

A portrait of Quayshawn Spencer, a Black man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a red and blue striped tie. He is smiling and has his arms crossed. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

Quayshawn Spencer

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A Radical Solution to the Race Problem

Abstract. One debate that metaphysicians of race have been consumed with since the 1990s is what we can call *the US race debate*, which is the debate about what the nature and reality of race is according to the dominant ways that ‘race’ and race terms are used to classify people in contemporary and ordinary American English, which is what I call *US race talk*. Throughout the history of the US race debate, all US race theories have been *monist* insofar as they have claimed that there is a single nature and reality status for race in US race talk. In this paper, I will show that all US race theories have been wrong. This is because, as I will argue, the correct US race theory has a radically pluralist form. This is an instance of a metametaphysical position that I call *radical racial pluralism*. After defending radical racial pluralism in the US race debate, I explore interesting implications of the view.

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