

But.....I Wanted Something!

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that found laws banning interracial marriage to be unconstitutional. Interracial marriages became legal nationwide on June 12, 1967, after the Supreme Court threw out a Virginia law that allowed local police to interrogate and intimidate married couples in their own homes. Although polls indicate that acceptance of interracial marriage has increased dramatically since then, incidents of prejudice and violence against interracial couples continue. A group of predominantly white college students were asked how disgusted they felt by relationships between blacks and whites and how accepting they were of them. Consistent with polls, participants claimed to be largely accepting of interracial relationships. The less accepting people were of such relationships, the more disgusted they were by them. An overall viewing of interracial couples by the students increased “insula” activation. Participants showed more “activation” when looking at interracial couples than same-race couples. Although the “insula” is not exclusively linked to disgust, taken with the results of the first study, these findings suggest that people feel *increased disgust* when viewing interracial couples instead, maybe suggesting emotions such as envy, lust, and anger. Overall, interracial couples still elicit disgust in many people, which can translate into dehumanization and ultimately violent behavior. Rates of interracial marriages *have* increased over the last forty years from less than 1% of all marriages in 1970 to over

5% in 2000. The number of interracial marriages increased from 21 in 1967 to 115 in 1970. And at the national level, 0.4% of marriages were interracial in 1960 compared to 2.0% in 1980, 12% in 2013, and 16% in 2015. Prior to the repeal of some of the anti-miscegenation laws of the 1950s and 1960s, many states barred people from engaging in interracial relationships. Again, the Supreme Court case of “Loving v. Commonwealth of Virginia” in 1967, officially banned anti-miscegenation laws across the country, citing a violation of civil rights. Although the legal ramifications of engaging in an interracial relationship have diminished, couples continue to face stressors that are likely to impact their relationships and leave them at greater risk for relationship violence.

The Stories

Which way would you go, if all you wanted in life was a fancy car and a million dollar home? What would you do to acquire it?

What would it *take* to bring home the bacon every *nite*? We all know what happened in the case of O.J. Simpson. He was a famous quarterback who had his whole career ahead of him. At 31, he married a beach blonde beauty named Nicole Smith and bought a million dollar mansion in Brentwood, California.

Shortly after, they had two children, a girl and a boy. We know life was good to this couple for many years. But what happened?

One summer night when Nicole came home late with an old male companion, named Ron Goldman, O.J. was *there* at the door waiting to greet them. It looked like a sordid affair. But wait! Let's stop and talk things over. What would you have done for a beautiful white woman on your arm; the grand prize for a star quarterback. Well, we all know what happened in this case. O.J. has lived the rest of his life in regret of that night. He's been running ever since. And now he's spending time behind bars for something else, anyway.

Next we have an interesting story about an American war veteran, who fought bravely in both the Korean War and in World War II. Sgt. Major Linwood Baker was a highly decorated combat veteran that received many medals including the Bronze Star for his dangerous missions in enemy territory, where he was frequently under fire and subject to ambush by enemy forces. For

many years, he was stationed away from all that was familiar, living a soldier's existence in foreign lands to protect the United States and ensure the liberty of our people. During his time in Japan, he met Masako Tsuchiyama, a young Japanese woman that danced in USO shows to support her family members, who had lost everything in the war. *She* became his military wife, a mother, and ultimately a U.S. citizen. When Major Baker finally returned to the United States with a Japanese war bride, he was accepted as a hero, but the family he had acquired along the way was not. Even by the late 1950's, the hatred of the Japanese was still too raw, and their marriage and lifestyle, including one biracial child named "Debra", was not accepted in America's neighborhoods. Because of the time, mainly during the 1970's and 80's, this family struggled everyday to feel included by other American families. When Linwood Baker died in 1990, Masako was told that his body could not be buried in a family graveyard in his hometown of North Carolina. His daughter became concerned about her parents rights of acceptance and recognition, despite their remarkable marriage that dated back to the 1950's. By the time Masako also passed away, she arranged, with the American government, the right for both her parents to be acknowledged and buried in a military cemetery; the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, near Washington D.C. , where their names can live on forever. This awe-inspiring story of courage and hope for a couple that battled inclusion almost everyday is something very *special* and deserves our attention and recognition.

Now, let's look at the case of John Staples. You haven't seen him today. Young and dashing, he wanted a black girl. At 16, he met

the beautiful “Midnight”. She was dark and lovely and she bore him a son, a boy. She wanted so much to have a family, a fancy car, a nice apartment. He wanted that too. That year, he was arrested for burglarizing a motor vehicle. He got into so much trouble in jail, he ended up doing 12 years behind bars. Towards violence and assault; murder even. What happened? What *did* he want? If he couldn’t provide for his family alone, why didn’t he ask for help? The word is He’s been back to jail again twice this summer. We will keep you posted.

Just recently we were all shocked to hear of the accidental shooting death of Alex Tremain Whitfield; an 11 year old boy who lived with his mother, Christie Wenzel, in Houston, Texas. On Sunday afternoon, Alex was dropped off at his father’s house; the couple were apparently living at separate residences. Minutes later, 4 of his friends came over to the apartment and went looking through the closet for money to buy some food, when they found a loaded gun. Somehow, the 15 year old fired the weapon which ricocheted off in different directions before hitting Alex in his arm. He died at the scene before CPR could be rendered. The hysterical Christie Wenzel, sobbed bitterly as she described the death of her son. A child with a priceless smile, who loved to sing and dance, can not be replaced in our hearts. Let’s pray his parents come to terms with their loss.

You may not have heard, but a local mom and her two sons were found shot to death Tuesday outside of a hotel room in El Campo, Texas. Brandy Cerny was killed by her ex-husband Demond Bluntson, age 36. The two, had recently had a son and were

living in and out of motel rooms. They were last seen on Dunlop St., where neighbors and investigators discovered the bodies. Now, this story is typical of many of the loveless relationships we hear about in the newspaper and on TV. It seems Brandy already had a son, who was 6 years old by another man. Her 21 month year old, was fathered by Demond Bluntson; so we can all imagine what went on in that relationship. Whether he loved her or not, Demond was arrested Wednesday morning for the death of Brandy, the death of his 21 month year old son, and injury to a child with her 6 year old. Our heart goes out to this lovely young mother, now never to be seen again. Details are posted on Khou 11; June 2012

Just last Sunday around four o'clock, a lovely 18 year old named Zoe Hastings was murdered by a man named Antonio Lamar Cochran. The names sounded so familiar, we weren't sure what day it was! Nevertheless, she was last seen arguing with Him outside a Walgreens in Dallas, Texas. Witnesses say 34 year Lamar got into her car and the two drove off to God knows where..... moments later her white minivan was spotted crashed near a local intersection and Zoe's body was discovered with multiple stab wounds. Antonio was nowhere to be found. He was arrested later on that night at his apartment.

And let's hear of the recent case in Minnesota involving Chris Tillman and Josselyn Bishop. Both 19, they had been dating for only a few months. Suddenly one day, the bubbly brunette wanted to "break things off". She was unsure if she was *in*, what her friends and roommates called, an abusive relationship. After

agreeing to meet and talk things over, he quickly changed his mind. Chris had brought a knife with him! Well, we all know what happened; it was on the news this week. Was it something she said? She told him she was seeing other people. Will we ever know what caused this handsome young man to display such a rush of aggression towards this lovely 19 year old? Apparently, unbeknownst to law enforcement, he *did* slash all her tires. Where were the police? Chris Tillman is now facing 2nd degree murder charges and a \$400,000 bond. Please view Josselyn's memorial video and candlelight vigil on "Youtube" this month. We will miss her.

Travis Ricci, whose murder trial is set to begin in June of this year, isn't the man he once was, in part because he realized his great-grandfather was a member of the French Resistance killed by Nazis in World War II, the Associated Press reported. Authorities are seeking the death penalty for Ricci, who has pleaded not guilty. He was accused of shooting and killing Kelly Ann Jaeger; a white woman, when she was with her boyfriend Jeffrey Wellmaker, who is black. Police said Ricci, who was already drunk and shirtless, shouted slurs and threats at the couple, then ran to a home where members of the Vinlanders Social Club, a white supremacist group, were partying. Police said he grabbed a shotgun and, with an accomplice, found the couple and fired two shots, killing Jaeger instead of Wellmaker, his intended target. In this case, Ricci was almost a total stranger towards Jeffrey and Kelly. They had never seen *him* before, they said. He was already doing time for assaulting his own girlfriend that day, while he was only being seen out on parole.

Another “*trail of tears*” involving Donald Bricker and Shade Adebayo. This incident took place in a Target parking lot last year, where the two met up to apparently discuss their impending break-up. Donald, who was an ex-felon, brought with him a loaded shotgun. The *vivacious* Shade had no idea he had been armed and agreed to get into his truck to “talk”. He then accused her of infidelity and shot her twice as she tried to get out of the car. Police say he sped off, intending to flee the scene, but of course crashed his car and ended up in the hospital. Check out “Youtube” for his side of the story.

Interracial Homicides

Black people who killed whites and whites who killed blacks, climbed to their highest levels last year since the election of President Barack Obama almost eight years ago, even as the proportion of so-called black-on-black killings dipped, according to the latest national crime figures from the FBI. The number of black people killed by whites, a demographic in the FBI report that includes those of Hispanic descent, surged by nearly a quarter in 2015 from the year before, as the number of whites killed by blacks jumped 12 percent. Together, such interracial killings increased about 13 percent from 2014. Violent crime overall remained near 30-year lows last year, even as Americans' concern about crime hit a 15-year high in March, and 7 in 10 Americans last year said crime was rising. The number of black people who killed whites and the number of whites who killed blacks climbed to levels not seen since 2008, accounting last year for their largest percentages of U.S. homicides of black and white victims since at least the start of the century, according to the crime data. The statistics show that the 500 killings of white people attributed to blacks last year were the most since black perpetrators were determined to be responsible for the homicides of 504 white people nationwide in 2008. Last year's total was up 12 percent from the 446 recorded in 2014 and 22 percent from the 409 seen in 2013, a year that saw the lowest total this century and one that capped seven years of general declines in

black-on-white homicides. Prior to that, 2006 saw the most black-on-white killings since 2001, with 573. The 229 black lives taken by white killers last year, however, marked an even larger leap from 2014, jumping more than 22 percent from the 187 black victims killed by whites that year, which was the second-lowest total since 2001. The tally was last exceeded in 2008, when 230 blacks were slain by whites. The highest total in the last 15 years came in 2007, when 245 black people were killed by whites. Overall, killings of blacks by whites and whites by blacks accounted for about 12 percent of the roughly 6,000 homicides last year in which police had information about the race of both victim and killer – a slight increase from around 11 percent in 2014. About 15.8 percent of white victims were killed by blacks last year, and 8.6 percent of black victims were killed by whites. These figures are staggering since most Americans felt race relations were improving. But since the start of the recession in 2008, crime *has* continued to decline. Significant increases in poor economic factors increased crime rates, but only marginally. The rebuttal is that 84 percent of white homicide victims are killed by other whites anyway, and that the white crime rate is "much lower than the black rate." Black America's real problem isn't white racism. ... but that blacks are also, per capita, the principal victims of crime. Of course this is true; so where are these numbers coming from and why?

See Nothing.....Say Nothing.....

Here are some interesting stories about police brutality, rape and murder dating back to the 1970's. Only the graphic details, unfortunately, can help us understand why over the last 30 to 40 years so much has changed and we as average American citizens need to be on alert and stay aware of who our neighbors are.

For a total of 179 days in a row, between 1973 and 1974, a group of Black Muslim known as the “Death Angels” kept the city of San Francisco in a panic as they killed randomly-chosen “blue-eyed devils” in what came to be called the “Zebra Murders.” Estimates put the number of white victims at between 15 and 73. Female victims were often raped before they were executed. By 1974, four black men — Manuel Moore, Larry Green, Jessie Lee Cooks, and J.C.X. Simon — were arrested in connection with the case. They were convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy charges and sentenced to life imprisonment. On the eve of December 22, two victims died within six minutes of each other. Neal Moynihan, 19, was killed while walking near the Civic Center while shopping. A man had walked in front of him, and shot him in the face, neck, and heart. The killer then chased down 50-year-old Mildred Hosler as she was heading to her bus stop, and also shot her four times. And then on December 24th, an

unidentified John Doe victim was killed. The killings then resumed on January 29, 1974, with five more shootings. Tana Smith, 32, was shot while walking to a fabric store. Vincent Wollin, 69, was shot while walking home. John Bambic, 84, was shot while collecting discarded bottles and cans. Jane Holly, a 45-year-old housewife, was gunned down while doing her laundry in a laundromat, and Roxanne McMillan, 23, was shot while carrying items from her car to her new apartment. Of these, only McMillan survived, although she would need to use a wheelchair for the rest of her life. A sixth victim who was shot during the night, Thomas Bates, a hitchhiker who survived being shot three times near Emeryville, totalling 23 murders for that night. Not since *In Cold Blood* or *Helter Skelter* has a true story been seen with all the harrowing suspense of a neverending crime story. Calling themselves "Death Angels", they set a goal: to sacrifice nine "blue-eyed devils" each, for their God, Allah. The trial started on March 3, 1975. San Francisco District Attorneys presented evidence of a .32 caliber Beretta automatic pistol that was recovered from the backyard of a home near the scene of the last murder. They were able to demonstrate the chain of ownership of the gun to one of the workers at Black Self-Help, and that the gun had been used in many of the murders. Based upon the testimony of 108 witnesses, 8,000 pages totaling 3.5 million words worth of transcripts, and culminating in what was then the longest criminal trial in California history, Larry Green, J.C.X. Simon, Manuel Moore, and Jessie Lee Cooks were convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit first-degree murder after an 18-hour deliberation by the jury in 1976. Each was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Dubbed “The Westside Rapist” in the 1970’s and 80,s *John Floyd Thomas Jr.* , raped and killed between 15 and 30 older white women. He was convicted of seven and has been imprisoned for life since his trial in 2011. In the first wave of killings in Los Angeles in the mid-1970s, Thomas entered the homes of dozens of elderly women who lived alone, raped them and choked them until they passed out or died. The 17 women who were killed were found with pillows or blankets over their faces. During that time, Thomas was a social worker, a hospital employee and a salesman. In 1983, police discovered the partially nude body of 85-year-old Isabel Askew in a vineyard near Ontario International Airport. She had been reported missing from her Claremont apartment more than a week earlier. The cause of death could not be determined because of the condition of her body. But three years later, her daughter, Adrian Askew, was found strangled in the same West Bonita Avenue apartment where she had lived with her mother. The 56-year-old retired school crossing guard was found lying face-up with beddings pulled over her head and she had been sexually assaulted. Los Angeles County prosecutors on Wednesday linked Adrian Askew's slaying to an alleged serial killer. And a source familiar with the investigation determined that Isabel Askew was also one of Thomas’ victims. *John Floyd Thomas Jr.* was also originally charged with the murder and deaths of Ethel Sokoloff age 68, in the Mid-Wilshire area in 1972, and Elizabeth McKeown age 67, in Westchester in 1976. Authorities then said he could have been responsible for as many as 30 homicides. The charges are a result of cold-case investigations by the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los

Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the Inglewood Police Department. Authorities alleged he began raping and killing older women four decades ago. Officials believe John Floyd Thomas, also preyed on women in the Inglewood/Lennox and Claremont/Pomona areas. Cora Perry, a 79-year-old Lennox resident, was killed in 1975. Her slaying was recounted in a story about the Westside Rapist in 'The Times', which described the stunned relatives, the terrified neighbors, the heartbroken friends of all "the old women" who have met such indecent deaths. People began living in small colonies of terror. Retired schoolteacher Maybelle Hudson was attacked in her garage as she arrived home in Inglewood in April 1976. The 80-year-old was beaten, sexually assaulted and strangled. Two months later, 65-year-old Miriam McKinley was ambushed in her Inglewood garage before being beaten and strangled. That October, Evalyn Bunner age 56 of Inglewood, suffered a similar fate. The attacks appeared to stop in 1985. "The Southland Strangler", born in Los Angeles, California in 1936, now 86 years old; is serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

And again in the 1980's, this one has been considered one of the last lynchings in the United States. Several Ku Klux Klan (KKK) members beat and killed *Michael Donald*, a young African-American man, and hung his body from a tree. It's a story about how a 19-year-old was killed in 1981, in Mobile, Alabama by two members of the Ku Klux Klan. Lynchings and Draggings are still an old form of terrorism. The purpose is to send a message of fear and intimidation in an attempt to control order and the political climate of that time. This crime was noted as the

first execution in Alabama since 1913 for white-on-black crime. Henry Hays was the only known KKK member to be executed during the 20th century for the murder of an African-American. A third man was convicted as an accomplice, and a fourth indicted but he died before his case could be completed at trial. After a meeting and rally of the KKK that night, Henry Hays age 26, and James Llewellyn "Tiger" Knowles age 17, armed with a gun and a rope, drove around Mobile looking for a black person to attack. At random, they spotted Michael Donald while he was walking home and lured him over to their car by asking him for directions to a local club; then forcing him into the car at gunpoint. The men then drove out to another county and took him to a secluded area in the woods where they attacked him and beat him with a tree limb. Henry Hays wrapped a rope around Donald's neck and pulled on it, to strangle him. Then the two men slit his throat three times to make sure he was dead. The men left Donald's body hanging from a tree in a mixed-race neighborhood close to their house. The tree was located to have been on *Herndon Street*, where a memorial was eventually erected in his honor.

In the 1990's, Joseph Gardner of Charleston, South Carolina, and his two friends, Matt Williams and Matt Mack, decided to get "get even" for white oppression by murdering a white woman. Melissa McLaughlan, 25 was a native of Wixom, Michigan, living with her fiancé's family in North Charleston, South Carolina. On the night she died, she had an argument with her fiancé at a nightclub. She stormed out of the club and began to walk home. Police spotted her, obviously drunk, and gave her a ride home, but she quickly set out on foot for another club. Three black men, Matthew Mack,

Matthew Williams, and Joseph Gardner pulled up alongside in a car and started a conversation. They offered her drugs if she would come back to their trailer and have sex with them. Melissa McLaughlan, who had a history of drug problems, foolishly accepted their offer. The men had spent most of the day drinking and watching pornographic videos of black men having sex with white women. At one point Mack exploded in anger at his white girlfriend, saying he wanted to “stab her,” but that “it ain’t got to be her, any white would do”. Williams said he wanted to have sex with a white woman. They abducted Melissa “Missi” McLauchlin and brought her back to their trailer park. They raped her and put out the word that they had “captured a white woman.” Three other black men came and also raped her. Then they tortured her with bleach and hydrogen peroxide, shot her in the face five times, and left her to die by the side of a road.

In a more recent harrowing tale of black-on-white crimes, this one became known as the “Knoxville Horror” or the “Wichita Massacre,” and is still just a case of rape, murder, torture, and sexual humiliation that demonstrates the killers deep hatred for whites. Four males and one female were arrested, charged, and convicted in the case. The grand jury had indicted four of the suspects on counts of capital murder, robbery, kidnapping, rape, and theft, while a fifth was indicted on federal charges of carjacking. Channon Christian, 21, and Christopher Newsom, Jr., 23, were white and from Knoxville, Tennessee. They were kidnapped on the evening of January 6, 2007 when Channon’s vehicle was carjacked, and taken to a rental house, where both of them were raped, tortured, and murdered. When police went to

the address on Tuesday, they found the house unoccupied and her body in a trash can in the kitchen. Christopher's body was discovered near a set of nearby railroad tracks. He had been bound, blindfolded, gagged, and stripped naked from the waist down. He had been shot in the back of the head, neck, and back, and his body had been set on fire. Vanessa Coleman, the only female charged and convicted in the crime, was held at the Tennessee Prison for Women in Nashville. Serving a sentence of 35 years, Coleman is eligible for parole in 2017. The entire community in that area pulled together to support the families and memorials were erected in the two teens honor.

How can we understand the underlying hatred that still exists between blacks and whites in this country? So many times a seemingly calm and collected conversation turns into a kidnapping, a rape, or even a carjacking between the two races. Should we avoid "speaking" at all to the opposite race in public? What about during business hours? How much interaction should we allow then? Women, particularly find themselves swept away around simply seeing or just hearing from a black man. They often don't know what to say and go to great lengths to communicate their needs. Is this so wrong? The answer is no; but it *does* explain the escalation of "rape" cases between black men and white women. In 2006, 3,243 thousand white females reported that they were sexually assaulted or raped by a black man, while between zero and ten black females were sexually assaulted or raped by a white man. Why was there such an increase in the "race of perpetrator unknown" category? This means any situation in which a white woman could not recognize

her perpetrator other than his race. This category in 2006, is the same percentage by which blacks supposedly committed the crime of rape in 2005. Blacks committed 33% of rapes against whites. In 2006, they committed 17%, with 15% “unknown”.

Where are the Police??

Here we are again, in the face of madness and mayhem. Another tragic tale of crime and passion, i.e the “Marcus Wesson story”. It is a story about the family massacre that took place in a neighborhood in Fresno, California. The father and mother in this story, bore 11 children, five girls and four boys. Elizabeth was married to him at age 14, when he was 27, his second marriage/relationship. The details of this story can be found on “Youtube” and “Wikipedia” to name a few. What’s puzzling to us is, where was the police department, CPS, the courts etc. *during this time*? Or should we say what were they doing that day? This family was so strange; it was hard to understand how they weren’t involved from the very beginning. It’s obvious the neighbors didn’t say a thing, but what about the professionals that lived in *that area*. Didn’t they see Marcus Wesson and his wife that time? And why wasn’t his wife arrested? What about child endangerment? She appeared completely indifferent on “Dr Phil”, as if she had nothing to do with his crimes. Don’t tell me she didn’t know; she was living *in the house* at the time. It was truly puzzling to accept the fact that he had been molesting his girls since the age of 8 or 9, yet not even CPS had any clue as to what was going on that day. Where were they? Didn’t they say anything? It certainly wasn’t Marcus Wesson.

It seems like history repeats itself when we bring up the tale of 22 year old Loni Amber Turner and Erin Ross, another seemingly attractive couple who were both found dead, inside a seedy

motel, in a *city* not too far from here. The sad part is that, the two attempted to break things off; maybe for all the *right* reasons, but ended up in what appeared to us like a suicide pact. Erin shot Loni first, and then turned the gun on himself. Reports indicate that she tried to seek a restraining order from the police department, but was denied due to lack of evidence that her life was in danger. For whatever reason, the Judge failed to see that she *was* being stalked. What about the social workers and counselors who took her application that day; shouldn't they be blamed for failing to respond? What negligence.....Visit "Youtube" for more details.

Jana Shearer and Christopher Lee McCuin who were *married* and living together in Tyler Texas are now separated, of course by death *did* they part. "Youtube's" biography of Jana, depicted her as the bubbly 21 year old brunette, she once was. The story takes a turn for the worse as dispatch officers arrived on the scene *where* Christopher was discovered to have killed and cooked his wife! Imagine the shock of the police as this Black man confesses to cannibalism. There was little they could have said at that time, in fact, they think McCuin might have made it look that way in order to avoid the death penalty. We don't think this couple could ever have lived together, yet they were seen together just minutes before the murder. I just can't understand how someone could have planned this out so well, yet *it* went undetected by neighbors and law enforcement. So sad to think they were never going to make it. Let's pray for their families and those who loved them.

Have you heard about this one? It took place in Sydney, the capital of Australia. A once loving and dedicated boyfriend; Nathan Jatimber, has been accused of murdering Cassie Sanders' friend Ben Appicatoh. Last night, the Neighbors heard screams during one of their fights. She sent a text to her friend, Ben, who responded and showed-up at her domicile. Remember that one! Nathan stabs Ben, and then left him for dead, before the police were ever called. In the 1980's the stories of OJ Simpson and Nicole Brown; her ex-boyfriend Ron Goldman, who also became the victim of *that black man's* temper. Nobody believed he had been innocent. Don't worry, Nathan's been arrested and will appear in court next month.

Here's another interesting one. A Baltimore man named James Harris Jackson, who was 30 years old, has been accused of fatally stabbing a 66 year old black man in Times Square, New York City. During the police interview, Jackson was calm and "almost nonchalant-sounding" as he reenacted the stabbing. He said that he had spotted Mr. Caughman sorting through the trash for recyclables, and stabbed him multiple times with a Roman short sword that he had tucked into a scabbard and hidden in his pants. One of the detectives asked Jackson if he felt remorse. "No," Jackson said; "He's a homeless black guy." On Thursday, tapes of Jackson's confession were shown in court as part of a pretrial hearing. The videos showed that Jackson told police he had been motivated to kill black men because of his intense hatred of interracial dating, according to the New York Daily News. He said he considered the stabbing to be "practice" for future murders, in which he would target "specifically black men

with white women." "I mean, that's the crux of the main problem, *for me*," he says. "Way too much interracial dating. People get jealous, nothings working." Just seeing the couples together was too much for this young white male. Mr. Caughman, the 66-year-old, had a knack for spotting celebrities on the streets of New York, and managed to get stars like Oprah and Wyclef Jean to pose with him. He wrote positive messages to his favorite performers, often just to tell them that he hoped they would have a good day. For killing him, Jackson has been charged with first-degree murder as an act of terrorism, second-degree murder as an act of terrorism, and second-degree murder as a hate crime. He pleaded not guilty to the charges in April of this year.

This couple is from Riverside, CA. Now categorized as a "*Hate Crime*", Sgt. Jan Pietrzak and his wife Quiana Jenkins were brutally murdered (bound and gagged) in their California home by four young black men who were under his command. All four who range in age from 18-21, are now being held for questioning in Riverside County Jail. According to prosecutors, the four men went to the victims' home with the intention of robbing it. Miller testified he also wanted to confront Sgt. Pietrzak over a perceived misunderstanding at work, saying he believed the helicopter mechanic planned to stand in the way of His promotion to corporal. Riverside County Deputy District Attorney, had to apologize to jurors for showing the graphic crime scene photos during his opening statement last April. Included, were graphic crime scene photos that showed Miss Jenkins' naked body, face down on a couch, the 26-year-old's arms bound behind her back with red tape and multiple gunshot wounds to her tape-wrapped

head. How badly beaten and disfigured this young couple were rendered, we can not image. Beneath Quianna, lay the lifeless, badly bruised and bound body of her 24-year-old husband, his white T-shirt had been drenched in blood. After meeting with the families of the deceased, the District Attorney decided to seek the death penalty on January 2009. The preliminary trial was held to determine whether the four assailants would stand trial in San Diego. On 24 June 2013 a jury rendered a verdict of death for two of the four assailants and life in prison without parole for a third. The fourth assailant was later also sentenced to death.

Other countries are no stranger to the rising increase in interracial violence and rape. This incident involved a lovely 18 year old Italian girl named Pamela Mastropietro. Her pictures can be seen on “Youtube” and “Wikipedia”. At a tragic point in time, she met her makers, three Nigerian immigrants; Innocent Oseghale, Desmond Lucky and Lucky Awelima. A fourth suspect, a Ghanese drug dealer, was also sought as a fugitive. The magistrate of Macerata, (the Italian authorities) have revoked their custody in prison, due to immigration complications, but only for allegations of murder, vilification, destruction and concealment of a corpse. As of now, Lucky Awelima and Desmond Lucky remain in jail for heroin dealing instead. Pamela’s body was found severely mutilated and hidden in two suitcases. Parts of her body were missing, which sparked allegations of the murder having been a “muti killing” involving “cannibalism”. Italian nationalist and loyalist expressed public outrage, anger and anti-immigrant sentiment after her murder. In another case, Maria Ladenburger, the vibrant 19-year-old medical student from Germany, was found

raped and drowned in the river Dreisam. Maria was last seen at a party hosted by the university medical faculty. She left the party at 2:37 a.m and was returning home by bike. Maria was raped by Khavari on her way home and died of drowning in the river, shortly after 3:00 a.m. Khavari later claimed to have choked her with a scarf. A jogger found her body later that morning. The Freiburg police arrested Hussein Khavari, who was from Afghanistan and said to have been born in 1999. Because of his age, he was granted asylum as an underage unaccompanied refugee and was placed with a foster family. He is believed to belong to the “Hazara” ethnic group. Following Khavari's arrest as a suspect for the rape, he had been sentenced to 10 years in prison for robbing a 20-year-old student and throwing her over a cliff in Corfu, Greece. The victim survived with heavy injuries. Khavari was released after a year in prison due to a general amnesty for juvenile offenders initiated by the Greek government. He violated his probation in Greece by not regularly reporting to a police station and migrated to Germany, where German authorities did not find out about his earlier conviction because Greece had not initiated an international search. In March of 2018, the “Landgericht Freiburg” (A German court) convicted Hussein Khavari of aggravated rape and murder. The judges sentenced him to life imprisonment and ordered preventive detention.

Who's baby is this?

The latest is the story of Maleah Davis, the 4 year old that went missing over the weekend. The mother made a tearful plea Monday night for the child's safe return. Maleah Davis' stepfather, Derion Vence, reported her kidnapping, telling police he was driving to George Bush Intercontinental Airport on Friday night to pick up the girl's mother when he pulled over to check on a possible flat tire. Vence claimed he was then attacked by two men, who held him and his two children — Maleah and her 2-year-old brother — before releasing him and the boy Saturday night. A search that was planned for 8am in the 9700 block of Kirkwood Rd., had been paused indefinitely because of an unanticipated storm surge that drenched the planned search site in southwest Houston. More storms were expected to hit later that week. The search halt comes as a Harris County judge approved a gag order on a civil suit involving Maleah's parents. The order was approved to prohibit the lawyers representing Maleah's biological parents, Brittany Bowens and Craig Davis (who are both of African American descent), from talking about a case that began in May 2016 as a child support dispute, court records show. The case was concluded that summer but records also show the suit resumed in August 2018 after Maleah suffered a head injury that was reported to Child Protective Services as "possible physical abuse". A judge ordered that the children be

returned to the family in February on the condition that periodic caseworker visits continue. Derion Vence claims to have blacked out until around 6pm Saturday. By then, he was in Sugarland with his 1 year old son and Maleah was missing. Four hours later, police said he sought medical attention and then reported the girl missing. Also on Wednesday, HPD officials said they were not searching any “specific location” for Maleah. Vence’s vehicle, a silver Nissan Altima, had been reported stolen and was spotted on traffic cameras Saturday in Sugarland. For many weeks though, news reporters, investigators and city officials ‘bought’ this story, mainly recounted by the stepfather, Derion Vence. Maleah’s biological mother, who is African American had a different version, according to Islamic Mediator “Quanell X”. Suddenly, within a month, the story took an entirely different turn.....for the worse.

The remains of a child was discovered in Arkansas and belonged to 4-year-old Maleah Davis, who went missing from her Houston home on April 30, Houston police said Friday. Her body was discovered in a trash bag, in Hope, a town about 30 miles northeast of the Texas-Arkansas border. Vence told the community activist he had disposed of her body there. The Medical Examiner’s Office has not released her cause of death. Quanell told reporters that Vence said the girl died ‘by accident’ and that he dumped her body by the side of a road. Investigators found the family's car in Missouri City, Texas, and authorities said cadaver-sniffing dogs detected blood and the scent of human remains inside. Earlier this month Vence had been suspected of tampering with evidence, according to police. Police Chief

Acevedo said he had not been cooperating with the investigation. The tearful mother, Brittany Bowens sat quietly next to the community spokesman Quanell X, awaiting the news from investigators. Vence was later arrested on May 11 after blood was found in his apartment and traces of human decomposition were discovered in his trunk. He was booked under suspicion of "tampering with evidence, namely a corpse" and was held on a \$1 million dollar bond. Testing eventually confirmed that the blood evidence matched Davis' DNA. Sunday, June 9 will officially be declared "Maleah Davis Day" in Houston. "The community is united in creating lasting changes in her honor and vowing to safeguard all children in our community," Mayor Turner stated in the proclamation. The Houston apartment is filled with posters, unicorns and flowers. Almost everything is pink, her favorite color. The home's entrance is decorated with teddy bears, candles, posters and toys, signed by hundreds of neighbors, CNN affiliates reported. Mothers across the area visited the memorial, many holding back tears. Another beautiful baby, gone forever. She will be sadly missed.

A Marriage Made in Heaven.....

The summertime, weekends, vacations; that's what life is about. All families love to spend time swimming in the summer, camping out on weekends, or just vacationing in the Caribbean. The Okeke kids were no different. Uchenna, Azuka, Adaeze, Kiki and the boy Joey, loved spending their summers swimming and playing tennis. They were usually seen at that time, by folks in the neighborhood, who shared the same lifestyle. It was easy to see why the children were so popular *in the area*, they grew up in. Spring/Klein was known for its attractive couples, families, houses, shopping centers and overall successful living. Anyone that lived in that neighborhood knew what it took to live there. Expensive vacations and weekends at Lake Conroe were common for most kids who grew up in that neighborhood. Work and School were equally important for the Okeke family. All five children attended school regularly throughout their lives, with most of them attaining advanced degrees from highly accredited universities. No one knows why after many years in school, none of the kids could find meaningful work and two even suffered from a mental illness. Both Adaeze and Kiki at age 35, finally managed to attain professional employment. But no one really understood how both Azuka and Joey died because they were not able to hold down a job. Like everyone else in her school, Uchenna worked two jobs that summer and Azuka babysat for the children in the neighborhood.

Now Joseph and Christine, who had been together for nearly 30 years at this point, saw their medical practice go out of business in 2003. They both began receiving their social security checks, a primary source of income and a handsome wallet full of credit cards. Both parents felted the children should attend school and find a job afterwards to support themselves. After age 20, they were not allowed to live at home and they could no longer come back to the house. Joey's accident that summer was directly related to his lack of employment and Christine's instance that he work. Azuka also abandoned her apartment in Pennsylvania thinking she could live at home and find a job. This was never the case as Joseph and Christine both made clear that, "the children did not live there anymore". Christine would later be known to have lived at that address.

The year Joseph and Christine *were married*, was known as the "Summer of Love". It was 1960 in Wales, UK where they met and fell in love. Christine's chastity led her to marry Joseph at the age of 19. Neither one dated anyone else after their meeting and quickly became engaged. Shortly after the ceremony, the couple moved to Canada, where they had their five children. Joseph was always fond of Margaret Christine and rarely found fault with her. Her diligence made her a recognizable figure in the African community. The family often attended weddings, graduations and other cultural events at the Nigerian Community Center. At this time, Joseph was a prominent figure within his peer group. He was often invited to speak. No one really knows why Joseph and Christine became unpopular in their neighborhood.

The holidays and summers were Margret Christine's favorite time of year, as the children were often home, especially when they were young. An expert cook and housewife, she often made the summers' fun for the kids. At this point Joseph Okeke was still employed; self-employed in fact, owning his own medical practice. But as this time, drew to a close, and the tragic reality of the accidents occurred, this happy family would no longer be seen at one time, as Joseph and Christine's marriage flourished, they were only seen together, or out with their grandchildren. Most considered Joseph to be polite and well spoken. He was educated and informed and often enjoyed watching television and chatting on the phone. Christine, surprisingly slim, all through her late 40's and early 60's, was often seen driving to the grocery store in her classic model Jaguar, which she received as a birthday present. The couple was very close and spent many evenings together babysitting the grandchildren.

The children had all gone their separate ways during college and only returned to the neighborhood during holidays and summers. Uchenna graduated at the age of 25 and came back from California in hopes of finding a job. Joseph suggested she work at his medical practice as she was not ready to be a professional. She already had a bout with Bipolar Disorder and had become increasingly afraid of being unemployed. Azuka went to Harvard University, located in Boston, MA. on a full scholarship. She also studied up north, relocating to New York and Pennsylvania. She was always the shy one and had very few friends during this time.

The day she came back to Houston, would be the saddest, especially for Uchenna. Joseph had flown to Nigeria on business and Azuka was left alone in her room that night. No one really knows how she was feeling, but a deadly combination of birth control medication, nicotine and antidepressants would end her life. In truth, she had been very unhappy, increasingly becoming distant and unresponsive. After this occurred, Adaeze, during that time, had completed her medical training. Like Joseph, she became a licensed medical doctor. Always a favorite of Christine's, she had dabbled in modeling and compiled an attractive portfolio of herself. Adaeze was there at the time of Azuka and Joey's death. Nkemdilim, nicknamed 'Kiki' married Jokubas, who was from Lithuania. The two were professionals and were able to purchase a modest home in which to raise their two kids. The favorite daughter of Joseph, he spent much of his time encouraging and supporting them. He paid for their wedding and often spent the afternoons visiting at their house. The night Joey was killed, Kiki and Jokubas came through to visit from Washington D.C. where they had been employed. Joseph and Christine were very unkind to Joey, who only worked in light construction. They were both indifferent to his circumstances and forced him to leave the house. Joey's state of mind that night was terrible. He and his wife Angela, packed their things and left without food or water. Forced to support himself overnight, he quickly became employed at the Port of Houston, where he gained entrance. This was how the accident happened; that

morning, in fact. Unaware of his surroundings, he was crushed by a steel pipe that knocked him in his jaw, head, and ribcage and sent him to the floor. He died from internal injuries. A somber year of funerals proceeded, two back to back, with little protest from the neighbors who attended. Inquiring minds were hard to come by as Joseph gave most the explanation of an “accident”.

Now after this incident, Joseph and Christine became increasingly close; and it also became evident that they never planned to return to work or seek outside employment. At age 70 and 62, the couple was seen out grocery shopping, eating at restaurants, vacationing and generally babysitting Hazel, Uchenna’s daughter. Few questioned where the children lived or how the other two died. Uchenna made several reports to the local police, but they had no reason to talk to the couple nor question their whereabouts. It seemed as if no one cared what had been happening *To* the Okeke children. As the rest of the country became affected by the downturn in the economy, Uchenna found herself unemployed once more. Joseph and Christine came to her apartment in the middle of the night. They showed interest in the new car a friend had bought for her and eventually ended up repossessing it. That night was difficult for her and she was eventually admitted into a mental hospital.

These events only proved to Joseph and Margaret Christine that they were meant to be together. Their marriage could endure anything. It was timeless, limitless, and always exciting. The sad lives the children had led were in no way connected to anything the couple had done.

How this could be; many would come to disagree. It seemed as if Joseph and Christine's life was better than anything their children had seen. This argument has been depicted in the deaths of two of the children. Not only did life carry on as usual, they were often seen *coming* through the area on their way to a restaurant. Their honeymoon romance was not questioned by the police or the neighbors. Most had never seen the children before and knew little of their whereabouts. In truth, two of the children *were* dead, Uchenna had to spend time in a mental facility, and Hazel suffered unspeakably from Sickle Cell Anemia. The question of how a marriage made in heaven has endured all these years, has yet to be answered. With time and perseverance, the concerned citizens of our community will hopefully come to understand who was really responsible for the tragic events that unfolded in the lives of all five children.

.....Until we meet again

By the year 2010, everyone in the family had returned to life as usual and the initial shock of the previous day, almost forgotten. Joseph and Christine had been living in and around the neighborhood areas for almost 32 years now. Peace, happiness, and serenity, were theirs as they went into retirement and senior citizenship status. Uchenna's sister, 'Kiki' and her husband had two children and frequently visited the family home, where Christine usually entertained the children. As far as anyone could tell, she had been happy to receive them and helped her daughter fulfill her family duties. As the holidays approached, during the month of December, Christine suddenly became ill and had to be rushed to Park Plaza Hospital, in Houston Texas, with a diagnosis of pneumonia. She suffered and recovered within a few short days from this malady. Joseph and granddaughter Hazel, stayed with her full of love and support. She was released from hospital after a week or so, to further rehabilitate at home. But no sooner had summertime approached again, did she fall down and injure her leg. Both ligaments were torn and her knee bruise, which required immediate surgery.

Now, during this time, there had been a new addition to the family. That previous year 2013, The middle sister Adaeze, found love in a man named Jonathan Mayberry, and the two were married that day, in Houston Texas. Many extended family members flew down

to attend and all were merry once more. Margret Christine and her married friend Vivian Pandya, worked diligently that night to prepare the reception for music and dancing afterwards.

Everything looked fabulous and happiness was all around.

Uchenna had time to spend with her mother, Jeannie Taylor, and Miss Pandya, and cherishes those moments to this day. But in only a few short years, would her mother's health begin to seriously decline. The injury to the leg required surgery and four months of intensive rehabilitation, in order to regain mobility.

Joseph had agreed to assist in this and Hazel assumed more responsibility with chores and things around the house.

By 2017, shortly after another wonderful holiday season, Christine fell down again and broke her hip. At only 70 years of age, she would not survive the surgery. The day she passed away, was the saddest day ever for all of us. Married in the 1960's and a mother of five children, now never to be heard from again. In loving memory and honor, her name will live on forever in our hearts. A place for everyone to 'see' and recognize, the person that became such a wonderful and talented wife and mother, we will miss her dearly.

The Family Massacre

On the road to happiness, we are once again sadly interrupted by another tale of horror, aka “The Wesson Family Massacre”. Let’s finish this incredulous story of how two people of different races and backgrounds came together to start a family, turned tragic with the deaths of 9 innocent people. Marcus Wesson, the patriarch of the Wesson clan, was born in Kansas, the eldest of four children of Benjamin and Carrie Wesson and had been raised as a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. After dropping out of high school, he joined the Army and was stationed in Europe. Shortly after returning to the US and leaving the military, he became involved with Rosemary Solorio, a married woman living in San Jose. Soon Solorio broke up with her husband, and Wesson moved in with her and her children. In 1971, Solorio gave birth to Wesson's son. At the same time, Marcus was cultivating a relationship with one of Rosemary’s daughters, Elizabeth. At age 14, they married legally when she became pregnant and, four months later, she gave birth to her first child. Eventually the couple had 10 children together, though one died as an infant. Marcus Wesson had an extraordinary power to control the minds of his wife and children. He fathered two children with Rosemary Solorio; Ethan and Sedona. All this was before he became legally engaged to young Elizabeth.

Over the years, Marcus invented bizarre religious beliefs and welded them together to create his own religious vision, which he imposed upon his family. He had his family pitch a huge army surplus tent where they lived for the better part of 12 years, away from the prying eyes of neighbors, social workers, and police. Wesson's nieces Ruby Ortiz, and Sofia Solorio, also secretly became pregnant with his children. Marcus sexually abused two of his daughters and three of his nieces, "marrying" them in home made ceremonies at very young ages. Each of the five girls became impregnated as a result of the incest. The mothers never disclosed the paternity of their children because Wesson threatened to harm them and the children if they did so. Court records indicate that Marcus fathered up to 18 children with 7 women, including his five daughters.

Today, Marcus Wesson is in San Quentin prison, waiting to die. In 2004, he murdered nine of his children, exposing a Fresno family scarred by incest and violence to a horrified world. Speaking publicly for the first time since the Wesson trial, surviving members of that family say they remain tormented by memories and by guilt. And they say they still suffer humiliation and rejection by some outsiders who know their past. Marcus created an isolated world in which he sexually abused his daughters and brutally beat his sons. The few times he allowed family members out, he made the women walk behind him and told them not to make eye contact with anyone. The family, with up to two dozen members, lived in various parts of California, housed in tents, a condemned boat and eventually a house in Fresno, only on Hammond Avenue. With guns drawn, Fresno police along with a

K-9 dog moved in on the home of Marcus Wesson, on March 2004, in Fresno, California. Police were responding to a call about a child custody dispute when they entered into a standoff with Marcus. After he surrendered, the bodies of nine gunshot victims were found inside. Marcus Wesson was convicted on nine counts of first-degree murder June 17, 2005 and sentenced to death.

Underneath court records, the truth, that Sebhrenah 25 years old at the time, and her twin sister, Elizabeth 17, were the ones that really pulled the trigger. How could this be? Marcus kept the children under control through fear and violence. He offered sermons that said nothing was more important than keeping the family together, not even life itself. Police, he preached, were the devil in disguise and suicide was an acceptable way to escape them. His attorney testified that the oldest daughter, had shot all the children ranging in ages from one to eight, then her twin, before turning the gun on herself. While the two families argued outside for access to the children, Sebhrenah Wesson had apparently slipped into the back bedroom, picked up a gun and began shooting. Each victim had been fatally shot through the eye, Rosemary also testified. "They are all gone, she said, they went to heaven". Because of the severity of the abuse, none of the adult children that lived in the home, were ever held responsible.

After the tragedy unfolded, also called the worst crime in Fresno's history, the old Wesson home on Hammond Street, was burnt down to the ground, the surrounding property laying in it's ashes. The neighbor's who remain, have never forgotten the Wesson

children and the time that they lived there on that street name. Kiani, Gypsy, and the two surviving boys Serafino and Dorian, have begun the counseling, the talking, the healing. The book "Where Hope Begins" written by Alysia Sofios, further details the unspeakable life endured by all his children under that tyranny. For prayers and healing, there is never enough time.

US Miscegenation Laws

“Children of Miscegenation”

In talking about miscegenation:

In addressing the state of US race relations, I would like to talk a little bit about the history of miscegenation in the United States. I truly feel that a better understanding of these old laws will help us solve some of today's racial issues that still limit our access and our desire for closer relationships . In the United States, anti-miscegenation laws, also known as miscegenation laws, were state laws passed by individual states to prohibit interracial marriage and interracial sex. Most states had repealed their bans on interracial marriages by 1967, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Loving v. Virginia*, that such laws in the remaining 16 states were unconstitutional. But between 1913 and 1948, 30 out of the then 48 states enforced anti-miscegenation laws. By definition, “miscegenation” held implications of felony charges. These laws prohibited the consecration of weddings, baptismism, funerals; between persons of different races and prohibited the *officiating* of such ceremonies as well. Sometimes, the individuals attempting to marry would not be held guilty of miscegenation itself, but felony charges of adultery or fornication would be brought against them instead. All anti-miscegenation laws banned the marriage of whites and non-white groups, primarily blacks, but often also Native Americans and Asians. In many states, anti-miscegenation laws also criminalized cohabitation and sex between whites and non-whites. At least **three** proposed constitutional amendments intending to bar interracial marriage in the United States were introduced in Congress. In 1871, in december 1912 and january 1913, and

lastly in 1928. Even at that time, a senator named Coleman Blease, a Democrat of South Carolina, proposed an amendment requiring that Congress set a *punishment* for interracial couples attempting to get married and or for people officiating an interracial marriage.

In the 1950s, the repeal of anti-miscegenation laws was still a controversial issue in the U.S., even among supporters of racial integration. Most white Americans in the 1950s were opposed to interracial marriage and did not see laws banning interracial marriage as an “affront” to the principles of American democracy. A 1958 Gallup poll showed that 94 percent of white Americans disapproved of interracial marriage. One study out of Boston for the years 1914 to 1938 revealed that for all marriages involving whites, the percentage of black & white relationships was .13 percent. And for the same period there were only 276 interracial marriages, which accounted for 3.9 percent of all marriages. Nevertheless, a study out of New York, for the years 1916 to 1937 revealed that there were 569 interracial marriages which, accounted for 2.9 percent of all marriages involving blacks. The word “miscegenation” is not included in the everyday vocabulary of a large part of our citizenry, but there were nonetheless laws in twenty-nine states prohibiting ‘miscegenation’. Again; the term means banning marriage, cohabitation or sexual intercourse between a white person and a member of another race.

While Americans proudly describe their nation as a “melting pot”, history shows that social convention and legal statutes, have been less than tolerant of miscegenation or “race mixing”. Many scholars have insisted that American history would be unrecognizable with ethnic intermarriage. The first recorded interracial marriage in north american history took place between John Rolfe and Pocahontas in 1614. But during colonial days, most

interracial unions were not well accepted and in most cases were made illegal. By 1661, Virginia passed legislation prohibiting interracial marriage and later passed a law that prohibited ministers from marrying racially mixed couples. Then in 1691, Virginia required that any white woman that bore a mulatto child pay a fine or face indentured servitude for 5 years for herself and 30 years for her child. In Maryland, a woman who married a negro slave had to serve her husband's owner for the rest of her married life. Over time, these laws became increasingly strict making cohabitation between whites and blacks unlawful. At the time of the American civil war, five states has enacted anti-miscegenation laws, prohibiting interracial marriage.

The concept of the American melting pot was not always as humanitarian as it had been portrayed. During the 1920's, there was a rekindling of racist groups like the Klu Klux Klan. Intolerance was manifested in many ways. In 1924 a Virginia law was passed that prohibited whites from marrying anyone with "a single drop of negro blood". By this time, marriage was illegal between whites and blacks in 38 states. Furthermore, congress passed the immigration act, a series of strict anti-immigration laws calling for the severe restriction of "inferior races" from southern and eastern europe. While original statues were wholly against white and black unions, the legislation had extended to unions between whites and mongolians, malayans, ,mulattos and native americans. The "racial integrity act" required that all birth certificates and marriage certificates in Virginia, include the person's race as either white or colored. The act classified all non-whites, including Native Americans, as "colored."

By the time the 1960s civil rights movement began, many barriers were dismantled and many laws and statues, overturned. In 1962, Dewey McLaughlin, a Miami Beach hotel porter originally from Honduras, and

Connie Hoffman, a Caucasian waitress, were an unmarried couple living together in a Miami Beach apartment located at 732 2nd Street. Their landlady, Dora Goodnick, had rented the apartment only to Hoffman, and, when she found out about McLaughlin, she did not want the interracial unmarried couple living in the apartment. In an effort to get them out, Goodnick complained to the Miami Beach police that Hoffman's son was wandering the streets after midnight. Police investigated the matter, and, after the couple admitted that they were unmarried and lived together, they were charged in Florida state court with the crime of a black man and a white woman habitually living in and occupying in the nighttime; the same room. A jury trial resulted in a verdict of guilty, a sentence of thirty days in the county jail, and a fine of \$150 for each defendant. At that time, Section 798.05 of Florida statutes read: "Any negro man and white woman, or any white man and negro woman, who are not married to each other, who shall habitually live in and occupy in the nighttime the same room shall each be punished by imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars." This law was a part of the adultery and fornication law of Florida. While all the other sections of this chapter required proof that sexual intercourse took place, Section 798.05 required only cohabitation. The *McLaughlin v. Florida* case, was one in which the United States Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the cohabitation law of Florida, as part of the state's anti-miscegenation laws, was unconstitutional. The law prohibited habitual cohabitation by two unmarried people of opposite sex, if one was black and the other was white. Nevertheless, it was part of Florida's anti-miscegenation laws prohibiting marriage, cohabitation, and extramarital sex between whites and blacks. The decision overturned *Pace v. Alabama* (1883), which had declared such statutes constitutional. It did not overturn the related Florida statute that prohibited interracial marriage between whites and blacks. In 1967 another

landmark case, *Loving vs Virginia*, which involved Mildred Loving, a woman of color and her white husband Richard Loving, who in 1958 were sentenced to a year in prison for marrying each other. Their marriage violated Virginia's racial integrity act of 1924, which criminalized marriage between people classified as "white" and people classified as "colored". At the age of 18, Mildred became pregnant. In 1958, the couple traveled to Washington, D.C. to marry, thereby evading Virginia's racial integrity act of 1924, which made marriage between whites and non-whites a crime. They returned to the small town of Central Point, Virginia. Based on an anonymous tip, local police raided their home in the early morning hours, hoping to find them having sex, given that interracial sex was then also illegal in Virginia. When the officers found the Lovings sleeping in their bed, Mildred pointed out their marriage certificate on the bedroom wall. They were told the certificate was not valid in Virginia. The Lovings were charged under Section 20-58 of the Virginia Code, which prohibited interracial couples from being married out of state and then returning to Virginia, where miscegenation was a felony, punishable by a prison sentence of between one and five years. The Lovings pled guilty to "cohabiting as man and wife, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth". They were sentenced to one year in prison, with the sentence suspended on condition that the couple leave Virginia and not return together for at least 25 years.

These are some examples of ordinary situations that affected black and white couples during the 1940's. Before the civil rights movement, most states upheld their miscegenation laws, sometimes still by force. Many mixed race families, at that time, found it very difficult to live in most areas of the United States, mainly because most Americans respected the law and the cultural norms of the times. In 1972, five years after the Supreme Court declared bans on interracial marriage "unconstitutional", a Gallup Poll indicated 75%

of all white americans still opposed interracial marriage. In the 1980s & 1990s, the argument turned to not one of whether interracial marriage was acceptable, but whether the government had the right to interfere in such private citizen issues, such as marriage and cohabitation in the first place. "Marriage is a fundamental right of free men.....there can be no prohibition of marriage except for an important social objective and by reasonable means...." Nonetheless, change became slow and the rate of race mixing between blacks and whites shifted, only by about 4%. "Clearly the right to choose one's life partner is quintessentially the kind of decision which our culture recognizes as personal and important....."Interracial marriage had become increasingly accepted in the United States as a consequence of the civil rights movement. Approval of mixed marriages in national opinion polls had risen from 4% in 1958, to 77% by 2007. Blacks nearly tripled their intermarriage rates from the 1980s, and whites more than doubled theirs, but the rates have hardly changed for Hispanics and Asians over the past 30 years. Interracial marriages of black people jumped from 5 percent to 18 percent since 1980. White newlyweds with spouses of a different ethnicity have also increased, from 4 percent to 11 percent since 1980. This decade was one of extreme growth, particularly in comparison to time periods of the 1950s and 1960s.

The most common external factors influencing interracial relationships and marriages are the acceptance of the community and the society in which the family lives. Often couples in mixed marriages face barriers that most families of the same culture are not exposed to. Interracial marriages are often influenced by external factors that can create dissonance and disagreement in relationships. Sometimes, the families of the partners display rejection, resistance, hostility and lack of acceptance for their kin's partner. Specific issues regarding the family, how the wedding will be held, which ties into

how tradition will or will not be practiced. Many mixed race couples report conflict arising over issues of how to carry out child raising and religious worship as well. Many couples may possess different communication styles. Dealing with [racism](#) from outside sources is also a common area of potential conflict arising over issues of how to carry out child raising, for example. Conflict resolution and mediation leads to a broader understanding of culture and communication. So how are Americans adjusting to the changes this country has seen thus far, pertaining to interracial relationships? The civil rights movement enormously propelled the possibilities of integrated couples and families advancing and participating in the American dream. In the past they faced an insurmountable amount of racism and government mistrust.

What about cohabitation? Cohabitation seems a likely solution for the post 90's generation. The growth of the "single" adult, who is semi-employed and or living in a shelter or an SRO apartment complex is much higher than previous decades. The number of Americans who cohabit & live together without being married has increased dramatically in the past 50 years, from 400,000 thousand in 1960 to 7.6 million in 2011, census data shows. Cohabitation, today takes on many different forms. Several of the most pronounced trends in family formation in the U.S. over the last several decades include the decline of marriages, the rise of cohabitation, the increase of divorce, and the increase of stepfamilies through remarriage or cohabitation. These shifts have been particularly pronounced among low-income black populations. Just over half of cohabiters are raising children, including about a third who are living with a child they share with their partner. The nature of cohabiting relationships varies significantly by race, ethnicity and educational attainment. Among people ages 18 to 44, a larger share have cohabited at some point than have been married 59% vs.

50%. Moreover, marriage and cohabitation are intertwined, as a plurality of adults 35% have experienced both of these types of relationships. Taken together, six-in-ten Americans are either married or living with a partner, a share that has remained largely unchanged since 1995. Over the past few decades, marriage rates have declined, particularly among younger Americans. Today, 18% of adults younger than 30 are married, compared with 31% in 1995. By comparison, 9% of adults ages 30 to 49 and 4% of adults 50 and older are cohabiting; up from 3% and 1%, respectively, in 1995. New census figures show that the number of mixed-race Americans has grown by nearly 50 percent in the last ten years. And that rise in number is most pronounced in the South. The national level, 0.4% of marriages were interracial in 1960 compared to 2.0% in 1980, 12% in 2013, and 16% in 2015. Census data reveals that 17 percent of children in the U.S live in blended families. Mixed-race couples are a burgeoning population in the United States, accounting for 17 percent of all new marriages.



