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Subject: Re: Are We All Racist, To Some Degree?  
Posted by [flyingfox](#) on Mon, 13 Mar 2006 20:48:10 GMT  
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Why is it, come to think of it, that application forms for jobs or educational institutes always ask for your ethnic origin? you often see messages on these forms that insist there is no racial prejudice or discrimination in deciding approval...if not, then why ask? What relevance does ethnic origin have to a job or course of study if it has no effect on whether or not you are capable of the work in question? I suppose this is a legal question..

Are we all racist to some degree? I'm not sure. There are cultural differences in black families that people might not like. Here's one real off-the-fly example: I had a friend who used to work in a shoe shop. He told me some months ago that a lot of people would try on shoes, and after deciding not to buy them (or maybe not even thinking of buying, just trying on), they'd leave them where they were, in a pile, for him to clear up. Not return them where they got them, or tell him they were done, if he had got them out of the storerooms. He told me that a lot of black women did it, and when I asked him if it was mostly black women, he said yes. He isn't racist but that's exactly what happened at his job. When I heard it I found myself getting pissed at the thought of these women being so inconsiderate (he even said they'd try on shoes with no socks...yuck). I think that people who have jobs in those kind of positions can, out of sheer irritation of what they have to put up with, develop a bias towards certain types of people, which could even turn into discrimination. And who would be to blame? Consideration is something that requires both parties to work.

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