My Father's Shadow: Intergenerational Conflict In African American Men's Autobiography

David L Dudley

Intergenerational Conflicts In all kinds of ethnic groups in the United States, Asian Americans such as Chinese and Indians are considered as the largest immigrant group. Although conflicts are inevitable between parents and children, immigrant families face more challenges in intergenerational conflicts, and there are several reasons. First of all, the disagreement of different values and assumptions between two cultures mainly cause family conflicts. Intergenerational conflicts may cause negative consequences for both parents and children. Discrepancies of warmth from parents may influence the attitude of immigrant children in a negative way. A young and hotheaded African American man who is the widow’s lover. One night, he is overcome with rage and jealousy and shoots the widow at the Club while she is sitting across from the narrator. The doctor. A good-looking and cultured African American man whom the narrator meets on the ship from Europe to Boston. A well-to-do graduate of Howard University, the doctor and the narrator spend the boat journey discussing race issue. The doctor is “broad-minded” and intelligent, and believes that “colored people” are progressing socially and economically. The two begin a relationship but the narrator is conflicted about whether or not to tell her he is biracial. Once he imparts his secret, she is flustered and does not respond, fleeing the city for the summer. This paper studies about the intergenerational value conflicts between different generations like parent-child relation. More emphasis is la... Intergenerational conflict is normative during youth’s transition to adulthood, with the younger generation searching and struggling the older generation appraising the outcome of their parental guidance for self-identity, the older generation apprehensively appraising the outcome of their parental guidance and responsibilities, where they begin to review and assess their own life attainments and failures. It is far less change in social.
The article reads Dreams from My Father as an attempt to arrive at a state of "functional Blackness," which moves away from questions of racial authenticity and identity politics but recognizes the narrative powers of African American literature to shape a convincing and appealing black self. This article provides a series of close readings of Barack Obama's autobiography Dreams from My Father. It places the narrative within the history of African American literature and rhetoric and argues that Obama uses the text to create a life story that resonates with central concepts of African American selfhood and black male identity, including double consciousness, invisibility, and black nationalism.
The article reads Dreams from My Father as an attempt to arrive at a state of “functional Blackness,” which moves away from questions of racial authenticity and identity politics but recognizes the narrative powers of African American literature to shape a convincing and appealing black self. 1Shortly after Barack Obama had been elected the first African American president of the prestigious Harvard Law Review in 1990, Times Books approached him with the request for an autobiography that would tell the story of his success as a black professional and academic. Obama took time off from his work as a lawyer and wrote Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance, published in 1995.