



Title	パブリック・ヒストリー 第5号 英文要旨
Author(s)	
Citation	パブリック・ヒストリー. 2008, 5, p. 88-89
Version Type	VoR
URL	<a href="https://doi.org/10.18910/66460">https://doi.org/10.18910/66460</a>
rights	
Note	

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# *Journal of History for the Public* (2008) 5 Abstracts

## Whiteness Studies in Japan: Types of Whiteness Visible and Invisible

Takao FUJIKAWA

This paper considers two versions of whiteness: visible, marked whiteness and invisible, unmarked whiteness, and the relationship between the two, from a historical perspective. I also identify four types of whiteness in which marked whiteness and unmarked whiteness are inexplicably related. The four types of whiteness are based on observations of the relationships European countries, the United States and British white settler societies had with non-European countries and migrants in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The first two types are the imperial and multicultural types, where invisible whiteness prevails, and the second two are the republican and racist types, where visible whiteness prevails.

I argue that we need a theory or map of whiteness that names invisible whiteness in relation to visible whiteness over a long period of time. We need a theory, which is not binding, but helps us form a larger perspective of connectedness among the various manifestations of whiteness. I hope that the typology of whiteness I present in this paper will become an inspiration towards a further consideration or theoretical analysis of whiteness in historical space.

## Struggle of Black People in Philadelphia, Early 1960s: Affirmative Action and Revitalizing of Community

Michiko YASUI

This paper examines black movements in Philadelphia at the beginning of 1960's, in which National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), together with Black community of north Philadelphia, demanded and struggled for the socio-economic rights, mainly equal employment rights. Through this struggle, continuing over two months, they, at last, won the city's affirmative action policy, in which racial hiring system that had prevailed especially among the construction trade unions and the companies for years was restricted and no longer accepted by the city office. Philadelphia became the first city to adopt an affirmative action policy among the metropolitan cities in the North.

The focus in this article is not just on its process but on its community-oriented strategy that made it possible to establish black empowerment politics in the city. The leaders and their leadership played the crucial role in achieving such outcome.

The federal affirmative action policies took place after similar struggles broke out in the urban areas in the North in the late 1960s. So it can be said that the struggle in Philadelphia initiated the federal affirmative action policies.

This paper argues that, even if the federal affirmative action policies have been double-edged since the Nixon Administration passed the revised Philadelphia Plan, it was essential and a matter of

emergency for the black people in Philadelphia to establish equal employment practices in the context of 1960s Philadelphia. Moreover, the struggle was unique in the leadership, in its inclusiveness and in its continuity.

## **Americanization in West Germany: A conceptual overview of the term “Americanization” in German contemporary history**

**Akiko TANAKA**

The USA had great influence in various areas at the birth and development of West German society. Although the Americanization in West Germany has been an object of studies for a long time, there is a little agreement to the definition of “Americanization”. This paper is intended as investigation of various paradigms of “Americanization” in contemporary German history, especially about West Germany.

It is reasonable to consider the debate on Americanization through three types of paradigms: (1) Americanization as political integration into the West, or Americanization as westernization (2) Americanization as modernisation, (3) cultural Americanization. These three paradigms, which reflected the political state of the Cold War, tended to regard Americanization as a systematic change in general.

With the end of the Cold War and the development of the historical-empirical scrutiny about the postwar era in West Germany since the late 1980s corrected the former ideas of the American influence on West German society. On the one hand, it has been pointed out that Americanization in the first decade after the war matured only gradually. In addition, discovering of continuity of Americanization under National Socialism questioned the assumption of simultaneous penetration of political Americanization and cultural one. On the other hand, several new approaches to cultural Americanization suggested by social and cultural historians, requires further attention about complexity of each process of cultural transfer across the Atlantic.