

II. Understanding the theoretical specificity of racial oppression, racial domination, racial inequality

1. *Methodological point: what do we mean by “theoretical specificity”?*
2. *The problem of “Essentialism”*
3. *What is the Abstract Category within which “racial oppression” is an instance?*
 - Albert and Hahnel’s proposal: *racial oppression as a form of alienated community*
 - Compare this to class as alienated division of labor: *division of labor + domination*
4. *The specificity of Racial Oppression*
 - i. *Racial division is a socially recognized distinction between people based on biological lineage*
 - ii. *Typically the biological lineage is linked to some socially recognized and symbolically salient visible physical attribute*
 - iii. *Racial division becomes racial oppression when it corresponds to some form of socially-significant exclusion, typically with an economic dimension, but also political and cultural.*
 - iv. *Racial classification distinctions become stable, socially reproducible forms of exclusion when they are systematically connected to communal identities. Racial oppression, then, is grounded in biological lineages embodied in communal identities.*
 - v. *When racial division takes the form of racial oppression, the oppressed group is also invariably stigmatized.*

III. A Class Analysis of Racial Oppression

1. *The central Question*
2. *Who Benefits from Racism?*
 - *White workers exploit black workers*
 - *White workers oppress black workers but do not exploit them*
 - *White workers neither oppress nor exploit black workers: Capitalists alone benefit from racism.*
 - *The differential exploitation of black and white workers is of decreasing relevance.*
3. *The problem of solidarity*

IV. An historical study of class and race: The Transformation of the Southern Racial State

1. *Core thesis: The Southern racial state was a functional solution to the problem of coercively exploiting sharecroppers*
2. *Empirical prediction concerning variation in resistance to the civil rights movement*
3. *Historical Trajectory of creation, stability, dissolution of the Southern Racial State:*
 1. *Material conditions at creation of Jim Crow*
 2. *Political conditions at creation: populist threat*
 3. *Solution: the creation of widespread sharecropping*
 4. *Superstructural consolidation*
 5. *New Deal Agriculture*
 6. *Cold War & post-WWII US world position*
 7. *Resistance to destruction of racial state in late 1950s and 1960s*