

## BLACK IDENTITY IN US TODAY

### TASKS:

Read through the 6 questions below. What will the video clip be about? Share your thoughts with a classmate. Watch the "Kiri Davis: A Girl Like Me. [black doll / white doll experiment, 7:15 minutes]" on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWyl77Yh1Gg> (it may be hard to understand everything they say, so you can read the transcript on [http://www.understandingrace.org/lived/video/girl\\_trans.html](http://www.understandingrace.org/lived/video/girl_trans.html) while watching the documentary.

Discuss the following with a classmate (make sure you write down some key points to present in class):

1. What have the teenager girls (the interview objects) heard people say about black people or black skin colour? Mention five things...
2. Have they heard negative comments from their own family as well? Explain...
3. What impact do you think comments like these have on a black child's feelings about him/herself?
4. What do you think of the doll experiment? What does it show?
5. Have you experienced any negative comments regarding your looks/behaviour/skills in your childhood? How did that make you feel?
6. What impact has what's being said or commented (regarding people) within a family on the development of a child's self-esteem? Explain...

Watch "Black is beautiful" (YouTube. 6 min. Artist Kavon Ward):

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G2vXc\\_8p2A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G2vXc_8p2A)

1. What is the message in this video?
2. How is this video different from the first one?
3. What role did Obama becoming a president play for black people (in particular)?
4. Do you think that the fact that US now have had a black president can have an effect on how black children and teenagers feel about themselves? Explain...
5. Give examples of how families/schools/societies can help children look beyond race.