, but he is also fighting a losing battle. 99% of black people are just stupid,it's a fact.

**Comment #56** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

The many varieties of English spoken around the world differ mainly in pronunciation (or 'accent'), and to a lesser extent in vocabulary. That doesn't mean dialects exhibiting such features are deficient, or illogical, or intrinsically inferior to the standard dialect of the given language. Isn't it sensible to call a construction incorrect when people whose status as fully competent speakers of the standard language is unassailable use it nearly all the time ? By a linguist. Don't be ignorant.

**Comment #57** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

That is the viewpoint that is keeping society where it is. Nice job promoting ignorance in an effort to redirect people's problems to the 1% and your obvious distrust of it and the standards of society.

**Comment #58** 1 year ago **in reply to another poster**

What if you work at company that specializes in manufacturing of axes? That's going to cause some serious problems if your workers can't discern the word "axe" from "ask".

**Comment #59** 2 years ago

"I gotta do this" Really now?? Come one you sounded professional throughout the video, and then you had to end it like that??

**Comment #60** 3 years ago

i saw a Hispanic kid in there too! thats what im talking about UNITY! lol

**Comment #61** 2 years ago

This teacher is absolutely correct. There should be more teachers like him. All he is doing is teaching the children to speak English correctly. Regardless of race, there are grammatical rules that need to be followed so you don't sound stupid. Its absolutely ridiculous! So fast to point the finger at why you aren't successful... SPEAK CORRECTLY or fall behind.

**Comment #62** 2 years ago

Just as they're campaigning to get Black Americans to speak proper English, they could do the same to stop them saying the "N" word. Educating them on the history of the word would hopefully stop them from using it.

**Comment #63** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

I'm black, and you're being extremely racist, and ignorant. Go die. Same goes for the person that you are replying to.

**Comment #64** 2 years ago

don't nobody told me not to say

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX,

**Comment #65** 3 years ago

they deserve to be taught proper grammar. props to this man!

**Comment #66** 2 years ago

I don't think this has to do with black people, or race in general, as much as it has to do with the environments we were raised in.

**Comment #67** 2 years ago

I don't speak slang, I'm black, I can say everything else right, but I can't say asks. I can sometimes say ask, but when I try to add the s I just can't say it. I HATE when people correct me by calling me out, it's not necessary, trust me I beat myself up over it enough.

**Comment #68** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

sad to hear that but i dont think u should try to fit in with any crowd, be yourself

**Comment #69** 2 years ago

Genetically humans are the 5th ape. Look up Richard Dawkins. I believe you have reached a conclusion based on obsolete/outdated data. All apes are cousins but our common ancestor is the orangutan. ACTG being the basis for our gene structure. Have a good one.

**Comment #70** 2 years ago

this reminds me of the movie "My Fair Lady". The RAIN, in SPAIN, falls MAINly in the PLAINS.

**Comment #71** 3 years ago

Pluck that, leave that proper ish to them white folks we don't need them to understand us.

**Comment #72** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

Implying niggers can teach anybody anything.

**Comment #73** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

Proper grammar isn't for everyone? Really? Please do explain how poor communication skills would benefit anyone.

**Comment #74** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

LOL

**Comment #75** 3 years ago  
they think speaking with proper grammar is acting white.

**Comment #76** 2 years ago  
This guy sounds more white than most whites I know

**Comment #77** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
It's unfortunate. The problem is a social/ culture thing; where the blacks make the mistake in believing only way they can have some kind of worse is if they imitate what other "lazy" black people say (in other words, the kids are imitating the failures to fit in) to feel like a normal human being. It's ridiculous. The word ask can be easy for them to pronounce if they ca STOP trying tofit in with the croud to feel accepted and make it a goal of theirs to actually communicate to ALL people.

**Comment #78** 2 years ago  
You is a young fool.

**Comment #79** 2 years ago  
This is how Fox News deliver their subtle racist contents. Send a black guy who says that black guys suck. What's missing is a counterargument that states that AAVE is a cultural language as is White English and it is as wrong or as right. There is no way that black people should be forced to sound like a white guy.

**Comment #80** 2 years ago  
Strenth vs Strength.

**Comment #81** 2 years ago  
Why would anyone DISLIKE this clip?

**Comment #82** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
I am speaking of the pronunciation not the spelling. Look it up, you can say AXED. Say, not spell.

**Comment #83** 1 year ago  
Good man right here!!!

**Comment #84** 3 years ago  
What the fuck is a sammich? Why did american fuck up the english language after they got their independance?

**Comment #85** 3 years ago  
The reason English teachers don't correct black kids on "ax" is allegations of racism and absurd notions that its part of black culture and whatnot.

**Comment #86** 2 years ago  
Love this brother for trying to better and show these kids the right way. Im buying all his products.

**Comment #87** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
Yep you are correct. The reality is this has more to do with racism then grammar..the have plenty of others words that are "butchered"(relative to how they used to be said in the past) but it's mainly whites who do it, hence it's "OK"

**Comment #88** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
Ya I learned that after high school. I'm my own person now. Don't really care what others think of me.

**Comment #89** 3 years ago  
"een" instead of in

**Comment #90** 2 years ago  
It is my opinion that this so-called "Ebonics" does not have to be considered a negative stereotype, but a distinctive feature indigenous to the Black-American community. I am a Black university professor, noted

by Blacks and whites for my good diction. But my philosophy has been that Blacks can “let their hair down” when amongst themselves, but when in a different environment, it is best to be linguistically versatile; especially when applying for a position or public speaking. I

**Comment #91** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

ok, internet racist gangster, why can't you say that to my face?

**Comment #92** 3 years ago

Lots of non-europeans speak english but only oreos are proud of it.

**Comment #93** 3 years ago

WHy they reporting this on fox news? im sure of their anchor men need to go back to english school and gain some knowledge because some of them are fucking retards.

**Comment #94** 2 years ago

“Can it be wrong? They hear it all the time” Yeah, hear it all the time of Fox.

**Comment #95** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

You sound like the typical stereotypical black person. Raised in a single parent home without being taught the correct way. Then when someone tells you that the way you speak is wrong you pull the negroid degenerate card so that you may continue to “ax” stupid question “ack” like someone trying to go somewhere in life.

**Comment #96** 3 years ago

i think this guy is right in what he does i mean its not wrong that they speak like that but when they do it singles them out a little as being even more different

**Comment #97** 3 years ago

2:26 Nigga please

**Comment #98** 3 years ago

3:41 Did he say “I gotta do this.”?

**Comment #99** 3 years ago

“DON'T NOBODY” well put, if this retard lives past 16 it would be a fucking miracle

**Comment #100** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Yes you have a right to your opinion nobody said you didn't. Whats the prob? Have a wonderful experience. no need to act all uppity about it. You still need a green card to be a citizen of the U.s tehehe.

**Comment #101** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** white, black, who gives a shit? you say ‘correct’ grammar, but that’s a highly presupposed piece of ideology you’re offering up. Correct according to what? According to what the mainstream dominant bloc, educated, elitist, whatever you want to call them: they say it’s correct, so you say it’s correct cuz that’s what you learned too. Never had the chance to see that that ‘black’ dialect of English also works sufficiently to convey one’s modality/ stance on any issue. Mind is ash.

**Comment #102** 3 years ago

This guy is my hero. No freaking lie! But it's not just the black kids though. I hear ax from the mexicans too -.-

**Comment #103** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Nobody's been around more latinos then me and 78% of them can't even speak English the other half spoke horrible english. You people are really delusional! Most of the latinos I've been around were mexican so I don't know about other hispanics. I've heard black americans and southern white americans speak broken english but they can afford to speak with a colloquial accent because this is their country.

**Comment #104** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** a “highly presupposed piece of ideology”?? Its a LANGUAGE with grammatical rules. The teacher, to his credit, is attempting to show kids how to NOT sound like illiterate idiots when they go on a job hunt. The again, Its idiots like you who call out guys like this as “uncle toms” for attempting to acclimate into a whole society and not continue to play the victim card. Keep talking like an illiterate. Just don’t complain when you are treated like the ignorant fuck you obviously are

**Comment #105** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** I’ll rephrase just for you. you very clearly said that no one has done more “X” than you have.....and then you wisely call me “uppity”. the rest of your posts make just as much sense. do you suppose anyone sees a problem? you even spell “Seinfeld” wrong. now, who can’t spell their own user name correctly. ffs.

**Comment #106** 3 years ago

I love it!

**Comment #107** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Its not the system so much as the abuses allowed to go on within it. look at Chavez in Venezuela, a socialist system with its own elite who have the power to censor any criticism of the status quo along with non-existent justice system where detractors simply vanish. Capitalism isn’t a dirty word. It the abuses that need to be addressed. Any system of Govt. is vulnerable to this. Anyhow, good seeing that you are rational. Sorry about the name calling. Be well.

**Comment #108** 3 years ago

I’m black, and i’ve always hated it when people replace the word ask with “Ass” or “Axe”. It has irritated me since ever since kindergarden.

**Comment #109** 3 years ago

Thank god, I grew up in the bronx and when I went to college I first realized how speech can affect someone. It was pointed out to me how I pronounced certain things such as words that end in th. If you want to further yourself in life you have to speech correctly, it isn’t a matter of black or white, it’s a matter of speaking the language properly. I support him all the way.

**Comment #110** 3 years ago

OOh, i’m glad I know how to properly pronounce that now

**Comment #111** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** didn’t the world learn a lesson from michael jackson’s trying to become white? I don’t know why he did that; maybe an attempt to become white? avoid oppression faced by blacks. Point is, no matter how well blacks can parrot the standard ‘educated’ u.s. english dialect, it doesn’t matter. can’t change their skin color: deep rooted racism. you are just like a doctor trying to treat a brain tumor by cutting off melanoma with a scalpel: the problem is much deeper: think critically.

**Comment #112** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** its not just “different” you “Black piece of shit”. Its correct grammar and not using correct grammar and insisting that its a legitimate way of speaking if fucking your kids out of jobs simply so you can differentiate yourselves from whitey out of anger. Language should be neutral and NOT a race issue. But shitskins like you want to use it as a way to annoy whitey and not recognize the repercussions for your kids. You’re a selfish asshole, Jim.

**Comment #113** 3 years ago

How about the parents get more involved & encourage more READING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! that’s how we’ve talked 4 years. I applauded that brother but they really don’t need teachers 4 that, all they need is a DESIRE 2 READ a BOOK..... more often!

**Comment #114** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** It’s not exactly Queen’s English, as that is even more formal than what he’s teaching. He’s teaching how to talk in a professional environment. ‘Ebonics’ isn’t so much a regional difference, as

it is a complete disregard for the language as a whole. They use improper verb substitutions (e.g., "I ain't did that"). I think you're missing the point, though. There's a difference between not pronouncing an 'h' and pronouncing a word incorrectly altogether ("axe").

**Comment #115** 3 years ago

BRILLIANCE!!! It's only a BIG deal b/c all of the children are African Americans. He's helping our children, not hurting them GOSH! Let EVERYONE learn academic English.

**Comment #116** 3 years ago

AEEEEEEESK lol

**Comment #117** 3 years ago

@another poster Farrakhan is the most eloquent and has a message of TRUTH!

**Comment #118** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

@another poster its near impossible to pick out the difference between the two words. stupid, and invalid comparison.

**Comment #119** 3 years ago

regardless of what your race, in my office for an interview and i ask you to read something for me, if you say "aks" the job goes to someone else

**Comment #120** 3 years ago

finally a teacher teaching you dumb asses how to speak correctly...finally!

**Comment #121** 1 year ago

CALL DA AMBERLAMPS!!

**Comment #122** 2 years ago

This doesn't just apply for the African American community. I'm Hispanic and I am ashamed at how so many Hispanics that I know talk. "ax" "liketed". It's ridiculous.

**Comment #123** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

you realize you just trolled yourself right? lmao!

**Comment #124** 1 year ago

Don't be shamed white people say what you want aks!

**Comment #125** 3 years ago

@another poster What if you woke up white and just fantasized about being black? Haha

**Comment #126** 3 years ago

This is what amazes me. Jamaicans, Trinis, Beijans, Asians, Hispanics...they all speak their English with a kind of patois. And culturally, that is accepted in the USA. You wouldn't think twice about buying that General Tso's chicken from Mr.Lee's Hunan House just because he slurs his L's and talks puts in their place a "R" sound. Everyone (most) associates West Indies patois with laid back ganja culture...but I worked for a Jamaican man and he was all business...never spoke a proper bit of ...

**Comment #127** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

No, you're suppose to say, "EveryONE in the comments section, below, ARE crazy". You're comunication skills (in the ENGLISH language) will become worse if you continue to get worse and worse as years go by. PS. The word "ax" (used for ASK) takes away all the pleaset athstetic qualities out of your persona (it makes people sound stupid and unpleasent to socialize with)

**Comment #128** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

@another poster and that is the half that allowed him to become President

**Comment #129** 2 years ago

I was such A Fucking Idiot for judging this Man. I have no Fucking idea why I even Hated Him.

**Comment #130** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** He's teaching standard American English. That's how 'ask' is pronounced. I've heard countless English accents, and they're all said 'ask', with different tonalities. Nothing as absurd as "axe", though.

**Comment #131** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

"Yo dawg just coz i talk like a a ghetto nigger don't mean i'ma ghetto nigga".

**Comment #132** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** hey, thanks for the legitimate answer. I'm actually a white guy, but I live in Seoul where I'm put on the margin by my appearance. You preempted me saying it's about class. That was the critical point I alluded to in my comment. Sure, it's about race, but class, actually the power oppression of the uneducated by the capitalist global system, is the underlying culprit. I think if we got rid of that we could see some real human progress. But no space to illuminate this on youtube.

**Comment #133** 2 years ago

"In Old English we find both scian and csian, and in Middle English both asken and axen. Moreover, the forms with cs or x had no stigma associated with them. Chaucer used asken and axen interchangeably, as in the lines "I wol aske, if it hir will be/To be my wyf" and "Men axed hym, what sholde bifalle," both from The Canterbury Tales

**Comment #134** 3 years ago

I know alot of educated sucseesful people who say "sammich".

**Comment #135** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** you mean his English was bad.

**Comment #136** 2 years ago

After 400 years, they still can't speak the English language. Remember, k sound comes at the eeend". But it's about time someone is teaching them how to speak at least one word properly. He is RIGHT, that the parents, teachers, and PRINCIPALS in ghetto schools all speak ebonics. Then they wonder why nobody wants to hire them.

**Comment #137** 3 years ago

He is fighting a losing battle, these black retards are fucked from birth, along with stupid white, southern trash.....aAKKKKSSSSS, if that retard makes it past 16 I be FUCKING SHOCKED

**Comment #138** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

I agree with you N.P., both people in your ought to be able to maintain their personal culture. Yet I think in order to succeed both need to be able to speak the standard language of the majority culture. I don't think there is anything wrong w/ going back and forth.

**Comment #139** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

BECAUSE THEY GAVE UP ON YOU.... AFTER COUNTLESS LASHINGS, THEY FINALLY DISCOVERED YOU WERE TOO STUPID..... YOU IDIOT.

**Comment #140** 3 years ago

If they can't say it, they obviously can't spell it either.

**Comment #141** 3 years ago

Screw Ebonics! Sounds so illiterate. Whenever i speak perfect English, they look at me like I'm some kind of alien.... -\_-

**Comment #142** 3 years ago

I'm black and don't nobody told me how to speak different.

**Comment #143** 3 years ago

2:25 Constipation.

**Comment #144** 2 years ago

AMBULAANCE! Why do black american's say it like that?

**Comment #145** 2 years ago

If I were an alien and I beamed down to this planet from my spaceship having no clue what life on Earth is like and a racial realist described to me the black race and what they're like, I would never believe them.

**Comment #146** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Have you met every black person in the USA?

**Comment #147** 3 years ago

Fox News...nuff said

**Comment #148** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** You lie over the internet to make yourself look cool, have fun fucking your sister, you inbred neanderthal.

**Comment #149** 4 years ago

Only a stupid person would say axe.

**Comment #150** 4 years ago

Do black people not realize that white people have to act a certain way in public that is different than the way they act at home? Yes, it's true. When I answer the phone at work, I don't speak like I do when I am at home, talking to my dog.

**Comment #151** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** I went to a HS that was about 90% african american. You on the other hand are basing your opinions on movies or youtube videos. Like I said please make the world a better place and kill yourself

**Comment #152** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** These women laying around on welfare that quit school to have 3 - 6 babies are the ones to blame.....then that cycle repeats itself and I remember when I was in high school, nobody was participating in sex to have a baby. FOR YOUR OWN SAKE STAY IN SCHOOL SO YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO COMMUNICATE TO MAKE YOU LIFE BETTER.....it is either going to be the TRAILER or the GHETTO if you do not. YOU DON'T DESERVE THE CARDS YOU ARE DEALT BUT YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR PATH!!!! IT IS HARD FOR ALL

**Comment #153** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** white pride? White pride, you say?-I am a white woman, and quite frankly, I hereby disown you. Go to hell, and say hi to all the other no account racist pigs who lynched black people in the 60s. They'll be the ones getting pineapples shoved up their butts ala Little Nicky!!

**Comment #154** 4 years ago

black-lash

**Comment #155** 4 years ago

**@another poster** FUCK you

**Comment #156** 4 years ago

I love when ni.....I mean black people hate on other nig.....oops black people.



**Comment #157** 4 years ago  
He had said ax!

**Comment #158** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** NIGGER LOVER!!! NO ONE AXED YOU!!!!!!!!!!

**Comment #159** 4 years ago  
I want to MARRY this guy. He's phenomenal.

**Comment #160** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** Nice, fighting racism with HEAVY racism. Smart.

**Comment #161** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** I am Jewish you dumb fuck please drink a gallon of bleach

**Comment #162** 4 years ago in reply to another poster  
**@another poster** Huh? Whu-what?! LOL

**Comment #163** 4 years ago  
3:30 "Nobody never told me the right word to say". Geez that's still wrong!

**Comment #164** 4 years ago  
I'm English learner and can understand almost everything if you speak to me in proper English, but when people start speaking using a lot of slang words it becomes a total nightmare for me... I can understand NOTHING at all :(

**Comment #165** 4 years ago  
Oh Thank God!!!! Someone is finally doing something..... Here is another one....some'en = Something "THING!" Who you is? Who are you? Where you at? Where are you.....For your own sake get that English book and start reading....some'in, nut'en = nothing..skreet = street, skrimps = shrimp, onch = orange, fuets = fruits.....stop being loud in public, talking loud and laughing loud...and stop cussing! That cussing really show ignorance of a lack of word vocabulary. Africans don't speak slang!

**Comment #166** 4 years ago  
2nd gen latinos speak perfect american english. where's the fucken problem?

**Comment #167** 4 years ago  
"amalance or samwitch" xD

**Comment #168** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** - Yawn, a jew willing to tolerate bullshit from niggers. Take a trip to the Bedford–Stuyvesant niggerhood of Brooklyn, NY, then you'll get a taste of what niggers think of Jews. Your solidarity with nigger is mind boggling.

**Comment #169** 4 years ago  
Many aspects of grammar are lost to dialects and accents all the time, I hate how they try to make an African american accent slang, how condescending.

**Comment #170** 4 years ago  
In my opinion, fuck this guy. I mean, it's okay what he's doing, but the fact that he's doing it publicly, is a little counter active. He's bringing more attention to Blacks as a whole as being uneducated. I speak, and type, using correct grammar. And why is it that every time I come to a "race" video, there's always some racist motherfucker typing that "Niggers" this and Niggers" that. The shit is getting old. Get the hell out of here, "internet thugs," hiding behind your computer screens.

**Comment #171** 4 years ago in reply to another poster

**@another poster** your going to keep your african roots? thats crazy sounding. in africa they learn proper english and can speak english far better then you and you were born here! i can promise you their spelling is better aswell.

**Comment #172** 4 years ago

**@another poster** I'm sorry, but you REALLY missed the point of my ENTIRE post didn't you??? I was saying IF, IF you idiot, IF we HAD HAD a child we would have been on welfare and foodstamps. See, I'm intelligent and have foresight and in NO WAY wanted that financial burden, so we used birth control and, voila, no children. My very fucking point was that WITHOUT children most people wouldn't be so poor and dependent on others to take care of their sexual irresponsibility. READ GOODER.

**Comment #173** 2 years ago in reply to another poster

awww you're such a retard <3

**Comment #174** 3 years ago

testasis, i heard this 1 nigger say " TEEFASIS" not teeth, but TEEF, u can't teach a stupid race nuttin, just ax em' THIS COUNTRY WOULD BE SOOOOOOOOOO MUCH BETTER WITHOUT THE 99% OF THE NIGGERS THAT ARE HERE, MY GOD, THEY R SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO STUPID

**Comment #175** 3 years ago

fox did it agin

**Comment #176** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

**@another poster** Your community scoffed when it was told a mostly white majority voted a black man into office. There is now a black republican at the top of the polls who could only be put there by "racist" whites? Theres been countless ethnic groups hwo have come here and made their way and succeeded. Some very dark (Indian)m some yellow, some white, some brown. The excuses need to stop. The issue comes down to class, not race. I'm a victim of this current bullshit as well.

**Comment #177** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

**@another poster** Yea, that makes sense. Judging hundreds of millions of people without knowing the smallest fraction of them personally. Based on your comment, you are in no position to call others stupid.

**Comment #178** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

**@another poster** So that's why the English also say 'ask', then? Old English was done away with before there ever was an America. One should do more than read classical literature before they spread etymological lies.

**Comment #179** 2 years ago

I'm REALLY tired of hearing the word "Racist", it's now wielded like a weapon for the defenceless, weak or those who have malicious intent ie: Sir sir, he said that word sir. Help the world by removing the malicious damage to character that this word possesses on all of us, Be proud of who you are, if someone calls you nigger, honkey or whatever just say thanks, is it really that hard to have some fucking pride in yourself and your ancestry. Only cowards use the word racist as it's their only weapon  
Show less

**Comment #180** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

**@another poster** sounds so white, u sound like a TYPICAL NIGGER, what do the most most thriving countries in world DO NOT HAVE??? STUPID NIGGERS LIKE U , Japan....China..India... Germany, just face it, blacks are by far the stupidest race....period

**Comment #181** 3 years ago in reply to another poster

ha ha awesome

**Comment #182** 3 years ago

GRAMMAR NAZI ARMY FTW! xD

**Comment #183** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

C/S

**Comment #184** 3 years ago

Imma go cross da screet an get me an erange but fust i gonna ax my momma to gives me some money

**Comment #185** 4 years ago

Everyone should have the opportunity to speak proper English. If one chooses to deviate, so be it. I take issue with environments that don't leave room for the option. Great job, Gerard McClendon.

**Comment #186** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

You are correct, but most people do not want the truth. Thank you for digging deeper.

**Comment #187** 4 years ago

**@another poster** Second, you can't get away with slangy English in a business setting because the higher up the ladder you go, the more likely you'll be talking to people from other dialects and other nations. They simply won't understand you, and otherwise the office is a place where decorum and respect must be shown. It isn't a streetcorner. It isn't the local bar. It is WORK.

**Comment #188** 3 years ago

I say ask 'properly' but asked sounds weird to me.

**Comment #189** 3 years ago

This gentlemen is just trying to help his race, what is wrong with that? All races can work on their grammar it's not a black and white thing, it's a lazy thing. When I get lazy I might use slang, but if I am in an interview I know this difference, thanks to the likes of this gentlemen.

**Comment #190** 3 years ago

Come on now, someone superimposed the Fox logo over The Onion.

**Comment #191** 3 years ago

I hear that word everyday "ax" like c'mon people know how to say ask just say it, it annoys the hell out of me

**Comment #192** 2 years ago

Now tell me class, is it 'shit' or 'sheeeeeeeeeiiiiiiiiittt'?

**Comment #193** 2 years ago

" Don't nobody teach me how to say AXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX " , maybe he will be able to tie his shoes by the age of 20, doubt it.....just stick to sports, no deep thought required

**Comment #194** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** - Nigger please. Niggers love to post fictitious shit about white people, but when you counter their bullshit they (you) can only respond with a lame comment.

**Comment #195** 3 years ago

Garrard McClendon... You, sir, a fighting an uphill battle, (not from white folks, but black people,) and I have to admire your guts. Until black people realize there is NOBODY that wants to hear their doctor say, "Let me ax you sumthin, yo..." then black people will always continue to shine my shoes and wash my car. Period.

**Comment #196** 3 years ago

I think what he's doing is great

**Comment #197** 3 years ago

He sounds soooooo wight

**Comment #198** 4 years ago

I wonder how well it would go over if the teacher was white?

**Comment #199** 4 years ago  
good to see someone fix the ghetto.

**Comment #200** 4 years ago  
Niggers.

**Comment #201** 4 years ago  
that awkward moment when he said "I GOTTA do this" not "I have to do this" lol

**Comment #202** 4 years ago  
Who is he to say AMBERLAMPS is incorrect?

**Comment #203** 4 years ago  
This teacher is trying to help these people .... I think hes great !

**Comment #204** 4 years ago  
"Cuz they nobody know what they sell" is that what he said? if so what did he mean?

**Comment #205** 4 years ago  
YALL NIGGAS CANT TALK MY NIGGA.NIGGA YO NIGGA NIGGA....YOUR FACE, GOD DAMNIT. im not racist lol i hate lazy ppl

**Comment #206** 4 years ago  
the fact of the matter is this: black people can not help themselves, they are the stupidest race, that is why they ax, and fin to go somewhere, they are just idiiotic, FACT

**Comment #207** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** Hey, East Asians are cool. I'm not saying anything bad about them. Just whites and your people.

**Comment #208** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** U idiot. Typically undeducated. The first slave in the US was owned by a BLACK MAN. Africa had a LONG history of slavery LONG before the white man. It was the MUSLIMS who were the primary slave traders, done with the complete approval of the local chieftens who, in fact, sold the pow form tribal warfare to the Muslims to sell to us. 2% of arican slaves came to the US. 20% to the caribbean, and 60% to Brazil. 2% of whites owned slaves, 28% of freed blacks owned slave. Fuck u.

**Comment #209** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** That really is an ignorant comment from a person that doesn't know that the Egyptians (Black people) were the oldest civilizations known to man. From your limited knowledge, you think that white is right and that white was civilized. Newsflash! Ancient Egyptians had indoor plumbing, aqueducts, and an advance system of writing and recorded text. Africa has Saharas and not jungles and South America has the jungles and rainforest. Please know your facts.

**Comment #210** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
**@another poster** Problems with your statement: grammar issues, comma splices, racist, and unnecessary capitalized words (not to mention you spelled idiotic wrong). Problem?

**Comment #211** 4 years ago  
Right on!

**Comment #212** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**  
Respond to this video... And furthermore, there where in fact MORE white slaves then black, and, in general, they where treated MARKEDLY worse then the black slaves as they tended to be debtbers or minor criminals and hence the price was cheaper. Healthy, black slaves commanded a premium price and as such were taken care of MUCH better. You can be outraged all you like, in fact you should be, but not at the people you currently are. The bigger crime, IMO, was segregation.

**Comment #213** 4 years ago

the fact of the matter is this: black people can not help themselves, they are the stupidest race, that is why they ax, and fin to go somewhere, they are just idiiotic, FACT, just speaking the TRUFFF, oh, i mean the truth

**Comment #214** 4 years ago

**@another poster** And poverty is a problem because people have children they can't take care of. When I was MUCH younger a former girlfriend and I shared an apartment, shared a car, and managed to pay our bills while both making minimum wage. We had to cut out most forms of entertainment, and not spend needlessly but it could be done. + 1 CHILD = FOODSTAMPS AND WELLFARE

**Comment #215** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** why do white guys like to portray yourself like you are so mighty and have so many standards when in fact your race and gender are most notoriously known for inbreeding, being pedophiles and bestiality. THATS DISGUSTING and it shows how much low self-esteem and fucked up mentality you people really have. STOP with your no self-esteem lies. Whites are disgusting creatures.

**Comment #216** 4 years ago

Yeah, the teacher is so wrong to try and teach them proper english so they can be taken a little more seriously in the workplace. Yeah folks, keep on keeping yourself s down and justify speaking like idiots. You know, when I was in school my grammer was corrected.

**Comment #217** 4 years ago

"Why has no one corrected you?" "Cuz they nobody know it theyself." Right on, kid.

**Comment #218** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Why, is reality that outrageous to you?? These r facts. Slavery was started in what was to become america in the colony of virginia in 1664. There is a court record of an african man living there who had brought his indentured servant over from africa. When the servants term of service was up the african man sued his former servant to make him his slave. He won the case setting the precedent for slavery in america. By bringing HIS culture over here he set the stage.

**Comment #219** 4 years ago

@3:40 "I gotta do this" I believe you meant to say "I have to do this". Would I be correct, or was that....just you hanging out with the troubled youth?

**Comment #220** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** has nothing to do with race, i would just as easily put down white trash, no hesitation, there are also white people who can not speak properly, i only speak the majority of the truth, there are exceptions for every race, but the fact ultimatley remains that most black people sounf ridiculous, but as usual blame it on other races

**Comment #221** 4 years ago

Now one axed him anything!

**Comment #222** 4 years ago

This is far more powerful than hypersensitive people may realize...

**Comment #223** 4 years ago

ax lebron james..

**Comment #224** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Enjoy having your wives clitoris burned off, you child forced to have sex with it's mother so as to never return, feed brown brown and pressed in service as a soldier in someone else war (mulsims again). Or how bout your pregnant daughter being shot for not working mandatory overtime in the diamond mines? Or maybe you like having you women rapped in mass by the military with the governments,congo, consent. Or if your lesbian you can look forward to "corrective rape" ENJOY!!

**Comment #225** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** And yes, white ppl did have a fairly small role in the ACTUAL enslavement of these people. The number one gatherer of slaves where africans, the primary purchaser of slaves where MUSLIMS. The interior of Africa was know as "white mans graveyard" due to the numerous pathogens that they did not have immunity to . The MYTH of the white slave catcher running through Africa chasing down people and snaring them is almost a complete fiction started by Arthur Hailey (sp) and "Roots".

**Comment #226** 4 years ago

THE COMMENTS THAT SOME OF YOU ALL MADE ARE A MESS! GROW UP I CANT WAIT TILL JESUS COMES BACK!

**Comment #227** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** yeah, if you hate immunization, running water, welfare, foodstamps, medicare, all these things sure exist in nations run by blacks....

**Comment #228** 3 years ago

I'm a black Briton and I can't stand when stupid black Americans don't speak English properly

**Comment #229** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

\*Nobody told me. Not "don't nobody told me". Please learn your native language.

**Comment #230** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

are u sure that you're not trying to fit in with a "better" crowd?

**Comment #231** 2 years ago

teacher is doing his job!

**Comment #232** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

/watch?v=aogWFrW1PyU :)

**Comment #233** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** Aye, that we did.

**Comment #234** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Seems like you missed my point.

**Comment #235** 4 years ago

Lets not forget one of the most prominent inventions of the industrial revolution, the Cotton Gin by Eli Whitney....everybody thinks that's what the name of the invention was, not that case it was actually illiterate negroes who couldn't pronounce the word "engine" correctly.....the correct name is cotton engine, but the of course they had trouble pronouncing it, so just like the rest of the english language they butchered it and made there own word for it.

**Comment #236** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** yes, I know proper English, thank you. He's not teaching this to people AROUND THE WORLD, he's teaching it to specifically Black people. Yes, there are loads of folks that need to be educated - that's White, Hispanic, whatever. I don't like that he's all on the tele speaking ONLY to the Black children as if it is EXCLUSIVELY a "Black" problem. This is where I stand.

**Comment #237** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Why would you, left by your own devices, return to this comment? It seems a rather superfluous thing to do. Sincerely, black guy with big lips

**Comment #238** 2 years ago

Didn't even realize I was saying ask wrong until one of my students corrected me! It's been bugging me for days, but it's so hard to say the k... Are you supposed to hear the k??

**Comment #239** 2 years ago **in reply to another poster**

Finally. Greetings from a belgian linguist.

**Comment #240** 3 years ago

"He axe me to", LOL. No only is she getting ask wrong, she is also using it wrong (it the clip). It would be 'asked' or 'axed', not axe/ask. "He ask me to go", sounds retarded.

**Comment #241** 2 years ago

we don't correct them so we don't get shot or stabbed

**Comment #242** 3 years ago

Who created this proper white talk.....We blacks. Blacks create their on way of life..... Keep it together Obama.....

**Comment #243** 3 years ago

Is gotta a word?

**Comment #244** 4 years ago

Aks... ask... Some proper speaking white people do the same thing with words that have a silent "H" after a "W". They say "I don't know H-sound wy" instead of "I don't know why" they switch the "W" and "H" sounds. Kinda like Stewie Griffin saying "Coolwhip"

**Comment #245** 4 years ago

Man this dude is doing something very great right now

**Comment #246** 3 years ago **in reply to another poster**

thats kind of what i just said dumbass.

**Comment #247** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** - Really profound comment that you posted, "No black can be a Patriotic American, since we are not Americans" Let's see if you have balls enough to post that on your channel. It truly exposes you for the nigger that you are. POST IT! Let the world know that you're an unAmerican peice of shit.

**Comment #248** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** I read your exchange with FightBadBehavior, you need to know that you are a disgrace to our race. Chris Rock, FBB, myself, & millions of others agree that there is a huge difference between honorable black people & niggers. They are not the same, as you contend Now you post, "we aren't American. Fuck America" Speak for yourself you American hating nigga. I love America & everything it has given me. Typical US hating nigga, all talk, but afraid to move to Africa where you belong

**Comment #249** 4 years ago

If a white person had been teaching the same kids this, people would be pissed off saying how racist it is.

**Comment #250** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** - You wrote, "Niggers don't hate America, they hate whites". Nigger please. It's time that you & your ilk showed some gratitude. You've never been a slave, live in the greatest nation on Earth, & have endless opportunity for success in this great land. Honorable blacks recognize this, are patriotic, & contribute to society. Niggers hate American or as you say "hate whites". Show some gratitude negro; get with your gang & send a collective "thank you card" to the Caucasians.

**Comment #251** 4 years ago **in reply to another poster**

**@another poster** It must be absolute HELL for you living here in America. Gee, I wonder what standard of living you'd be living under if you were born & raised in Zambia? Time for you to admit it; you are sooo lucky to have been born & raised in America. So, since you claim to be a world traveler & obviously have choices as to where you'll be stationed; why work in a land that you HATE? Escape now! Be free! Return to the "mutha land"! lol You're just F---ed in the head, "my brother" lol.

**Comment #252 4 years ago in reply to another poster**

I lived in Nigeria for three years. Zambia for two. You're assuming things about me because you're a typical brainwashed fool. You don't even realise how pathetic you look calling your own brothers niggers so that the white man will think you're a good negro. You're the disgrace to our race and honestly you disgust me. No sense of self worth whatsoever. Type of house nigger that'd ruin a slave revolt so that he could feel closer to his master. Die a painful death please.