

## DOUBLE STANDARDS

Saturday  
January 2, 2016

The last year has been filled with allegations of how white people, specifically those working in law enforcement, have committed acts of violence against black people because of nothing more than the color of their skin. In response, a number of protests and movements have sprung up all across the country, seeking to expose the rampant corruption and stop it from continuing to happen. With advances in technology, in particular private citizens armed with smart phones, these senseless acts of violence have been forever preserved and shared, convincing these protests and movements to grow exponentially, and for the most part, that's a good thing. The more people become willing to act to effect change, the more likely change will occur, but is it possible to get change if we're going at it with a double standard?

As a child, there were a number of things I didn't understand. When asked, they told me that "you'll understand one day, when you're older." Well, you know what? I'm older now, and I **still** don't understand. For example, why does the NAACP stand for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, yet it's not considered politically correct for white people to use the term "colored" to refer to blacks? Actually, even the term "blacks" is no longer considered politically correct. The proper term is "African American," even though most of the people we're talking about have parents who've never even seen Africa, let alone having lived there. At the same time, the word "blacks" isn't off limits when referring to themselves, as proven by the creation of a new dating site, which is rapidly gaining in popularity, [www.WhereBlackPeopleMeet.com](http://www.WhereBlackPeopleMeet.com), which brings me to the most recent double standard, one which everyone sees, but no one wants to talk about for fear of being politically incorrect.

The first time I seen the site, Where Black People Meet, advertised, two thoughts immediately came to mind. First, why were they using the word "black" to describe the demographic? Wasn't this deemed to be politically incorrect? Or was this a rule written exclusively for white people to follow? Secondly, and more importantly, I couldn't help but wonder what society's reaction would be if white people were to create a similar site, [www.WhereWhitePeopleMeet.com](http://www.WhereWhitePeopleMeet.com). If such a site was created, would it be considered "racist" and outed as such? Would we see and hear about it on the news, followed by colorful commentary about how this is yet another example of deteriorating racial relationships in America? I observed, shook my head to what I seen as a double standard, and went about my business, not really thinking about it one way or the other, until last night, where all of my thoughts returned to me, with a vengeance.

Last night's news teaser was about a new dating site targeting, you guessed it, white people, called [www.WhereWhitePeopleMeet.com](http://www.WhereWhitePeopleMeet.com). And, sure enough, there were interviews with all kinds of people claiming that this was yet another example of racism in America. This, despite the fact that the site clearly says on its homepage that it's available for all to use. So tell me, why is it okay for black people, excuse me, "African Americans," to create a site for black people to meet other black people, but it's not okay for white people to do the same thing? Then tell me, why are we ignoring it when they do?

The fact of the matter is that I can completely understand the desire to create, or even use, a site dedicated towards a specific demographic. There are sites dedicated towards connecting young women with rich, older men, sites promising Russian brides to Americans, and even sites promoting relationships between Christians only, so why not a site that offers to connect members of the same race? What's the harm? If that's what a person wants, then by all means, pursue what makes you happy, but what I don't get, what I can't, for the life of me, understand is the double standard. Why is it permissible for blacks to target blacks, homosexuals to target homosexuals, swingers to target swingers, but when a site pops up that's dedicated towards helping white people meet white people, it's deemed "racist?"

Sadly, the issue of double standards, which seems to be happening with increasing frequency, bothers me far less than the response, which is similar to an ostrich poking her head in the sand. We teach our children that it's wrong to treat people differently based on the color of their skin, their religion, their disability, even their sexuality, and then we go out and do exactly what we just told them not to do. If it's racist for whites to create an organization dedicated towards advancing their race, if it's racist for white people to create a website dedicated exclusively for white people to meet other white people, then doesn't it stand to reason that it's just as racist for blacks to do the same thing?

Strangely enough, I don't believe it's racist to create the groups or websites mentioned above. Just because they're exclusive doesn't necessarily mean they're racist. I just think it's monumentally stupid to sit there and not say something when one group of people does something, only to open your mouth when another group of people does the exact same thing. Either way, if we really want to make any progress on racism in society, then we need to be willing to address the issue on **all** fronts when they occur, not just certain groups.

Incidentally, I may have gotten the name of the website incorrect. It might be [www.SomeplaceWhereWhitePeopleMeet.com](http://www.SomeplaceWhereWhitePeopleMeet.com)

Shawn L. Perrot CDCR# V-42461  
MCSP Cell# C-13-219L  
P.O. Box 409060  
Ione, CA. 95640