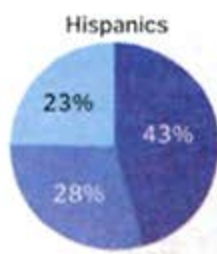
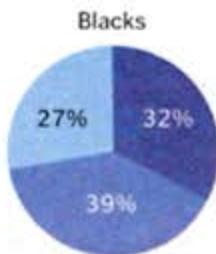
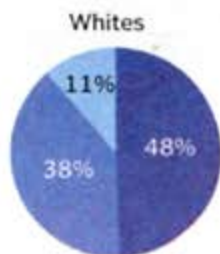


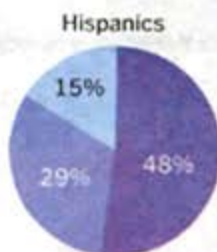
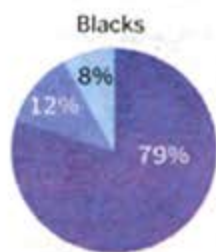
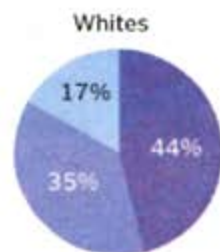
National Opinion

These pie charts show the racial distribution of opinion on progress made toward racial equality

How much progress toward racial equality has the United States made in the past five decades?



How much more progress should be made in order to achieve racial equality?



Key
 A lot
 Some
 Little/none

Editor's note: Remaining percentages represent "don't know"/"refused to answer."

ANTHONY KO / GRAPHIC
 PEWRESEARCH.ORG / SOURCE

needs to be done until racial equality is achieved.

Freshman Jorden Posley, who is African-American, said she has seen examples of racial discrimination in her daily life. During her eighth grade English class, she saw one boy being bullied because of his skin color.

"His friend would always come in with a new black joke every day," Posley said. "One day he would walk in and call him 'slave,' then 'blackie' and more like that. It just kept going on and on. I didn't know any of them—I just sat in front of them—and so I never knew how he felt about his friend calling him these names. He just laughed it off, or he didn't say anything. Then one day he just blew up. He told his friend that he didn't like it, and it was hurtful. He changed seats the next day. I never saw them talk again all year."

Posley said she thinks sometimes people don't know they are being hurtful.

"One of the things people can do to stop racial discrimination is to check what they're saying before they actually say it. They need to ask themselves if what they are saying is going to be hurtful," Posley said.

Williams said he agrees that people need to double check what they are about to say because it could hurt someone.

"People tend to stick to their beliefs even if you argue with them for hours," Williams said. "You can give them all the factual information you have, but they are still going to think

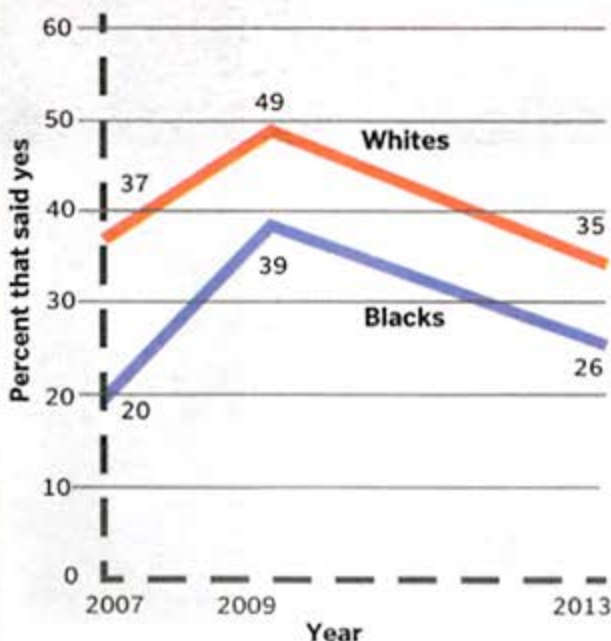
they are right. It is going to take a long time and a lot of work to change that. I believe that racial equality can still happen, but people need to help with that. They need to put their beliefs aside for a minute and think about what the person they are talking to might think and feel."

Golden said she cannot wait for everyone to experience equality, no matter their skin color.

"It shouldn't matter what you look like," she said. "Everyone should be judged on the type of person they are, not their skin color. I will never forget that day in the library, and I sincerely hope that kind of discrimination will be solved soon. It's hard to be judged, so you feel like you've done something wrong when the reality is you haven't done anything." ■

Sense of Black Progress

Both blacks and whites were surveyed about whether or not the situation of African Americans has improved



ANTHONY KO / GRAPHIC
 PEWRESEARCH.ORG / SOURCE

Past vs Present

Aug. 28, 2013 marked the **50th anniversary** of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. After 50 years, **55%** of people believe racial equality has not been achieved.



CRYSTAL CHEN / GRAPHIC
 PEWRESEARCH.ORG, BIOGRAPHY.COM / SOURCE

Students here say race shouldn't factor in determining role models

BY NATALIA CHAUDHRY
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While race continues to play an important role in one's identity, according to senior Frankie Kozak, who is half-Hispanic, it is important to extend beyond the concept of skin color, especially when identifying role models or leaders.

According to a Pew Research study released on Oct. 22, 75 percent of Hispanics said they believe their community needs a leader. While Kozak said he agreed that the presence of a role model is important in an individual's life, he disagreed with how the study proceeded to express a need for Hispanics to identify a Hispanic leader. Instead, Kozak said people should choose role models with no regard to race.

"I personally find the concept of certain races needing leaders of their own race weird," Kozak said. "We are all humans. Just because we have a different skin color does not mean that we need leaders for our specific skin color. In general, a role model or leader is just someone that someone can look at to make sure that they stay on track for their goal."

Kozak said he accepts his race as a part of who he is but also said one cannot base an individual's identity off of a single attribute of who they are. Reasoning that one's identity should instead be a summary of their being as a whole, Kozak said he agreed with certain parts of the study, but said people should not limit themselves to just looking at people of their own race.

"I cannot think of a specific Hispanic leader in my own community, but we should all look up to people because they are great leaders, not because of their skin color," Kozak said.

While Kozak said he treasures his own race and views it as something he is proud of, he also does not let it interfere with his mental perception of the world around him. To Kozak, like to many other students, race is just a side-note they take into account, but it rarely affects the bigger picture.

French teacher Lisa Carroll, who studies French culture and has witnessed the effects of race while studying abroad, said she agrees with this mentality and said that past racial struggles have left very minimal stains on today's society except in the form of racism.

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Visit www.hilite.org to read the rest of reporter Natalia Chaudhry's story.

