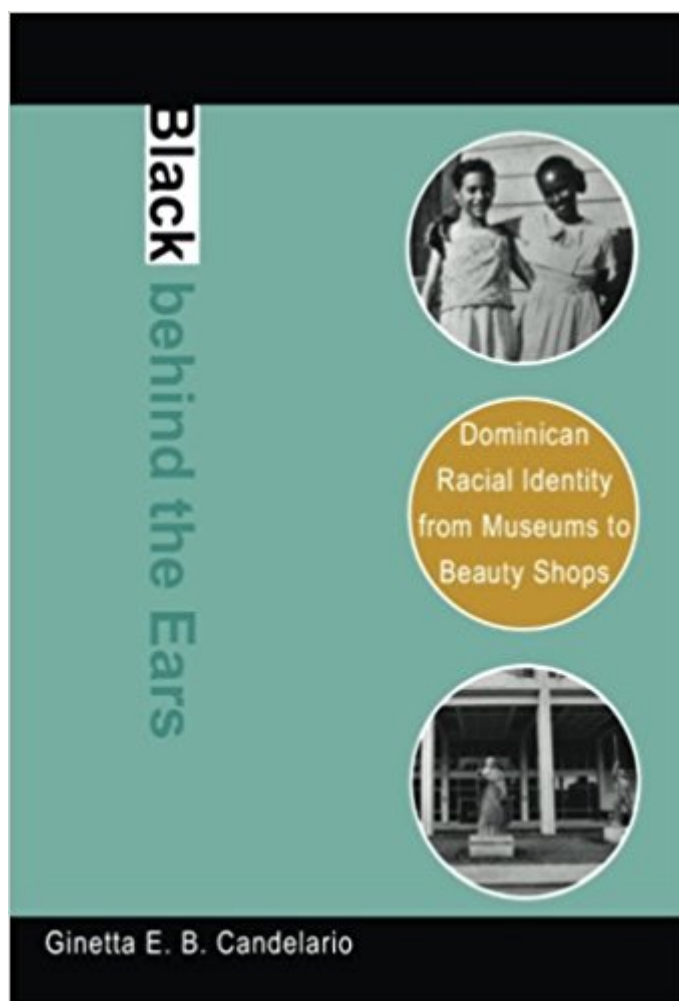


The book was found

# Black Behind The Ears: Dominican Racial Identity From Museums To Beauty Shops



## Synopsis

*Black behind the Ears* is an innovative historical and ethnographic examination of Dominican identity formation in the Dominican Republic and the United States. For much of the Dominican Republic's history, the national body has been defined as "not black," even as black ancestry has been grudgingly acknowledged. Rejecting simplistic explanations, Ginetta E. B. Candelario suggests that it is not a desire for whiteness that guides Dominican identity discourses and displays. Instead, it is an ideal norm of what it means to be both indigenous to the Republic (indios) and "Hispanic." Both indigeneity and Hispanicity have operated as vehicles for asserting Dominican sovereignty in the context of the historically triangulated dynamics of Spanish colonialism, Haitian unification efforts, and U.S. imperialism. Candelario shows how the legacy of that history is manifest in contemporary Dominican identity discourses and displays, whether in the national historiography, the national museum's exhibits, or ideas about women's beauty. Dominican beauty culture is crucial to efforts to identify as "indios" because, as an easily altered bodily feature, hair texture trumps skin color, facial features, and ancestry in defining Dominicans as indios. Candelario draws on her participant observation in a Dominican beauty shop in Washington Heights, a New York City neighborhood with the oldest and largest Dominican community outside the Republic, and on interviews with Dominicans in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Santo Domingo. She also analyzes museum archives and displays in the Museo del Hombre Dominicano and the Smithsonian Institution as well as nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century European and American travel narratives.

## Book Information

Paperback: 360 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (December 12, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822340372

ISBN-13: 978-0822340379

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #123,057 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Dominican Republic #110 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Hispanic American Studies #406 in Books > Politics

## Customer Reviews

“Black behind the Ears makes important contributions to our understanding of the Dominican experience. In this book, Ginetta E. B. Candelario shows processes of identity formation among Dominicans in different historical and geographical contexts, and she looks at the nuanced relationship between ethnic and racial identities. In my opinion, this is one of the best books written on the subject of racial, ethnic, and national identity formation in general.” — JosÃ© Itzigsohn, author of *Developing Poverty: The State, Labor Market Regulation, and the Informal Economy in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic*

“Based on first-rate ethnographic and historical research, *Black behind the Ears* provides fresh and original insights into the construction and representation of racial identities in the Dominican Republic and the United States. It is the most comprehensive, focused, and balanced treatment to date of Dominican racial and gender ideologies in the United States.” — Jorge Duany, author of *The Puerto Rican Nation on the Move: Identities on the Island and in the United States*

Ginetta E. B. Candelario’s *Black behind the Ears* argues compellingly that any serious effort to understand Dominican ideas and practices of race in the ancestral homeland as well as in the diaspora requires a large conceptual framework, a triangular geography of knowledge, and a cultural history formed by Dominican nation-building projects, the difficult plight of the Haitian Republic in the midst of a negrophobic world, the impact of U.S. racial thought, and the Latin American glorification of the Hispanic heritage. Candelario’s book remarkably dares to bring apparently disparate discursive sites to interact convincingly and engagingly in her analysis. The author renders facile readings of the Dominican chapter of the black experience in the Americas as exceptional or pathological simply unsustainable. She shows instead that it invites White Americans, African Americans, and other Latinos to revisit long-held assumptions about racial categories, ethnic identity, nationality, and the ideologies behind taking the “visible” for “real” in matters of race.” — Silvio Torres-Saillant, coauthor of *The Dominican Americans*

*Black behind the Ears* is a fascinating, richly documented, and innovative exploration of racial, ethnic and national identity formation in the Dominican Republic and among the Dominican diaspora in the United States. . . . In exploring the paradoxes of Dominican ethno-racial identity so creatively, Candelario has produced a fascinating template for scholars and students of race, ethnicity and national identity in general.” — (Sherri Grasmuck *Contemporary Sociology*)

[A] stimulating book. . . . Candelario breaks new ground with her analysis of racial formation in Dominican communities in the United States . . . . [Black Behind the Ears] should be

widely read by historians, anthropologists, and sociologists in the fields of Latin American and Latina/o studies. • (Frank Andre Guridy *Hispanic American Historical Review*) • [G]roundbreaking. . . . *Black Behind the Ears* is a well-researched analysis of the cultural sites through which various actors produce racial understandings in relation to national discourses. It is an important contribution to the study of race, gender and national identity within the Dominican Republic and its US-based migrant communities. • (Takkara Brunson *Bulletin of Latin American Research*)

"Ginetta E. B. Candelario's *Black behind the Ears*" argues compellingly that any serious effort to understand Dominican ideas and practices of race in the ancestral homeland as well as in the diaspora requires a large conceptual framework, a triangular geography of knowledge, and a cultural history formed by Dominican nation-building projects, the difficult plight of the Haitian Republic in the midst of a negrophobic world, the impact of U.S. racial thought, and the Latin American glorification of the Hispanic heritage. Candelario's book remarkably dares to bring apparently disparate discursive sites to interact convincingly and engagingly in her analysis. The author renders facile readings of the Dominican chapter of the black experience in the Americas as exceptional or pathological simply unsustainable. She shows instead that it invites White Americans, African Americans, and other Latinos to revisit long-held assumptions about racial categories, ethnic identity, nationality, and the ideologies behind taking the 'visible' for 'real' in matters of race."--Silvio Torres-Saillant, coauthor of *"The Dominican Americans"*

I was married to a Dominican man (RIP) and we live in the DMV (DC, MD, VA area) and I also know some of the individuals she mentioned in the book in the area. I am familiar with the Dominican issues regarding racial identity. I believe the issues are more prevalent once a Dominican leaves Dominican Republic and live their lives in the USA. The author, Ginetta E. B. Candelario (my former last name from my marriage was also Candelario) really hit on all aspects of the identity issues.

Candelario has an excellent collection of essays here that examine how Dominican's identify in order to have the most success, and how government actions have not allowed them, oftentimes, to fully accept their African heritage despite obvious African roots. Very interesting work.

Riveting.

Great for reading for everyone

my Smith College prof's book. very important.

I couldn't stay awake long enough to get past the 2nd chapter. The author uses long pompous words but seems to have very little to actually say.

The book came just as advertised; no bends in the papers and perfect condition. Will buy books from again.

Trash

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Black behind the Ears: Dominican Racial Identity from Museums to Beauty Shops Black behind the Ears: Dominican Racial Identity from Museums to Beauty Shops (E-Duke books scholarly collection.) Merengue : Dominican Music and Dominican Identity Brittany Earns Her Ears: My Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 5) Sara Earns Her Ears: My Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 3) Cami Earns Her Ears: My Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 6) Elizabeth Earns Her Ears: My Secret Disneyland Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 8) Julianna and Carmela Earn Their Ears: Our Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 7) Amber Earns Her Ears: My Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears Book 1) Brittany Earns Her Ears: My Secret Walt Disney World Cast Member Diary (Earning Your Ears) (Volume 5) Hair Styling Guide: Hair Care For African American And Bi-Racial Children: Quickly style, grow and maintain healthier more beautiful African American and Bi-racial hair in record time. Amsterdam Travel Guide 2017: Shops, Restaurants, Cannabis Coffee Shops, Attractions & Nightlife in Amsterdam (City Travel Guide 2017) The Dominican Racial Imaginary: Surveying the Landscape of Race and Nation in Hispaniola (Critical Caribbean Studies) Dominican Republic Early History, People and environment: The First Colony, Conflict, Government and Politics, Racial and Ethnic Groups Museums in Motion: An Introduction to the History and Functions of Museums (American Association for State and Local History) Decolonizing Museums: Representing Native America in National and Tribal Museums (First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies (University of North Carolina Press Paperback)) VATICAN MUSEUMS: THE QUEUE: A SHORT GUIDE TO SURVIVE THE QUEUE OF THE VATICAN MUSEUMS AND LEARN NEW THINGS Despite the

Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools (Transgressing Boundaries: Studies in Black Politics and Black Communities) Quisqueya la Bella: Dominican Republic in Historical and Cultural Perspective: Dominican Republic in Historical and Cultural Perspective (Perspectives on Latin America and the Caribbean) DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of Dominican Republic

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)