

MICRIRIC

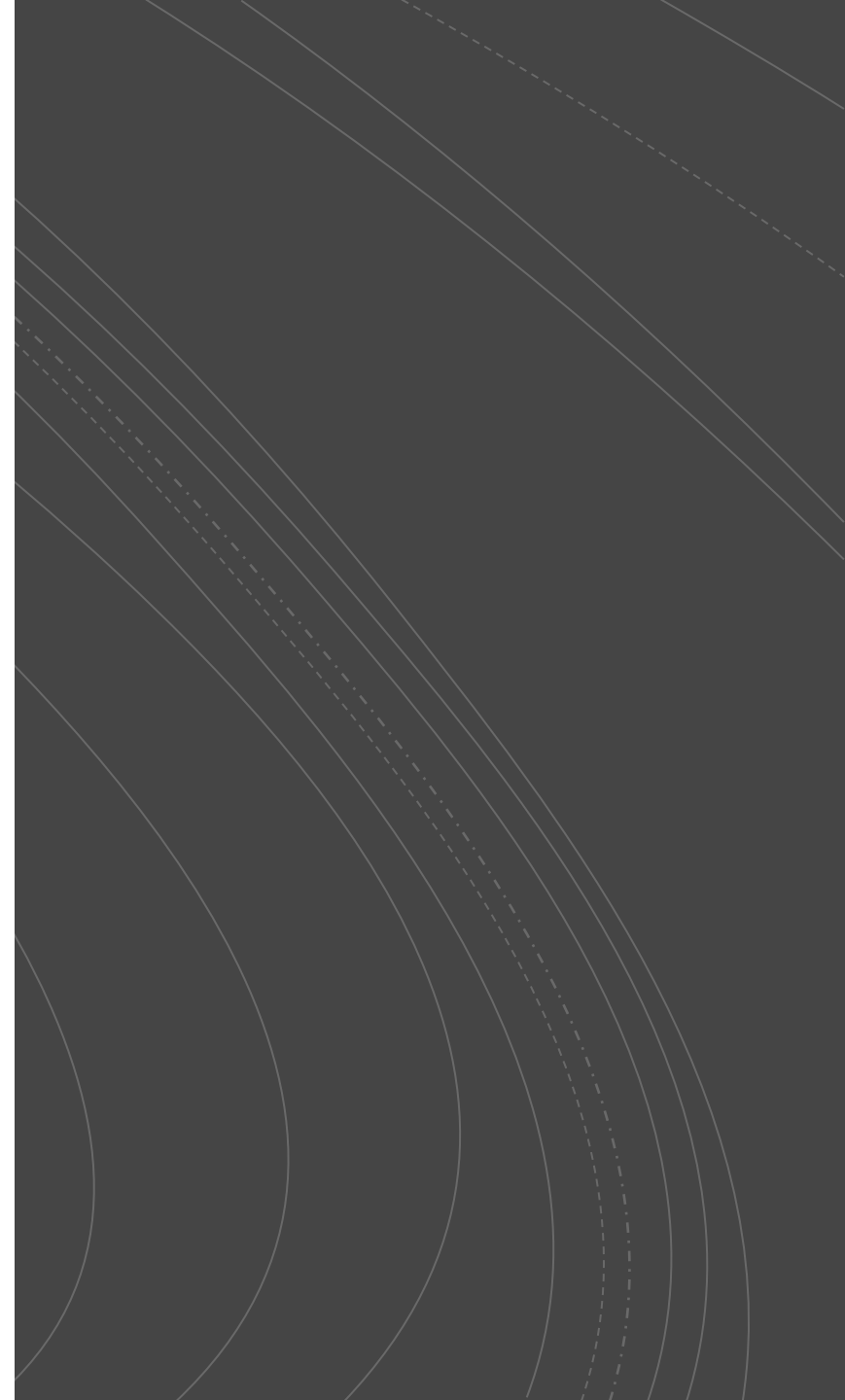
Mourning the Creation
of Racial Categories

This presentation is funded by:

- **eLearning to Advance Racial and Ethnic Diversity Friendly University Initiative**

(Faculty Funded Program 2021-2022)

“What is Your Race?”

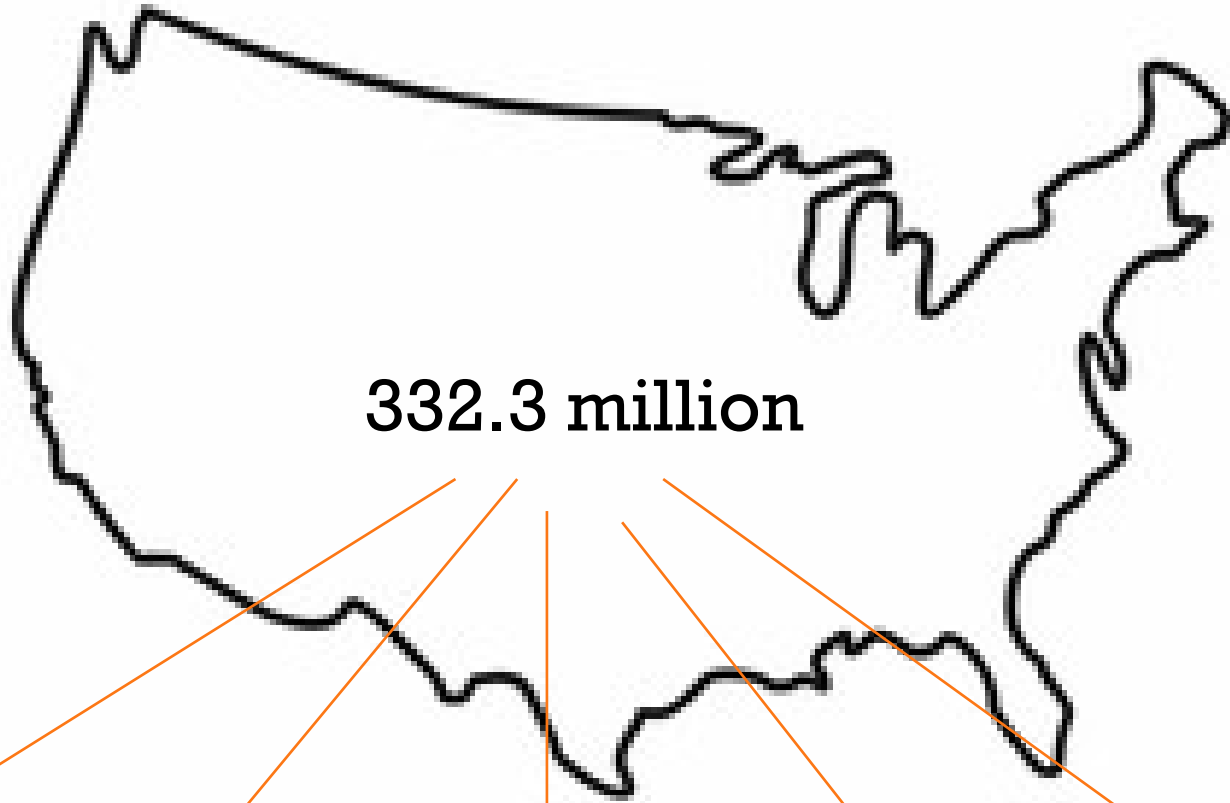




“The stories we tell
literally make
the world.”
~ Michael Margolis



We tell ourselves:
United States is a
nation made up of
different races.



332.3 million



American
Indian



Black



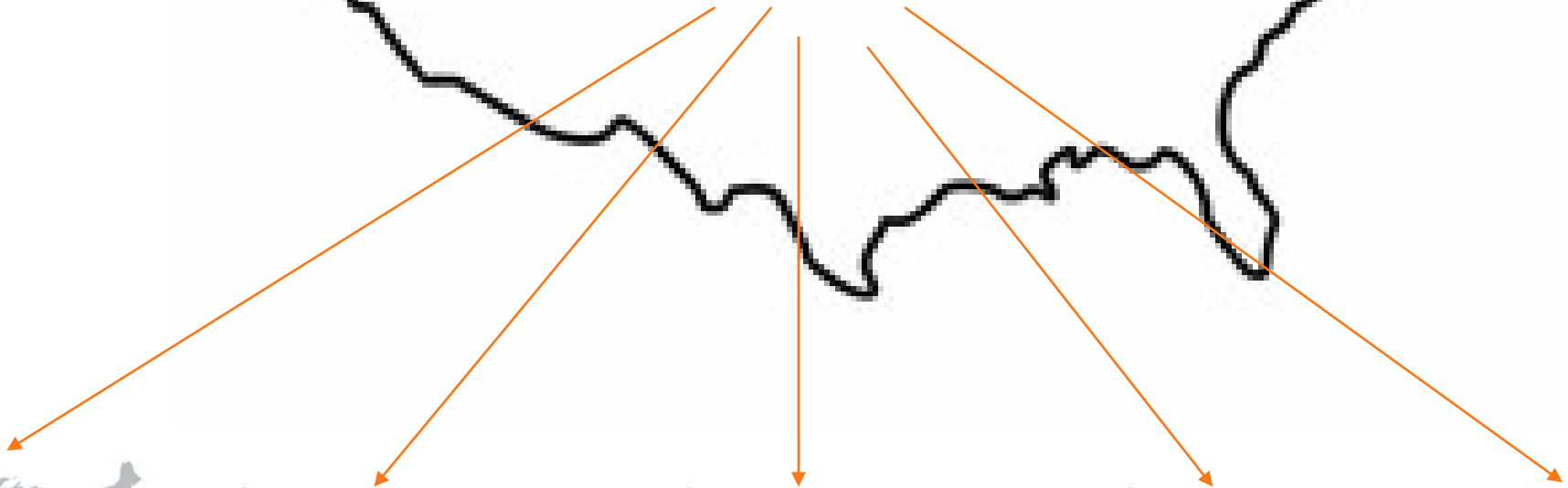
White



Asian



Native
Hawaiian




Each category has an
“official” definition
that reveals ...





...the formulas used to
break people apart into a
handful of races.



What is your race?

(Select one or more)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

Each “official”
definition also
references a
trauma that binds
people together
within a category.



Our challenge is to...

**face the story;
feel the historical weight all categories carry;
take a first step toward healing**



AMERICAN INDIAN–ALASKAN NATIVE

“A person having origins in any of the original peoples of **North, Central and South America** and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.”



BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN

“A person having origins in any of the **Black racial groups** of Africa.”



WHITE

“A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, Middle East, or North Africa.”

“If you would like information on how to deconstruct the definitions, especially the links to unique trauma, contact Dr. Joan Ferrante, Founder and Director of the MCRC Project,
ferrantej@nku.edu



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Q: What story do we
tell ourselves now
about who we are?



Q/Q/Discussion

Welcome any questions and thoughts



How is it possible to divide so many people into a handful of categories?

Is there a manual or guidebook for how to do this?

Where did the labels come from?

Does the “Check all that apply” and “Other race” options offer relief?

Thank you for your participation!
For more initiative information, please click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Initiative Project founder Dr. Suk-hee Kim at kims16@nku.edu

