



The Company We Keep: Interracial Friendships and Romantic Relationships from Adolescence to Adulthood



With hate crimes on the rise and social movements like Black Lives Matter bringing increased attention to the issue of police brutality, the American public continues to be divided by issues of race. How do adolescents and young adults form friendships and romantic relationships that bridge the racial divide?

In her book *The Company We Keep*, Grace Kao and co-authors examine how race, gender, socioeconomic status, and other factors affect the formation of interracial friendships and romantic relationships among youth. They highlight two factors that increase the likelihood of interracial romantic relationships in young adulthood: attending a diverse school and having an interracial friendship or romance in adolescence.

Professor Grace Kao: Is IBM Professor of Sociology and Professor of Ethnicity, Race, and Migration (Secondary appointment, by courtesy) at Yale University. She is also Faculty Director of Education Studies. She is also Director of the Center for Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality (CERSI). She is past chair of the Sociology Department. She is Past Vice-President of the American Sociological Association. She was also a recipient of the Award for Contribution to the Field from the ASA Section on Asia and Asian America. She studies race, ethnicity, and immigration as they collectively relate to education and relationships among young people. She also has interests in the effects of migration on young people and has written papers on these topics in Mexico, China, and Spain. Her most recent book is on interracial friendships and romantic relationships among youth. Currently, she is one of a team of researchers (led by Hyunjoon Park) that is examining the transition to adulthood among Korean Millennials. Her work has been cited over 12,500 times

NEST DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

2:00–3:30 pm

Friday, October 29, 2021

A Virtual Presentation

Zoom details to be provided