Race: The Power of an Illusion (PBS, 2003)

1. As you watch Parts 1 (The Difference Between Us) and 2 (The Story We Tell) of this film, please note information that is new to you and information that sheds light on the meaning(s) of *race*.

2. In groups of 3-5, discuss any 3 of the following 10 ideas from the film (You may submit your thoughts on these items and your discussion of them in writing for extra credit in our next class.):

    a. Race is a modern idea.
    b. Race has no genetic basis.
    c. Human subspecies don't exist.
    d. Skin color is really only skin deep.
    e. Most variation is within, not between, "races."
    f. Slavery predates race.
    g. Race and freedom evolved together.
    h. Race justified social inequalities as natural.
    i. Race isn't biological, but racism is real.

3. Discuss the following questions in your groups:

    a. How does the concept of *blood* (i.e., blood quantum, blood siblings, Italian blood) relate to (or not) the concept of *race*? How do *blood* and *race* relate to *genes*?

    b. How does Brazil ("Mixed Blood" by Jeffrey Fish) culture conceptualize human differences? Compare this to the US concept of *race*.