

Racism trivialized

Regarding, *College to focus on social activism* (July 31).

I do not, have not and will never choose my friends according to their color, and I take great exception to the paraphrase that the racism I have endured "has discouraged me from making friends with whites."

Secondly, I realize that the purpose of a lead paragraph is to grab reader attention, but by using the issue of racism, The Free Press perpetuates stereotypes. For example, the reporter implies that color is the cause of racism. Color is irrelevant. Racism is a symptom of many, more deeply ingrained diseases such as high unemployment and poverty.

I did not expect the paper to fully explore this issue, since it was not the focus of the story, but by opting for a couple of sensational quotes and paraphrases, The Free Press has managed only to trivialize both the aims of the social justice college and the racism issue.

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