

Passing as White: The Experiences of Supervisees of Color

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There is a need for cross-racial supervision given the lack of representation of supervisors of color, students of color will need to work with White supervisors. The literature on cross-racial supervisory dyads, however, has not explored this subject with the passing racial identity focus. *Passing* is defined as a racial/ethnic minority member who has the physical appearance to be perceived as White. People who pass as White have to consider the emotional consequences of revealing their stigmatized racial identity when confronted with racist remarks by Whites. Since the supervision experience of supervisees of color can parallel their racial experience within the racial climate of American society, conversations about race/cultural issues may be transpired differently with students of color who pass as White. Also, supervisees of color who pass as White may experience a different progression in their racial identity development within a supervisory context. The concept of passing as White has been studied in the past, but not in the context of clinical supervision. Thus, this study will address this gap in the literature. This qualitative study will use the phenomenological approach to explore the perspectives of supervisees of color who pass as White in cross-racial supervisory dyads and the construction of their racial identity narratives. Also, supervisees of color's perceptions of race dialogues with their White supervisors will be explored. The study expenses include participant payment (\$200-\$300) and tuition for the dissertation courses (\$7560) which are program requirements. The study is expected to be defended by Summer 2021.

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