Social life hard for minorities

I'm sitting here deep in thought now. This has been a very nice weekend. I dropped one course last Friday and I'm getting ready for the "age" tonight. I guess I should be enough to make me happy, but sometimes it is tiring me. What irks me is the attitude of people in MIT.

Let me first state that social life at MIT, as most students know it, is minimal at best. One obvious reason for this is the third to one male/female ratio. The ratio is even more staggering when one considers that as a black male in an institution which is four percent black, the available pool is scarce. Besides, the best-looking black women at MIT seem to prefer white men. This brings me to an identity problem: who is black at MIT?

According to the President's Report last year, there were 319 blacks at MIT. This is a very deceptive statistic when you consider that well over half of these males know very little about blacks. There are a variety of reasons for this. One is that some students come from geographical locations where blacks live — such as Michigan, New Hampshire.

I have heard that the main reason for most blacks with an identity problem is the simple fact that they are insecure and ashamed. Living in the second most racist nation on earth (behind South Africa), most people only see the dark side of blacks. They are the high crime rate, high unemployment, unskilled and uneducated people. However, if one knew of black history and black culture one could read between the lines. They would realize that the underlying reason for this dark side is the restrictive and racist attitudes schemed by whites with regard to education for blacks. It seems the only way to describe the predicament that most blacks are in with respect to education is to imagine being two laps behind in the mile run and someone telling you to catch up.

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The attitude held toward blacks is not exactly favorable either mainly because of misinformation. One of the most fascinating facts I have heard blacks tell me when they visited Europe is that there is a lack of intermingling and interracial relationships. One would not be able to discern this by using MIT as a model. According to the President's Report, last year, there were 319 blacks at MIT. This is a very deceptive statistic when you consider that well over half of these males knew very little about blacks. There are a variety of reasons for this. One is that some students come from geographical locations where blacks live — such as Michigan, New Hampshire.

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