



Center for the Healing of Racism

Race - The Power of an Illusion questions the very idea of race as biology, suggesting that a belief in race is no more sound than believing that the sun revolves around the earth. Yet race still matters. Just because race doesn't exist in biology doesn't mean it isn't very real, helping shape life chances and opportunities. By asking, What is this thing called 'race'?, a question so basic it is rarely asked, **Race - The Power of an Illusion** helps set the terms that any further discussion of race must first take into account.



*Photos courtesy of PBS.org

The Health Museum has been fortunate to bring to the city of Houston the **Race: Are We So Different?** exhibit. The exhibit was developed by the American Anthropological Association in collaboration with the Science Museum of Minnesota. It is the first nationally traveling exhibition to tell the stories of race from the biological, cultural, and historical points of view. It will be on display from **October 15, 2011 through January 1, 2012.**

The museum has created public programming events and discussions for visitors of all ages. To visit the **Race: Are We So Different?** website go to www.understandingrace.org/home.html. The Center for the Healing of Racism is also delighted to have collaborated with The Health Museum to present the workshop, **Race: The Power of An Illusion**. This workshop takes place in 3-parts. For more information about the Center for the Healing of Racism and our programs go to www.centerhealingracism.org.

Date: Oct. 27, Nov. 3 & Nov. 10, 2010

**Time: 4:00—5:00 PM (film)
5:00—6:00 PM (discussion)**

**The Health Museum
1515 Herman Drive
Houston, Texas 77004**

Episode 1- The Difference Between Us examines the contemporary science - including genetics - that challenges our common sense assumptions that human beings can be bundled into three or four fundamentally different groups according to their physical traits.

Episode 2- The Story We Tell uncovers the roots of the race concept in North America, the 19th century science that legitimated it, and how it came to be held so fiercely in the western imagination. The episode is an eye-opening tale of how race served to rationalize, even justify, American social inequalities as "natural."

Episode 3- The House We Live In asks, If race is not biology, what is it? This episode uncovers how race resides not in nature but in politics, economics and culture. It reveals how our social institutions "make" race by disproportionately channeling resources, power, status and wealth to white people.