Declaration of Kenneth Prewitt

- I, Kenneth Prewitt, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true:
- 1. I received my Ph. D. in Political Science from Stanford University in 1963. In 1998 I was nominated as the United States Census Bureau Director by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate in September of that year. In that capacity I supervised the 2000 decadal census of the United States. I am currently the Carnegie Professor, School of International & Public Affairs, Columbia University, where I also hold the titles of Director, Project on the Future of Scholarly Knowledge, and Special Advisor to the President. I have held numerous other senior university, foundation, and related academic positions, including Director of the National Opinion Research Center, President of the Social Science Research Council, Senior Vice-President of the Rockefeller Foundation, and Dean of the Graduate School at the New School University. Since 2015, I have been President of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. My curriculum vitae, attached hereto as Exhibit A, sets forth additional aspects of my background.
- 2. The role of the federal government's racial classification system has been central to my scholarly interests since before 1969, when, together with L. Knowles, I published Institutional Racism in American Society (Prentice-Hall, 1969), the earliest book-length scholarly treatment of racial measures and concepts bearing on disparate impact and statistical proportionality. My subsequent term as Director of the Census Bureau led me deeper into research and writing on racial measurement. I have written more than three dozen essays and three books articles on census issues, including a book length examination of racial statistics: What is Your Race: The Flawed Effort of the Census to Classify Americans (Princeton University Press, 2012), generally considered the most exhaustive treatment America's

experience with racial measurement and its relevance to public policy. My other publications are listed in Exhibit A.

- 3. The title of my 2012 study references a flawed effort. When I submitted the manuscript to Princeton University Press, my editor suggested that it should be called not a flawed but a failed effort. But that term would be misleading, as the effort has not failed. The statistics produced by our racial classification scheme are in fact widely used: for public policy, in litigation, and generally by news media, businesses, private non-profit organizations, academics, schools, and the general public. My use of the word "flawed" indicates that the statistics, though heavily used, do not adequately represent the American population. I hold, to a reasonable degree of professional probability, that flaws in the current classification of "races" introduce vagueness, demonstrable error and avoidable tensions into policies, laws and public understanding.
- 4. We read, for example, that by 2050 America will be a "majority-minority" nation a proposition that has caused much consternation in certain circles. That assertion, however, is simply a statistical artifact of the government's official racial classification scheme. The same population in 2050 would be differently described depending on the classifications used. Until the 1930 census, for example, Mexicans were classified as "White." In 1930 they stopped being "White" and became "Mexican." As a result of political pressure by Mexican-Americans and the Mexican government, in 1977 Mexicans were re-classified under the umbrella "Hispanic ethnicity." They thus preserved a linguistic and quasi-national identity even as they joined the same category as immigrants born in (for example) Madrid. Were 120 million Hispanics to turn "White" again, there would be no uproar about white people soon becoming a minority in this

country. (There were many fewer South Asians in the United States, but they too switched, in the 1970 census, from being "White" to being "Asian.")

Counting Americans

- 5. The Constitution established a decadal census, starting in 1790, in order to apportion seats in the House of Representatives and electoral college votes across the 13 original states proportionate to the size of their respective population (and to add new states as people moved westward). The first census counted, separately, free white persons; taxed American Indians and other free persons, including a small number of free Blacks; and slaves, the latter counting as three-fifths of a person each.
- 6. In subsequent decades, census categories reflected the perceptions and preoccupations of the day. Where the 1820 Census had combined slaves and free Blacks into the single category "Slaves and Free Colored Persons," following emancipation the census category for former slaves and their descendents became "Black, Mulatto." In 1890, racial categorization was more finely tuned to include "Black, Mulatto, Quadroon or Octaroon." This was simplified in the 1900 census to "Black (Negro or of Negro Descent)." As Asian immigration increased throughout the nineteenth century, the census began taking separate note of immigrants who were Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and "Hindu." (Nativist politics led to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which was extended ten years later and made permanent in 1902.) A particularly notable example of the fluidity of census categories is that of the designation "Mexican," noted in ¶4.

- 7. Given the disorderliness of the prior attempts at classification, the Statistical Office in the Office of Management and Budget was charged to come up with a scheme for the standardization of racial statistics. In 1977, this led to the promulgation of the OMB's Race and Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting, commonly known as Directive 15. A copy of Directive 15 is attached hereto as Exhibit B. This Directive standardized the categories for collecting and reporting race and ethnic data by federal agencies. The federal categories thus became the de facto basis for practice by businesses, universities, and state and local governments.
- 8. Directive 15 expressly recognized both its limited purposes and lack of scientific basis, reciting as follows at the very beginning:

This Directive provides standard classifications for record keeping, collection, and presentation of data on race and ethnicity in Federal program administrative reporting and statistical activities. These classifications should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature, nor should they be viewed as determinants of eligibility for participation in any Federal program. They have been developed in response to needs expressed by both the executive branch and the Congress to provide for the collection and use of compatible, nonduplicated, exchangeable racial and ethnic data by Federal agencies.

9. Directive 15 expanded the three races dating from 1790 to five "racial and ethnic categories" based on existing census classifications: American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic and White. But the directive made two modifications. First, South Asians, who had previously been considered White and were counted that way in 1970, were assigned to the Asian category, thereby both effectively redrawing the ethnic boundary between Europe and Asia, and also reducing the proportion of American whites and increasing the proportion of American minorities. Second, the Committee decided that Latinos would be an ethnic group, not a race. These modifications were made with little notice and no controversy,

as South Asians and Hispanics were few in number and were expected to remain so.

- 10. As of 1977, then, the federal government had confirmed the existence of four official racial groups: White, Black, Native American Indians, and Asian; and two ethnic groups: Hispanic and non-Hispanic. In 1997, OMB made two changes to Directive 15. First, "Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders" were separated from "Asians." Second, persons were allowed to choose more than one race to choose as many as they saw fit, in fact. (Tiger Woods has famously called himself a "Cablinasian," referencing Caucasion, Black, Native American and Asian.) These changes were added to the 2000 Census questionnaire and carried forward in 2010.
- 11. The following page reproduces the census ethnic and race questions of the most recent 2010 census. This classificatory scheme is used in hundreds of government programs at all levels and in untold numbers of official records of Americans from birth to death. Thousands of private-sector institutions of every sort use the same scheme. These census categories thus form the template for an American system of classfying races, official and unofficial.



3.	Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?						
	No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin						
		Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano					
	1	Yes, Puerto Rican					
	Yes, Cuban						
	Li	Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print origin, for example, Argentinean, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on.					
		V					
9.	What is Person 1's race? Mark X one or more boxes.						
		White					
		White					
	E	White Black, African Am.,	or Negro				
		Black, African Am.,	•	— Pi	int name of enrolled or principal tribe. ⊋		
		Black, African Am.,	•	— Pi	int name of enrolled or principal tribe.		
		Black, African Am.,	•	— Pi	int name of enrolled or principal tribe. 7		
		Black, African Am., American Indian or	•	— PI	int name of enrolled or principal tribe.		
		Black, African Am., American Indian or	Alaska Native				
		Black, African Am., American Indian or Asian Indian Chinese	Alaska Native		Native Hawaiian		
		Black, African Am., American Indian or Asian Indian Chinese Filipino Other Asian — Print example, Hmong, Laotia	Japanese Korean Vietnamese race, for an, Thai,		Native Hawaiian Guamanian or Chamorro		
		Black, African Am., American Indian or Asian Indian Chinese Filipino Other Asian — Print	Japanese Korean Vietnamese race, for an, Thai,		Native Hawaiian Guamanian or Chamorro Samoan Other Pacific Islander — Prin. race, for example, Fijian, Tongan,		
		Black, African Am., American Indian or Asian Indian Chinese Filipino Other Asian — Print example, Hmong, Laotia	Japanese Korean Vietnamese race, for an, Thai,		Native Hawalian Guamanian or Chamorro Samoan Other Pacific Islander — Prin race, for example, Fijian, Tongan,		

- 12. The fluidity, not to say capriciousness, of our "racial" and "ethnic" categories bear out the cautionary note of Directive 15 that its classifications "should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature," as they were developed to provide data required to advance desired federal policies. These categories exemplify *Statistical races*, addressed below at paragraph 15 *et seq*.
 - 13. The following features of the current classificatory scheme bear notice:
 - In this land of immigrants from all over the globe, all of two "ethnicities" are recognized: "Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin" or not "Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin." The only other recognized category is "race."
 - * The following "races" are recognized: White; Black, African-American or Negro;

 American Indian or Alaska Native (with provision for designation of tribe); ten or

 more racialized Asian national or ethnic identities (Chinese, Japanese, Pakistani,

 Fijian, etc.) and "some other race" -- not, apparently, including "human."
 - * The 2010 ethno-racial scheme permits the identification of over 100 ethnoracial groups, depending on which combination is selected by a "mixed race" responder.
 - * "Some other race" is not considered a separate race by OMB, though 19 million

 Americans checked that box in 2010 and this option is expected to be chosen increasingly in the future in our increasingly mixed culture.
 - * According to Census Bureau edit rules, one who checks both a formerly "Asian" race (e.g., "Chinese" race) and "Native Hawaiian" race or "Pacific Islander" race is viewed as mixed-race. But one checking two formerly "Asian" races (e.g. Chinese and Japanese) is not.

- * Following the 2000 census, the Census Bureau investigated the reliability of the "mark one or more" responses by returning a year later to a sample of households, matching their 2001 answers to what had been given a year prior. Forty percent of those who gave multiple-race responses in 2000 answered differently to the survey conducted a year later, either by declaring they were single race or choosing a different race than originally reported. Of those identified as multi-race in the follow-up survey, nearly half (45%) had declared they were in a single race group a year earlier.
- 14. As common sense alone suggests, the scheme exemplified by the revised OMB Directive 15 and the census questionnaire glosses over and confounds the variety of humanity resident in this country, as well as the terminology applicable to such classification and the resulting policy consequences of that terminology. The scheme has produced *statistical races*.

Statistical Races

15. Statistical races are created by the categories chosen by government to classify our nation's inhabitants. If (as was the case in many states until the mid-twentieth century) we choose to classify persons as "white" or "non-white," we will end up with two ("racial") groups. We could as easily count all right-handed and all left-handed people and end up with two races based on handedness. Advances in human genetics can permit us to classify persons based on whatever genetic markers we see fit to select. The result is *statistical races*, *i.e.*, groupings of persons based on the characteristics selected for inquiry. To the extent public and private policy is predicated on those groupings, their selection in the first place emerges as a matter of moment.

When public and political debate is shaped by considerations of which races are doing what, and when public policies and private policies follow, we need to worry whether our conventional classifications tell us what we need to know about what is going on in our polity, economy, and society. We should worry about whether we have the right groupings. Given the purposes we seek to serve, it is demonstrably the case that we do not.

- 16. As noted, OMB candidly acknowledges it does not draw on science. The race and ethnic classification "should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature. . . . They have been developed in response to needs expressed by both the executive branch and the Congress." Because there is no agreed-upon science on which to base the classification, the OMB offers no consistent rationale for even the five primary race categories. Thus:
 - For two groups, *color* is at issue: (1) White and (2) Black, African American, or Negro. Persons born of White & Black parents almost invariably self-identify (and are socially considered) as "Black" unless they are light enough to pass as White and do so. Former President Obama, born of a Kenyan father and a white American mother, famously publicized that he identified on the census as Black.
 - * While American Indians and Alaska Native are combined into a single racial category, the civil status of tribal membership can impact categorization as well.
 - * The Asian category is a mix of national categories (Japanese, Korean, etc.).
 - * The ethnic categorization (Hispanic, Latino and Spanish origin) has its own problems. The term "Hispanic" is commonly understood as a *linguistic* group, and therefore does not include persons of Portuguese origin or Brazilians,

- whereas the term "Latino" is commonly understood geographically, i.e.,

 Latin American, including in this case Brazilians.
- * The "Some Other Race" line presents a further anomaly. This option has existed since 1920, when the census dropped "Mulatto." (Mulatto had been added in 1860.) In the 2000 census, more than fifteen million Americans rejected the five primary races and adopted the new race called "other." Ninety-seven percent were Hispanic, primarily Mexicans and Central Americans. In 2010, nineteen million respondents used the some other line, again 97% being Hispanics.
- * Self-identification, permitted by the census, creates other problems. It is well documented that untold numbers of light skinned "Black" people have successfully passed for white. What "race" are they? Or consider the case of Rachel Dolezal, a white civil rights activist and office-holder in the NAACP who presented herself as a black woman. In June, 2015, a white married couple claimed to have given birth to her, telling the press that she was lying about her race. If, as is likely, she checked the "Black" racial category in the 2000 or 2010 census, she would have changed her "official" race by fiat.
- 17. More recently, OMB considered adding a separate category for people from the Middle-East and North Africa, who are currently "White" under census classifications. A determined effort to create a separate "MENA" category was turned down in 2018. I note that such catagorization would have placed into a single class an Israeli Ashkenazi, an Egyptian Bedouin, and a Moroccan Berber. (Of course, they are currently in a single class, as "White.")

- 18. The anomalies and patterns of incoherence in the nation's statistical races bedevil the attempt to devise programs capable of serving desired policy goals. Other than our artificial statistical races, a host of possible categorizations exist which, if permissibly used, would be of potential consequence to the furtherance of such goals. This includes, for example: level of education, level of parents' education, family generations in the United States, financial circumstances, color, sex, gender identity, age, cultural heritage and language, and physical abilities/disabilities. All these categories will not necessarily be relevant to desired programs, and there may be legal limitations on accessing some of this data but to the extent available and used, the data would be verifiable and valid: something that cannot be said about our current racial categorization. In the first half of the 20th century, immigrant assimilation was effectively tracked in the nation's statistical system. This largely disappeared starting in 1970, when the question "Where Were Your Parents Born?" was removed from the census form.
- 19. Statisticians differ on where to make the trade-off between "lumping" and "splitting," i.e., between focusing on fewer more inclusive categories or focusing on a larger number of more discrete categories. There is little room for debate, however, that lumping together all "White" persons and all "Black" persons yields far less useful information than a more refined inquiry. "White" people include both Bill and Melinda Gates and the marginalized, poverty-stricken and despondent white residents of our Rust Belt. Along similar lines, in his study Disintegration: The Splintering of Black America (Penguin Random House, 2011), Eugene Robinson has identified four black Americas that are increasingly distinct, separated by geography, and having different profiles, mind-sets, hopes, fears and dreams:

- (a) A largely abandoned inner-city underclass with little hope of escaping poverty and dysfunction,
- (b) A mainstream middle class with substantial ownership in American society,
- (c) Two emergent groups -- mixed-race and recent black immigrants -- doing well,
- (d) A small transcendent elite with enormous wealth, power, and influence, including the former president of the United States.
- 20. Consider, as well, the all-inclusive Asian category. Asian Americans trace their roots to any of dozens of countries in the Far East, Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent. Each country has its own history, culture, languages, religious beliefs, economic and demographic traits and social and political values, and each affords its emigrants a different pathway into America. Chinese, Koreans, and Japanese are much more likely to graduate from college than Vietnamese, Cambodians, Hmong, and Laotians. To effect desired policy goals, these groups require different treatment, not being recognized and dealt with uniformly as "Asians." This applies to each of the four primary races, and to the two recognized ethnicities as well.
- 21. According to the Census Bureau, statistics on race are needed "to assess fairness in employment practices, meet legislative redistricting requirements by knowing the racial make-up of the voting age population, learn who may not be receiving medical services, determine disparities in health and environmental risks" and meet related programmatic and policy purposes. The goals are worthy, but the Bureau is relying on incoherent categories in its attempt to measure race and serve those goals. Measurement anomalies of the sort detailed above become measurement flaws when the government's official statistics inadequately equip the

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nation to do what it seeks to do. That is decidedly the case with regard to government policies

intended to address racial matters.

22. In summary: the statistical races produced by responses to concededly unscientific

but officially sanctioned classifications, which we use today for purposes of policy and law and

for public understanding and discourse about racial matters, are not up to the task. Today's

statistical races were pieced together from a long-discarded science of racial superiority; from

practices and policies that for the better part of our history excluded, penalized, and damaged

non-white people; from more recent reactive practices and policies intent on undoing that

damage; from successive waves of immigrants seen through the lens of race; and from biological

and anthropological constructions of fixed racial boundaries. Such boundaries do not exist in the

lived world, and their survival in our current scheme of governmental classification by race is

counterproductive if not worse.

Dated: June 11, 2019

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Kenneth Prewitt

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-13-

September, 2015

KENNETH PREWITT

Carnegie Professor of Public Affairs Director, The Future of Scholarly Knowledge Special Advisor to the President Columbia University

ADDRESS

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EDUCATION

B.A. 1958, Southern Methodist University (History and Government)
M.A. 1959, Washington University (Political Science)
1960, Harvard Divinity School (one year, as Danforth Fellow, no degree)
Ph.D. 1963, Stanford University (Political Science)

PRIMARY PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2013-	Director, The Future of Scholarly Knowledge
2012-2013	Special Advisor to the President, Columbia Univ.
2007-2012	Vice-President for Global Centers, Columbia Univ.
2004-2006	Chairman, Dept. of International & Public Affairs, Columbia U.
2002-	Carnegie Professor of Public Affairs, Columbia University
2001-2002	Dean, Graduate Faculty, New School University
1998-2001	Director, United States Bureau of the Census
1995-1998	President, Social Science Research Council
1985-1995	Senior Vice President, The Rockefeller Foundation
	President, Social Science Research Council
	Director, National Opinion Research Center
1975-1976	Chairman, Department of Political Science
	The University of Chicago
1965-1982	Assistant, Associate, Full Professor, Department of Political Science
	The University of Chicago
1963-1964	Assistant Professor, Washington University

SECONDARY POSITIONS

1979-1983 Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science
Columbia University
1974 Rockefeller Foundation Consultant to the
Mae Klong Integrated Rural Development Project
Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand
1970-1973 Rockefeller Foundation Visiting Research Fellow
University of Nairobi, Kenya
1964-1969 Associate Director, "Comparative Studies of
Legislative Behavior in Small Decision-Making Groups"
Stanford Institute of Political Research
1965-1966 Visiting Lecturer, University of East Africa- Makerere, Uganda
1964-1965 Visiting Assistant Professor, Stanford University

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Honorary Doctor of Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University
Distinguished Service Award, New School for Social Research
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Southern Methodist University
Fellow and Vice President, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Fellow, The American Academy of Political and Social Science
Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science
Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Guggenheim Fellowship
Fellow, The Hastings Center
The Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit, Federal Republic of Germany
Fellow, The Russell-Sage Foundation
Charles E. Merriam Lifetime Career Award, American Political Science Association
Lifetime National Associate of the NRC/NAS

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Political and Social Sciences (President) NORC, University of Chicago (Vice-Chair) State of the USA (Vice-Chair) W.T Grant Foundation

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Advisory Council, Hertie School Project on Roles of German Foundations
World Economic Forum – Committee on Future of Higher Education
AUC, School of Global Affairs & Public Policy – International Advisory Committee
Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences
Population Association of America – Committee on Federal Race Statistics
Institute for Human Sciences (Vienna)
Project on Social Solidarity

National Academies of Science

DBASSE (Division Behavioral & Social Sciences & Education; Chair, Advisory Board)
Use of Social Science Knowledge (chair)
Committee on Civic Health (chair)
Presidential Advisory Committee on Key Natl. Indicators

New School for Social Research
Advisory Committee on Future of Liberalism Project
Board of Editors, Social Research

PRIOR BOARD MEMBERSHIPS (selected)

African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C. (Vice President) American Academy of Political and Social Sciences Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Health Statistics (US-HHS) Center for Global Development (Executive Committee) Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Palo Alto, California Children's Village, Dobbs Ferry, New York (President) Consortia of Social Science Organizations (President) Foundation Center - Research Advisory Board (chair) The Energy Foundation, San Francisco, California (Chairman) German-American Academic Council, Bonn, Germany (Vice-Chairman) International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology, Nairobi, Kenya (Chairman) LEAD, Inc. (Leadership for Education and Development) Rockefeller Archive Center, Governing Council Social Science Research Council Society for the Study of Social Biology Southern Methodist University Washington University

PRIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEES/COUNCILS (Selected)

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - International Advisory Committee (chair)

American Association of University Professors:

Commission on Academic Freedom

American Academy of Arts and Sciences:

Vice-President; Council Member: Committee on Studies

American Political Science Association:

Vice-President; Committee on Investments

Committee on Interdisciplinarity

American Association for the Advancement of Science:

Section K - Chair (2005-7)

Association of American Universities:

Assessing Quality of University Education and Research

American Anthropological Association:

Understanding Race & Human Variation

Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate:

Advisory Committee

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences:

Committee on Special Projects (Chairman)

Center for Global Development:

Board & Program Committee

Civic Enterprises - Civic Health Working Group

Conference Board:

Committee on Scholarly Communication with China

Council on Foundations

Committee on International Grantmaking

Foundation Center

Advisory Committee on International Grantmaking Report

Harvard University, Visiting Committee to the

Department of Government (Chairman)

Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences

Committee for the Oversight of AIDS Activities

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

U.S. Advisory Committee

Latino National Survey (Advisory Committee)

MacArthur Foundation

Advisory Panel on International Security Program

National Academies

Committee on Basic Research in the Behavioral and Social Sciences

Committee on International Education

Committee on National Statistics -- Panel on Data Access

National Election Studies Advisory Committee

National Science Foundation

Committee on International Science

Advisory Committee – Division of Behavioral Sciences
National Broadcasting Corporation
Advisory Panel to Election News Unit
OECD, Paris Co-ordination Group for the Global Project on "Measuring the progress of Societies (chair)
Princeton University (Center for Arts & Cultural Policy Studies)

Russell-Sage Foundation
Working Group on Terrorism (chairman)
Committee on 2010 Census
Social Science Research Council (Committee on Katrina)
Urban Institute, Diversity Data & Research Working Group
Wissenschaftszentrum (Berlin)
Advisory Council
World Bank/UNESCO
Task Force on Higher Education (Vice-Chairman)
Various Consultancies
United States Information Agency
Advisory Panel on International Educational Exchange

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Co-editor, Public Policy Section of the International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Elsevier Science Limited, 2001.

Series Co-Editor, Urban Governors Series, Bobbs-Merrill, 1970-1975

National Opinion Research Center's Social Science Research Series, Jossey-Bass, 1978-1980

Editorial Boards

American Political Science Review, 1976-82
American Journal of Political Science, 1974-1979
British Journal of Political Science, 1971-1975
Social Science Research, 1975-1998
Evaluation Quarterly, 1977-85
Knowledge: Creation, Diffusion, Utilization, 1978-1988
International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 1997-2001 (Section Editor)
Political Behavior, 1979-1985
Society, 1981-1998
American Behavioral Scientist, 1982-1998

WRITINGS ON THE U.S. CENSUS, FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM AND SCIENCE & GOVERNMENT

Books:

Civic Engagement and Social Cohesion: Measuring Dimensions of Social Capital to Inform Policy (chair & co-editor). Washington, DC: The National Academies Press, 2014.

What is **Your** Race? The Flawed Effort of the Census to Classify Americans, Princeton University Press, 2013.

The Use of Science as Evidence in Public Policy (chair & co-editor). National Academies Press, 2012.

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OMB DIRECTIVE 15: RACE AND ETHNIC STANDARDS FOR FEDERAL STATIST... Page 1 of 3

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) DIRECTIVE NO. 15 Race and Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting

(as adopted on May 12, 1977)

This Directive provides standard classifications for record keeping, collection, and presentation of data on race and ethnicity in Federal program administrative reporting and statistical activities. These classifications should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature, nor should they be viewed as determinants of eligibility for participation in any Federal program. They have been developed in response to needs expressed by both the executive branch and the Congress to provide for the collection and use of compatible, nonduplicated, exchangeable racial and ethnic data by Federal agencies.

1. Definitions

The basic racial and ethnic categories for Federal statistics and program administrative reporting are defined as follows:

- a. <u>American Indian or Alaskan Native</u>. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- b. <u>Asian or Pacific Islander</u>. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.
- c. Black. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- d. <u>Hispanic</u>. A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- e. White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

2. Utilization for Record keeping and Reporting

To provide flexibility, it is preferable to collect data on race and ethnicity separately. If separate race and ethnic categories are used, the minimum designations are:

- a. Race:
 - -- American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - --Asian or Pacific Islander
 - --Black
 - --White
- b. Ethnicity:
 - --Hispanic origin
 - --Not of Hispanic origin

When race and ethnicity are collected separately, the number of White and Black persons who are Hispanic must be identifiable, and capable of being reported in that category.

If a combined format is used to collect racial and ethnic data, the minimum acceptable categories are:

- -- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- --Asian or Pacific Islander
- --Black, not of Hispanic origin