Gilroy: worksheet

Key concept one: otherness and civilsationism

> 1. Racial otherness, according to Gilroy, was constructed by newspapers in the 1970s and 80s by associating the black community with what qualities?

> 2. What does Gilroy mean by the term 'otherness'?

Above: Brexit referendum poster (2016) - widely critiqued for its construction of immigrants as swamping 'others'

7.1 Think about it: representations of 'otherness' in the contemporary media

- Do contemporary media products continue to produce stories that revolve around 'swamping' themes?
- Are some communities constructed as 'others' by the media? Who and how?
- Are some communities associated with criminal behaviours by the contemporary media?
- Are some communities constructed as having a corrupting influence?
- **Challenge it question:** What evidence could we use to suggest that the media has moved on from the kinds of representations that were created of the nonwhites during the 1970s and 80s?

Your thoughts:

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Above: Newspapers construct Muslim 'others' as dangerous, violent or threatening.

media representation

4. What key historical event does Gilroy suggest accelerated 'civilisationist' perspectives in the media?

5. Which key groups are constructed as 'others' through civilisationist perspectives?

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6. Gilroy suggests that civilisationism has the following four effects on audiences - develop notes for each of the following to help reinforce your understanding of why Gilroy thinks it is problematic.

a. Civilisationism creates a **binary world view**

b. Civilisationism is **racist**

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c. Civilisationism nurtures **cultural incompatibility**

d. Civilisationism nurtures **fear**