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Personal constructions of race and ethnicity as frameworks for the subjective experiences of group constructions of Swedishness

Bakgrund/Frågeställning

Race and ethnicity are terms used in the colloquial, which are often conflated (Suyemoto et al., 2020). In places like Sweden, which have a tense relationship to concept of race, due to a history of racial biology (Ericsson, 2021) and the current dominance of postracialism (Goldberg, 2015), it's important to flush out how participants make meaning of these words. Further, semantic narrowing, for example the use of the word ethnicity as a proxy for race (Stephen, 2014), can interrelate and possibly obscure personal relationships to different concepts and their application towards group constructed meanings. Through 40 interviews and surveys conducted in southern Sweden, participants were asked to reflect on race, ethnicity, and Swedishness. Multiple meanings were present for participants, of which half were white and half non-white. This incongruence relates to possible invalidity in capturing data from this population. As well, boundaries around the group construction of 'Swedishness' were active, in that they were based in both subjective and group-level meanings. This article aims to contribute to the growing body of race and racialization literature in Sweden.

Metod och Resultat

Konklusion