



SCIENCE FICTION AND RACE

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INTRODUCTION

I researched the topic of science fiction and how race is portrayed. Science fiction is a genre that has been around for quite a while. I believe that it is important to know how race is portrayed in science fiction because it shows how it has incorporated diversity in our future.

RESEARCH QUESTION

How is science fiction serving as a way to explore Latinidad both in the present and in the future?

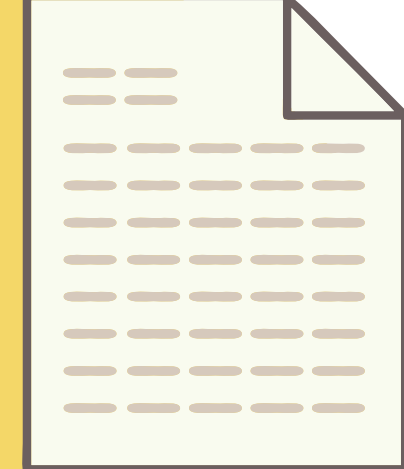
BACKGROUND



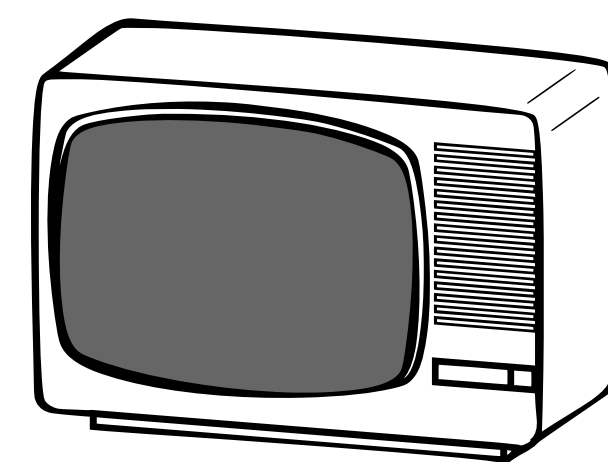
When people think about science fiction, they think about people like Batman or Superman which are white characters. Historically, science fiction has stereotyped superheroes as being white and usually male. Up until now, there have been only a number of super heroes that are people of color but they aren't really that known. It is important to show super heroes of color because it would make Latinx communities or any person of color feel more powerful in a way.

METHODS OF INQUIRY

ARTICLES



TV SHOWS



BOOKS



POP CULTURE IMAGES



BOOK JOURNALS



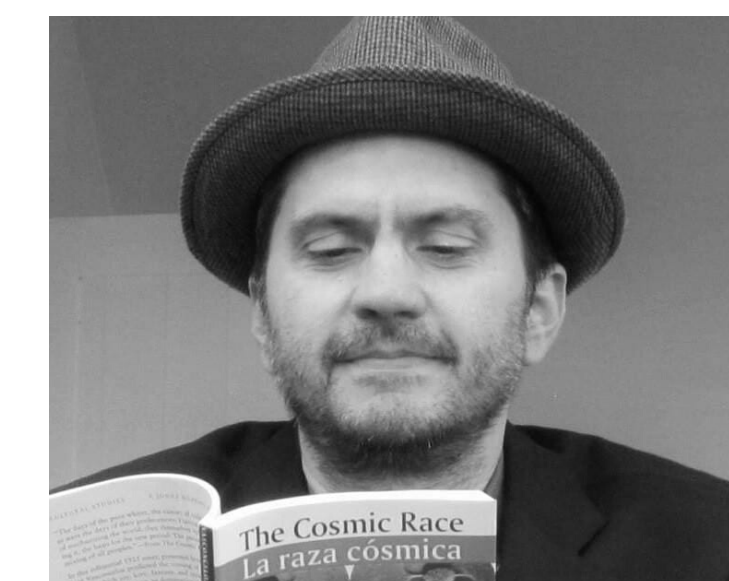
RESULTS

"Science fiction often talks about race by not talking about race, makes real aliens, has hidden race dialogues. Even though it is literature that talks a lot about underclasses or oppressed classes, it does so from a privileged if somewhat generic white space. If science fiction is about social change, let us talk about how this change comes from an "other" space, a black [or brown] space. "

DR. ISIAH LAVENDER III, PH.D PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



This is an image from a TV Show called that 70's Show. Season 2, Episode 25; Cat Fight Club.



From left to right : Malka Older, William Alexander, Carmen Maria Machado, Matthew David Goodwin

These are just four of many Latino authors that have written Science Fiction Books.



From left to right; Miguel O'Hara, Miss America, and Hector Ayala.

This is a picture of Latino heroes that exist in the Marvel comic book universe.

CONCLUSION

I have learned that science fiction plays a big role in how race represents the future. For example, it is important if the Latinx Community to see super heroes that are people of color because representation matters and being reflected would make them feel like a part of something big. This would also lead to dreaming and creating more if people of color see people of color in these comics or films. It would connect with the environment and allow groups, privileged or not, to know different realities. During my research I was impacted by quote that said: **"We exist, we want to save the world, we have a lot of strength and determination, but we don't want to only have one super power which is invisibility."** I believe this quote truly shows how Latinx and people of color in general feel when they watch or read science fiction that has non diverse characters. It would be really great to see more science fiction films, or super heroes that are Latinx, and/or part of the LGBTQ community, or women. It would be great for everyone to see super heroes that aren't stereotypical helping save the world.

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