

Race Inequality in Education

David Gillborn

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www.birmingham.ac.uk/crre

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/David_Gillborn

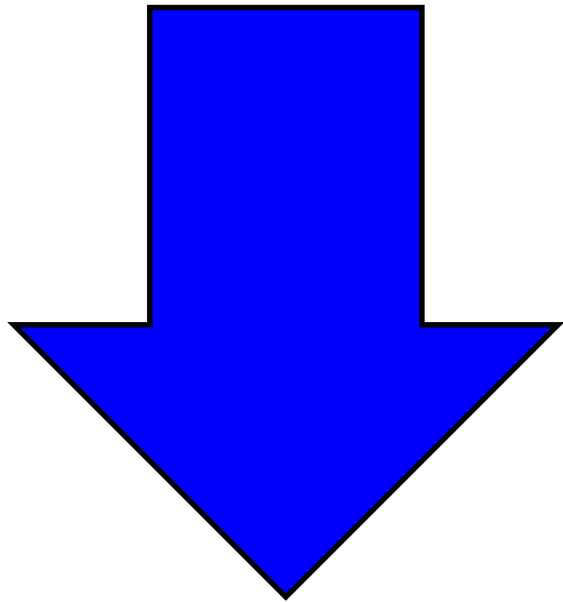
Raising the Achievement of Black Caribbean Pupils

NATIONAL CONFERENCE - Friday 26 January 2018 (9.00am-3.30pm)

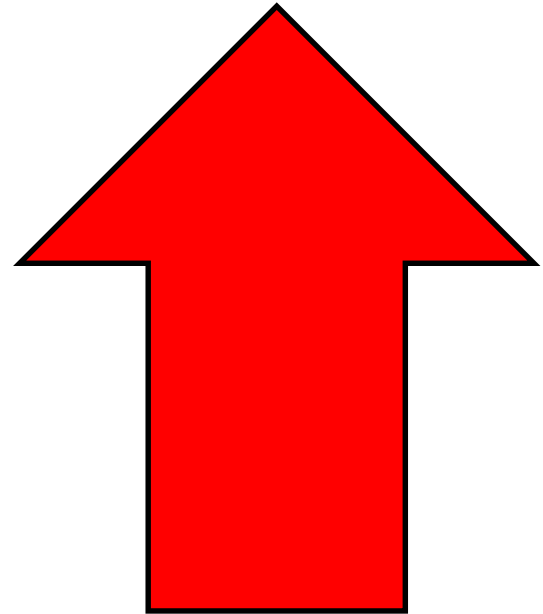
Jeffery Hall, UCL Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL

- **‘Race’ & Racism**
- **Racism in Education**
 - White people as race victims
 - The Black/White achievement gap

Thinking & Talking about *RACE*



*a matter of
perspective*



Thinking & Talking about *RACE*



it is almost universally agreed that race is a social construct. In 2005, only two years after the sequencing of the human genome, the editors of *Nature Biotechnology* put it like this: ***‘Pooling people in race silos is akin to zoologists grouping raccoons, tigers, and okapis on the basis that they are all stripey.’*** Perhaps, then, the better question is: Why do we continue to search for a connection between race and genetics

Silverstein, J. 2015. Genes Don't Cause Racial-Health Disparities, Society Does. The Atlantic. <http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2015/04/genes-dont-cause-racial-health-disparities-society-does/389637/>

Racism



Traditional view of racism

←
An exceptional occurrence driven by crude race hatred.

Racism



Traditional view of racism

An exceptional occurrence driven by crude race hatred.

Critical understanding of racism

Complex, subtle and extensive.
Racist acts can be well-intentioned.



Racism in Education

Daily Mail
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016 www.dailymail.co.uk

65p

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■ **By 16, white British children lag behind 12 ethnic groups** ■ **They're being let down by schools – and their parents**

RETRAYAL OF WHITE PUPILS

By Sarah Harris

WHITE British pupils are being overtaken at school by students from ten other ethnic groups by the time they sit their GCSEs, an alarming new report reveals today.

At the age of five, white British students are among the top three highest achievers, and their shocking slip down the rankings by the time they reach 16 was last night blamed on the education system and their parents.

The trend will renew concern about the under-achievement of white working-class pupils, in particular, which MPs have previously labelled as 'staggeringly low'.

Researchers from the CentreForum think-tank said pupils without English as a first language often made faster progress because teachers helped them catch up and their families were more supportive.

Education experts said white British children were being 'let down' by schools and also by parents who did not fully support their education. In contrast, immigrant children were 'keen to make use of the educational opportunities' on offer and received huge support from their aspirational families.

Professor Alan Smithers, director of the Centre for Education and Employment Research at Buckingham University, said the results were 'concerning'.

He added: 'On the face of it, the education system is letting down white British children and we must examine the reasons with great urgency. The children of immigrants

Turn to Page 4



Attack: Louiza Patikas and Timothy Watson play Helen Archer and Rob Titchener

Archers shock as abused wife stabs her husband
SEE PAGE THREE

Cholesterol drug without side effects of statins

SCIENTISTS last night hailed a new drug that can cut levels of bad cholesterol by half – without the side effects of statins.

The breakthrough treatment, called Repatha, is in line to be the first cholesterol-busting medicine since the 1980s.

Trial results presented in the US yesterday revealed the drug had a 'significantly greater' impact than existing alternatives to statins.

More than 7 million patients take statin pills, but up to a fifth have to stop because of muscle pain.

Repatha has not been approved by NHS drugs rationing watchdog NICE, which had said it was not convinced the drug would reduce heart attacks and strokes.

But officials have indicated they may change their decision, with final guidance to be issued at the end of the month.

SEE PAGE FIVE

Last Updated: Thursday, 31 January 2008, 17:54 GMT

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White working class boys failing

How working class white boys are failed by schools

The problem of low educational attainment among white working class students

White working-class children 'performing worst at school'

5 UPDATES 18 June 2014 at 2:56am

White working-class boys are the worst performing ethnic group at school

The Telegraph

9:58AM GMT 30 Oct 2015

theguardian
website of the year

Schools must focus on struggling white working-class pupils

Poor white boys are the new oppressed

DAILY MAIL

PUBLISHED: 01:53, 11 October 2017 | UPDATED: 02:08, 11 October 2017

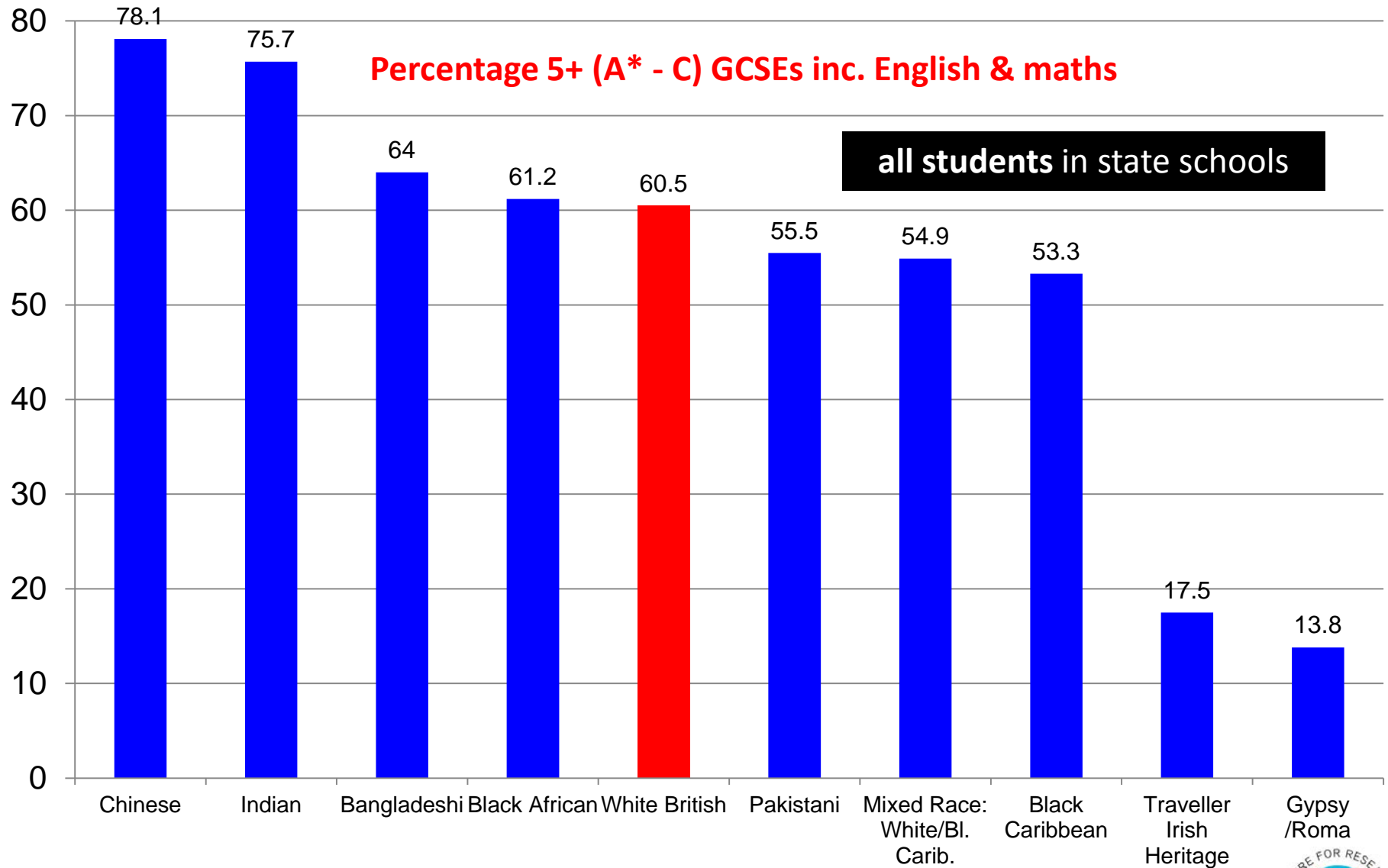
White working class boys are schools' worst performing ethnic group by age of 11

ARK
:43, 20 March 2009

MailOnline

NewStatesman PUBLISHED 28 MARCH 2013 10:53

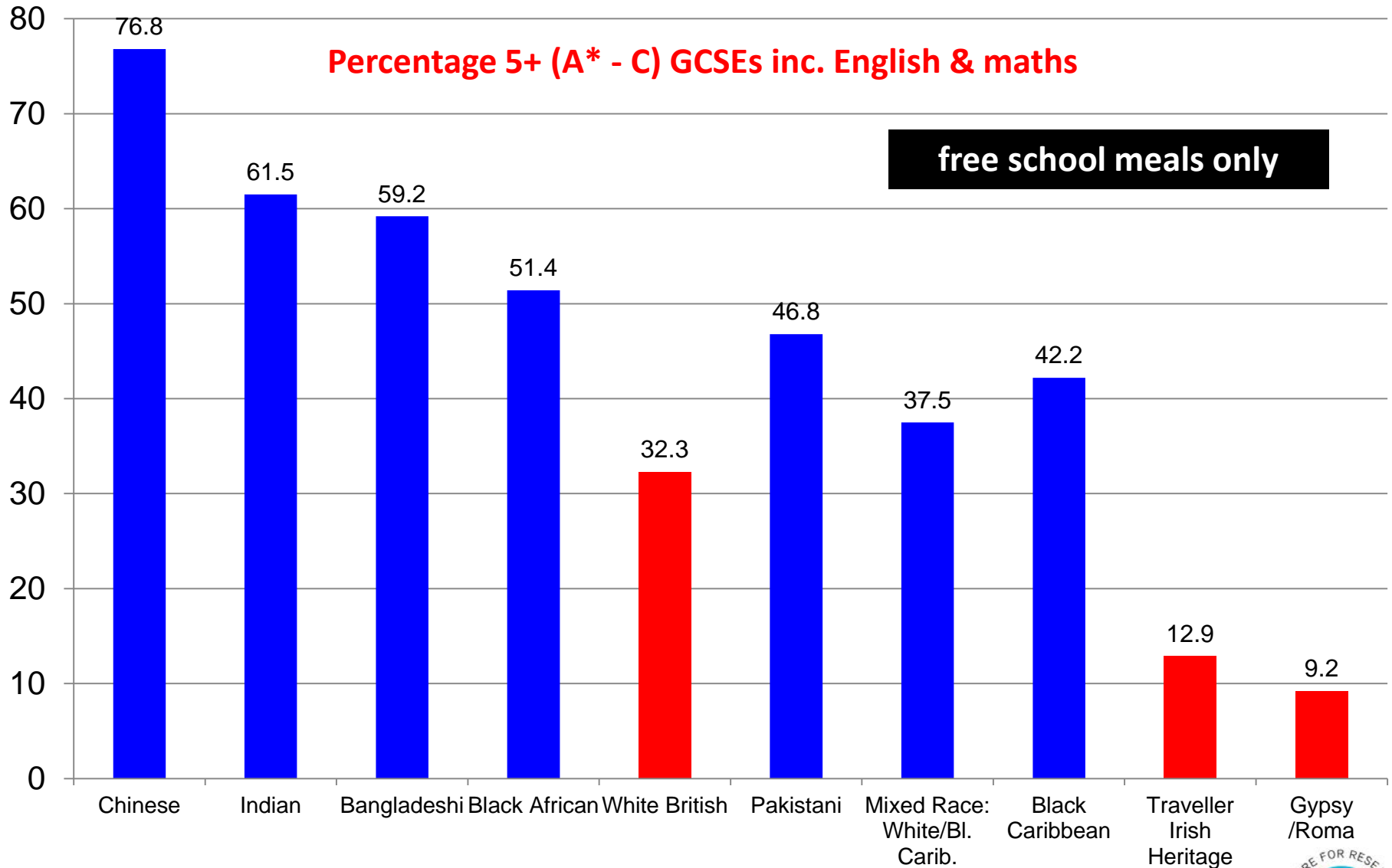
Creating White 'Victims'



Creating White 'Victims'

Percentage 5+ (A* - C) GCSEs inc. English & maths

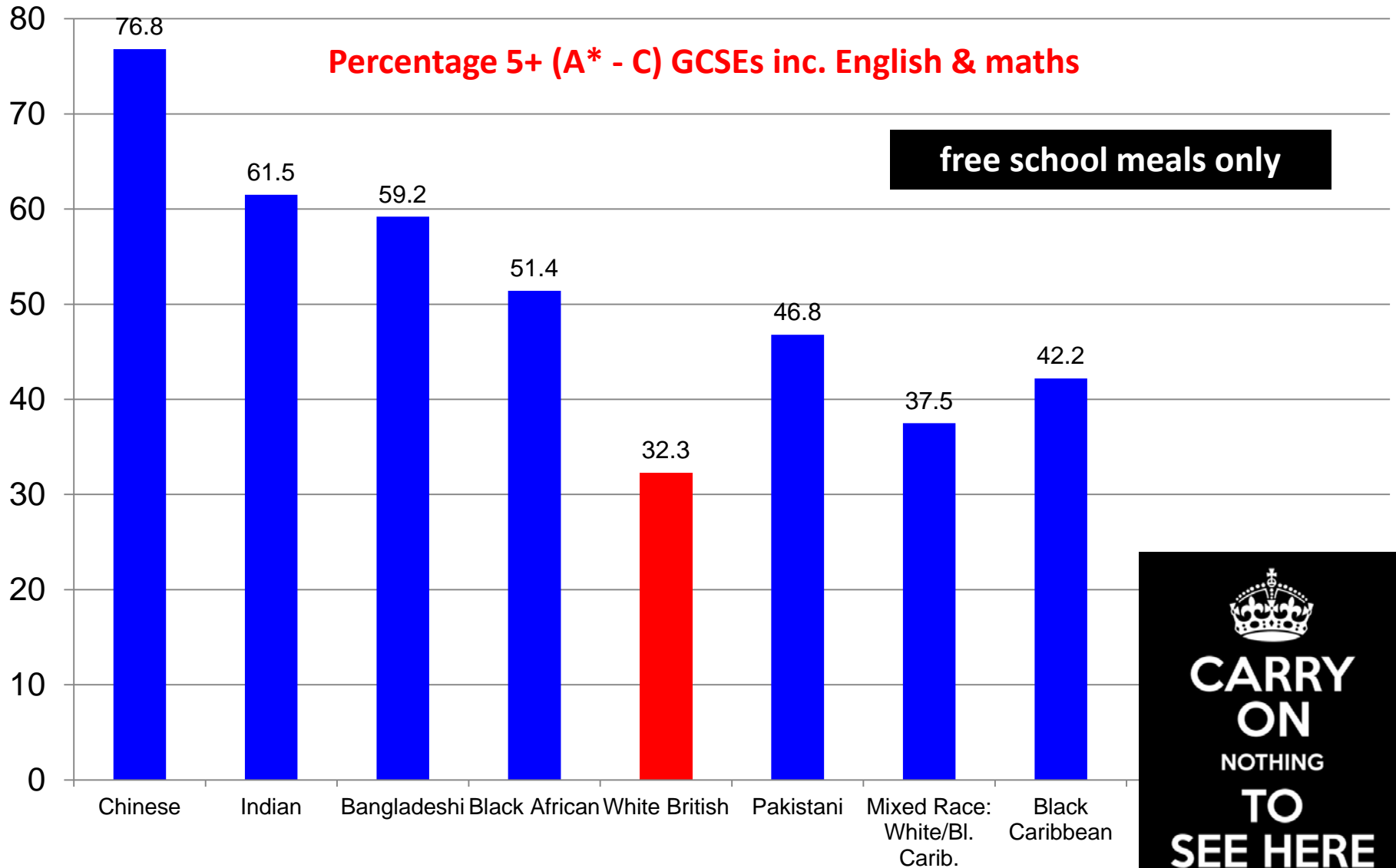
free school meals only



Creating White 'Victims'

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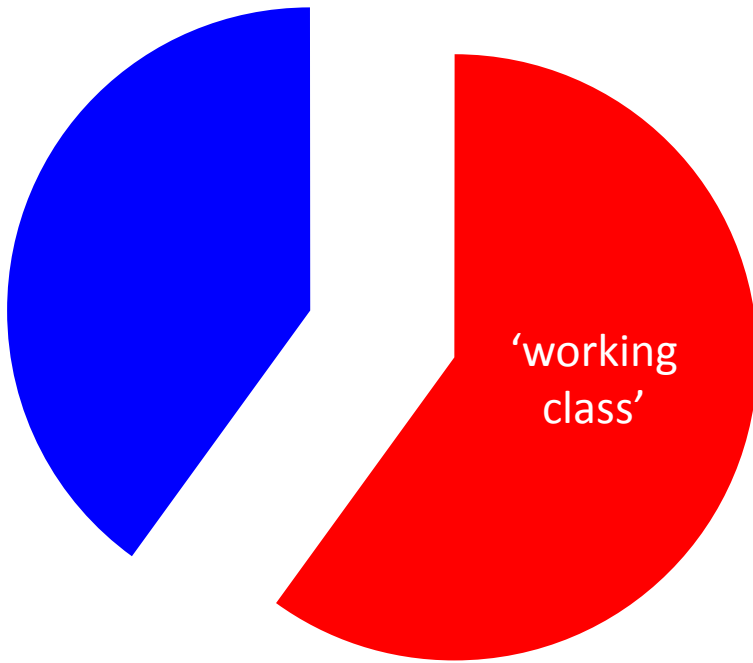
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Source: Department for Education. 5+ higher grade GCSEs incl. Eng. & maths, 2013, by ethnic origin, state maintained schools, England.



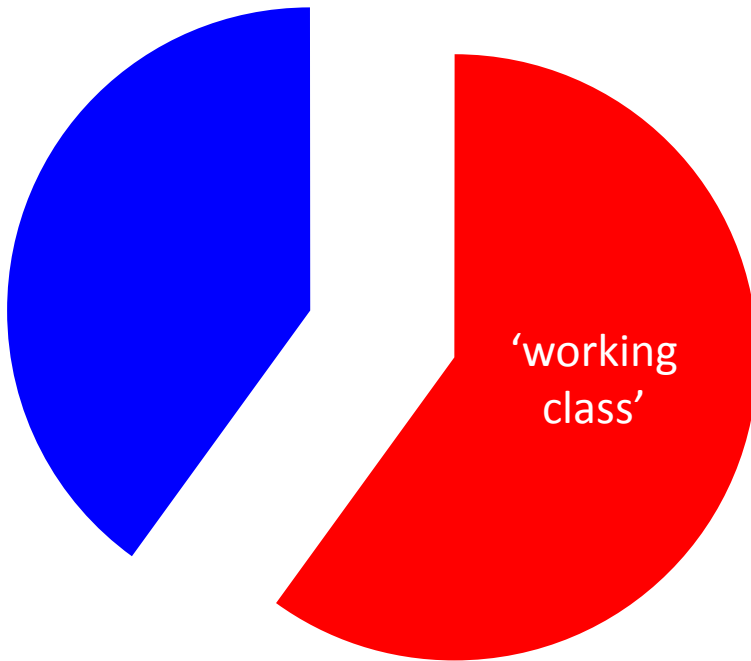
Creating White 'Victims'

Self-identify as 'working class'

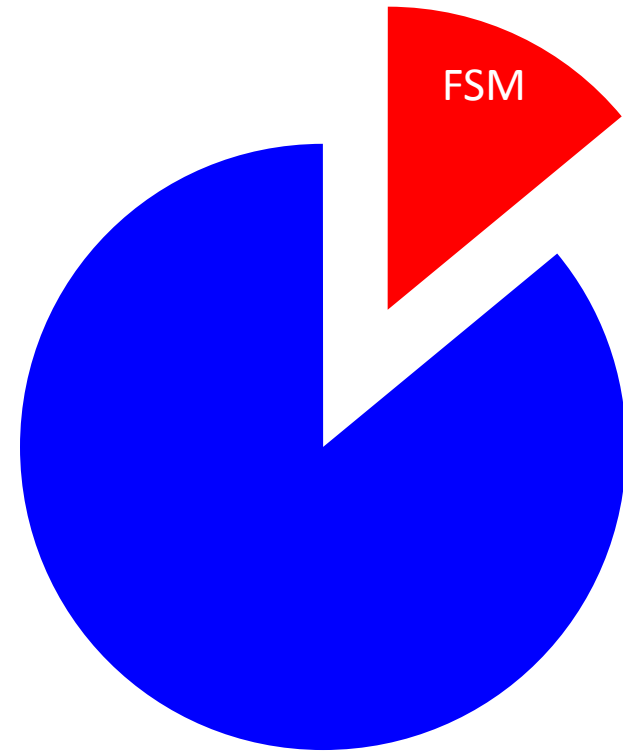


Creating White 'Victims'

Self-identify as 'working class'



Free School Meal eligible



Prioritize White Children

‘Why is it that white kids are doing so much worse?
We have to tackle that as a society.
For the future of Britain it obviously matters more to
tackle white underperformance just because there
are more white people.

You cannot have your dominant racial group doing
badly in school and expect to flourish as a country
in the next generation and beyond.
That just won’t hold so we need to tackle that one
really explicitly.



Dr Tim Leunig, Associate Professor in Economic History, London School of Economics (2013), Chief Analyst and Senior Ministerial Policy Adviser at the Department for Education (2014-2017)



House of Commons
Education Committee

Underachievement in Education by White Working Class Children

First Report of Session 2014-15

*Report, together with formal minutes relating
to the report*

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 11 June 2014*

HC 142
INCORPORATING HC 727, SESSION 2013-14
Published on 18 June 2014
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£0.00

The Centre for Research in Race and Education (CRRE) drew our attention to a mismatch between the proportion of children who were eligible for free school meals and the proportion of adults who would self-define as working class ... The logical result of equating FSM with working class was that 85% of children were being characterised as middle class or above (p. 8, emphasis added)



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Nevertheless, free school meals data is readily available, has the advantage of being easy to conceptualise, and has been consistently collected for many years ... **Pragmatism** has led us to pursue analyses of free school meals data as an insight into the issue that Ofsted and others have raised. (p. 10, emphasis added)



Report publication: Underachievement in education by white working class children

Sean Coughlan

BBC News education correspondent

[More from Sean](#)



Why do white working class pupils fail in school?

Longer school day needed for working-class pupils, say MPs

The Commons education select committee says that schools should consider a 12-hour day to give working-class white British pupils space and time to do their homework

13 Ju

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Unde
Class



Working class white British pupils need a longer school day to help them catch up with their peers from other ethnic groups, MPs said. Photo: Alamy

White working class children are lagging behind, report warns



British Educational Research Journal
Vol. 43, No. 5, October 2017, pp. 848–874

DOI: 10.1002/berj.3297

Moving the goalposts: Education policy and 25 years of the Black/White achievement gap

David Gillborn^{a,★}, Sean Demack^b, Nicola Rollock^a and
Paul Warmington^c

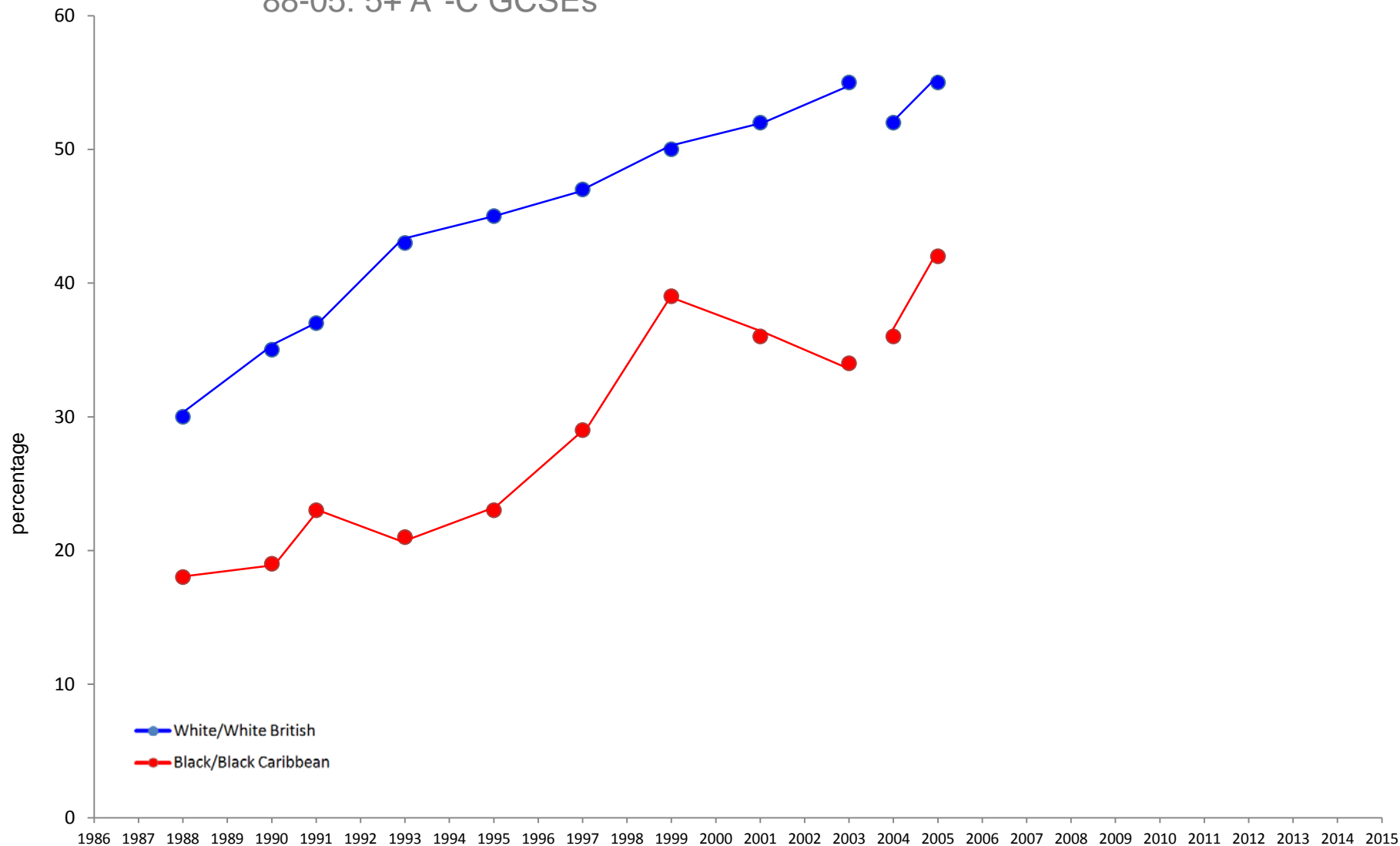


Research funded by the *Society for Educational Studies*
National Research Award 2013

Sources: all official data: 1988 to 2003 SFR 04/2005; 2004 DfES (2006) p. 41; 2005
DfES (2006) p. 42; 2006 SFR 46/2006; 2007 SFR 38/2007; 2008 to 2012 SFR 04/2013.

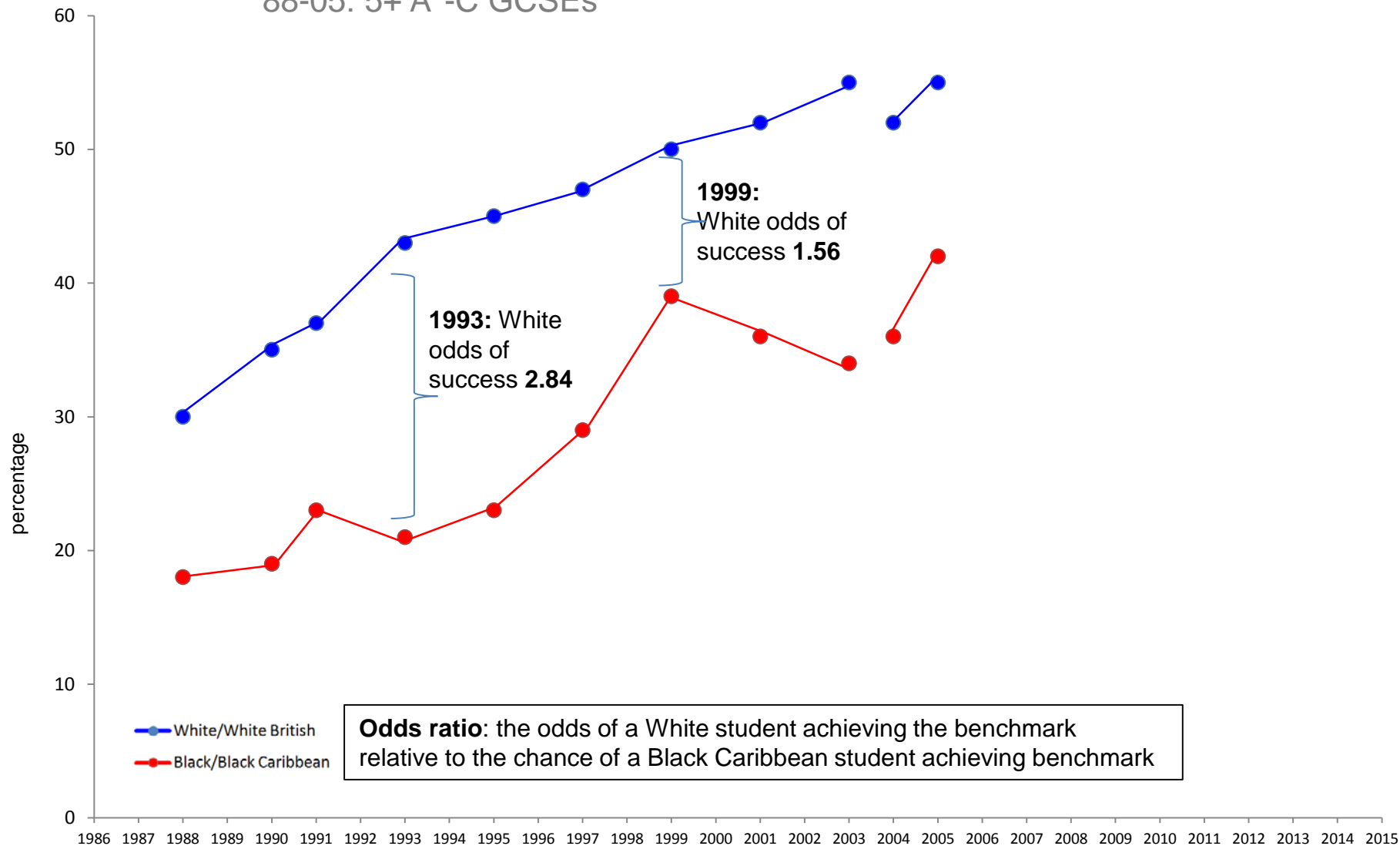
The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2005

88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs



The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2005

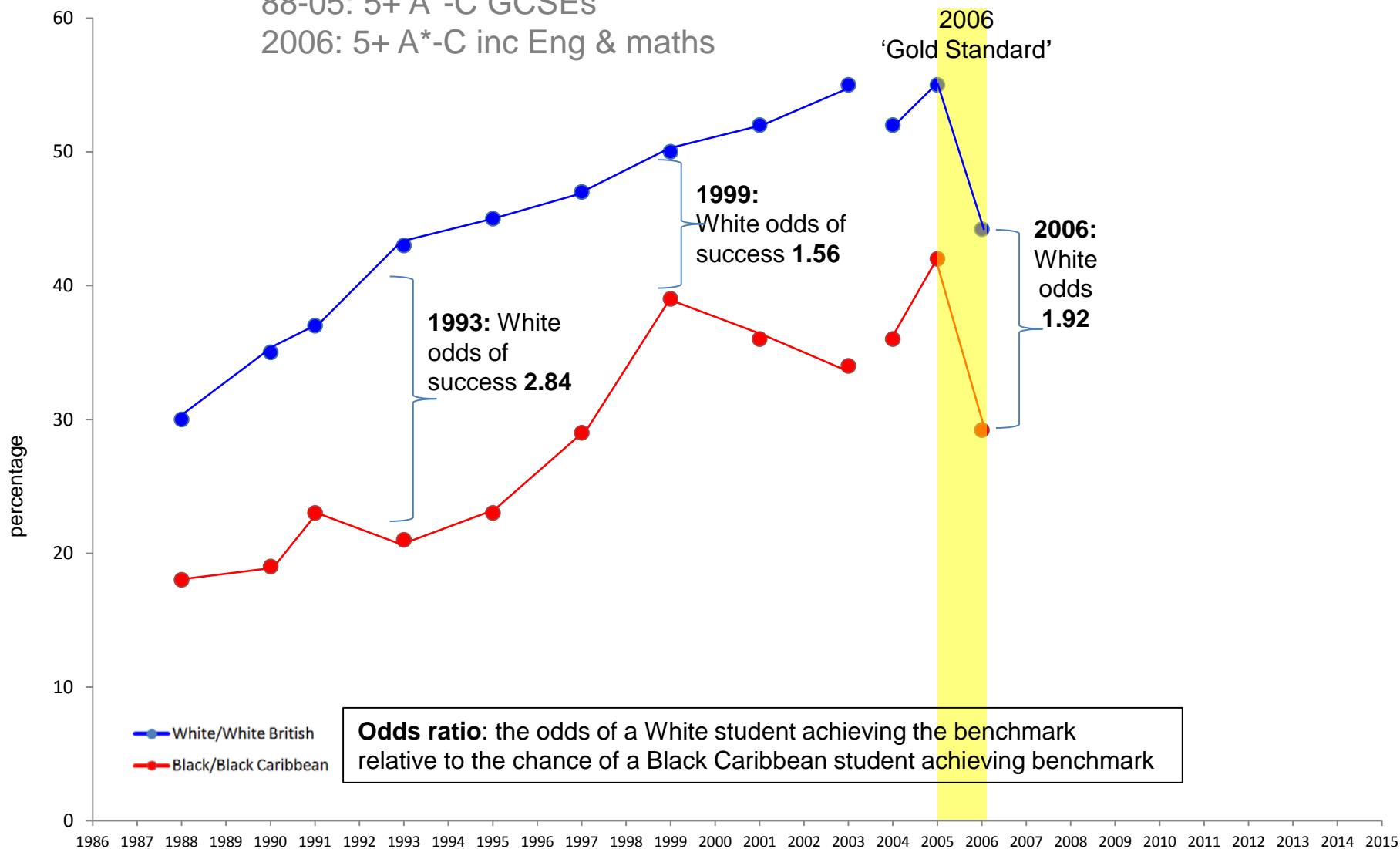
88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs



The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2006

88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs

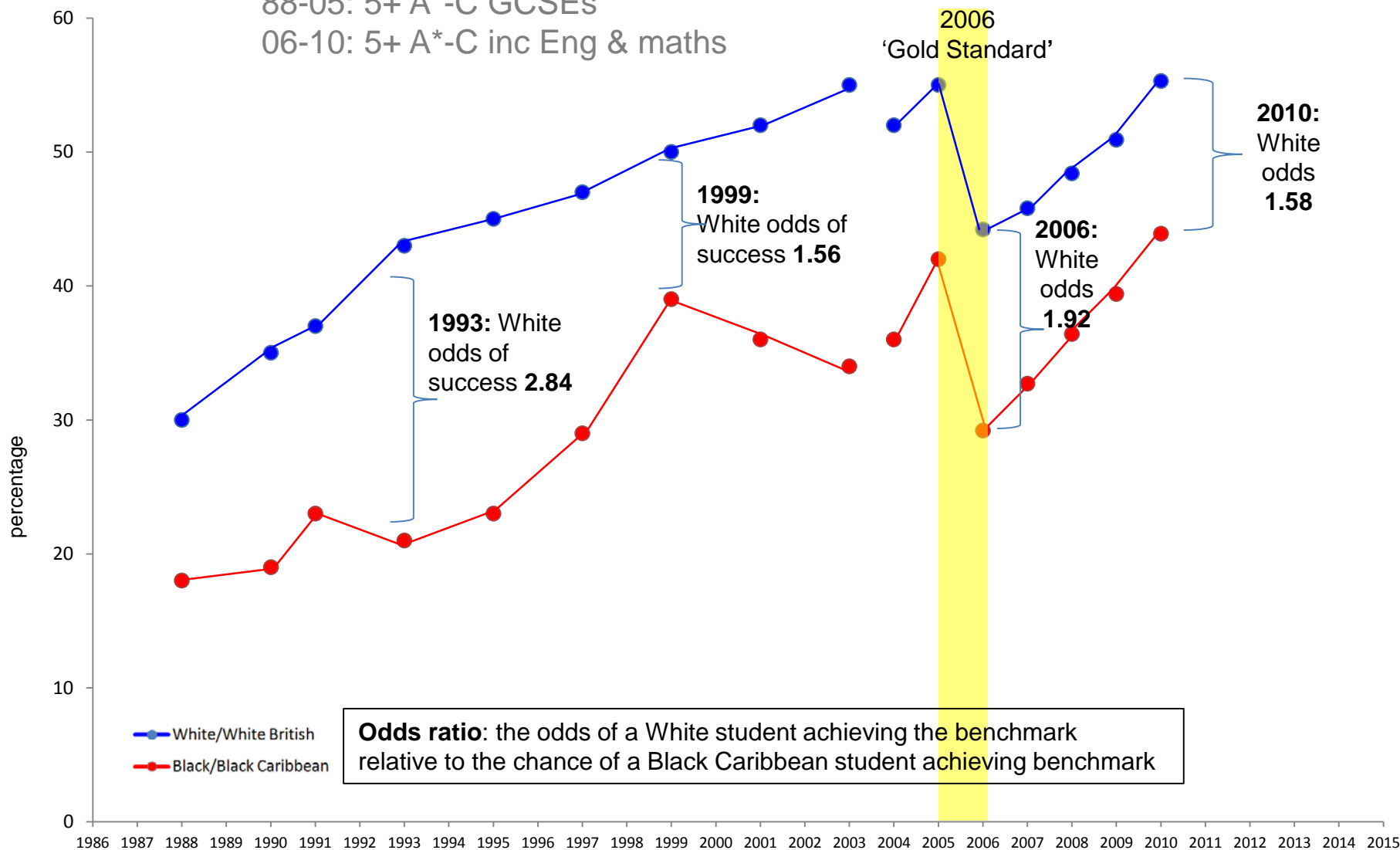
2006: 5+ A*-C inc Eng & maths



The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2010

88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs

06-10: 5+ A*-C inc Eng & maths

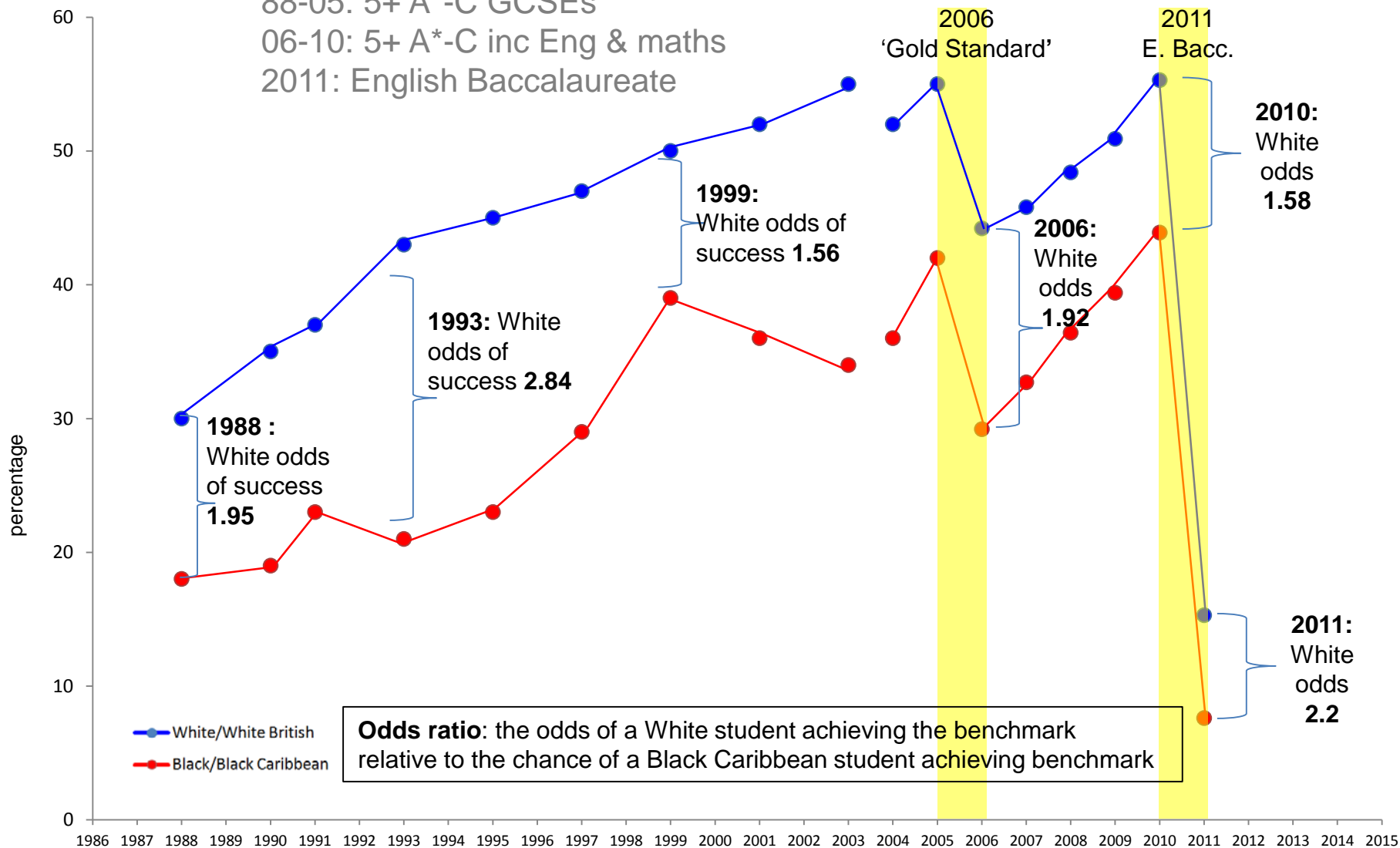


The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2011

88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs

06-10: 5+ A*-C inc Eng & maths

2011: English Baccalaureate

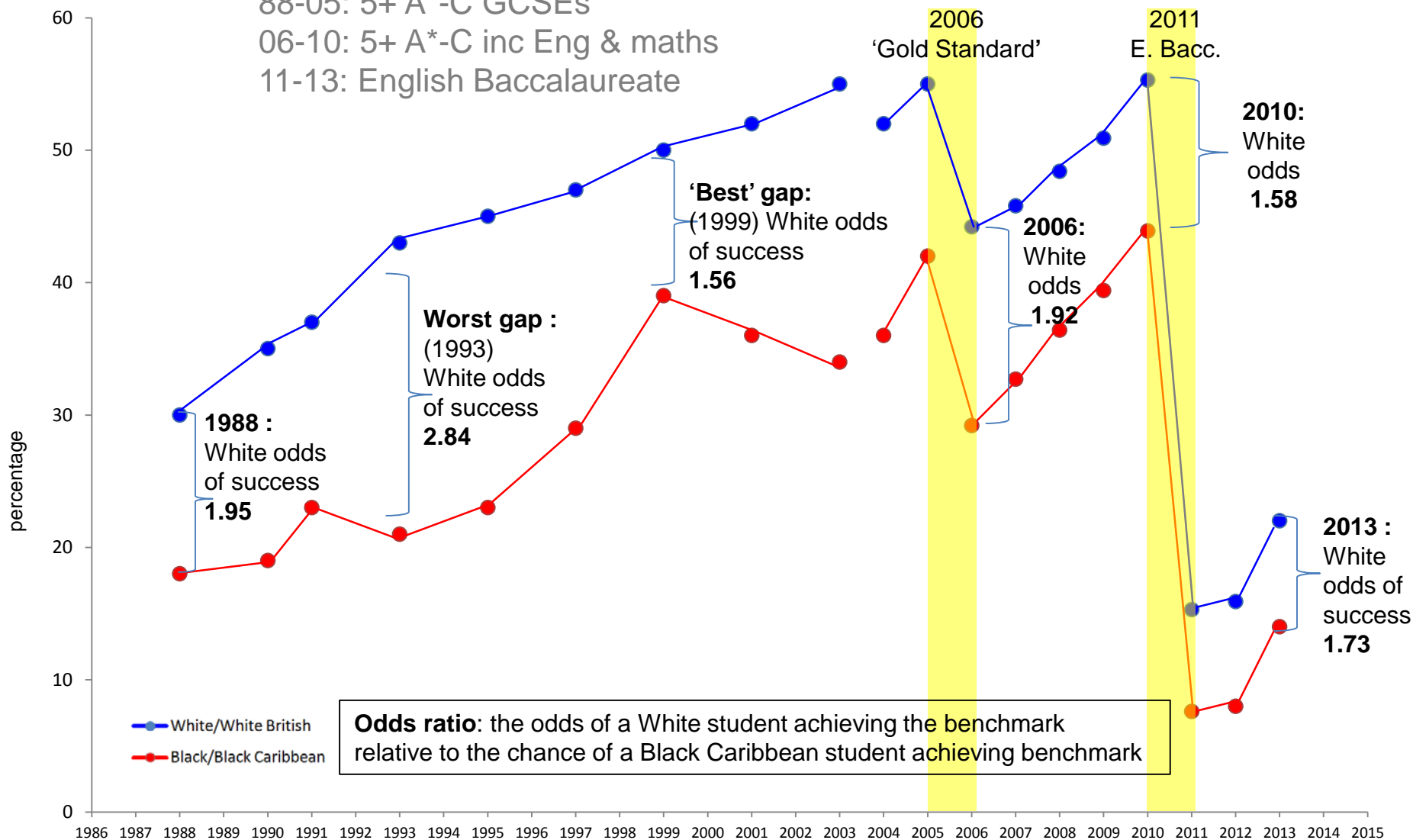


The Black/White Achievement Gap: 1988 - 2013

88-05: 5+ A*-C GCSEs

06-10: 5+ A*-C inc Eng & maths

11-13: English Baccalaureate





Critical understanding of racism

Complex, subtle and extensive.
Racist acts can be well-intentioned.
Colourblind approaches are no defence.

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more ideas and resources

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CENTRE for
RESEARCH in RACE
and EDUCATION

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**RACISM AND
EDUCATION
COINCIDENCE OR
CONSPIRACY?**



David Gillborn
Foreword by Richard Delgado

***Racism and Education: coincidence or
conspiracy?***

David Gillborn (2008)

***The Colour of Class:
the educational
Strategies of
the Black middle classes***

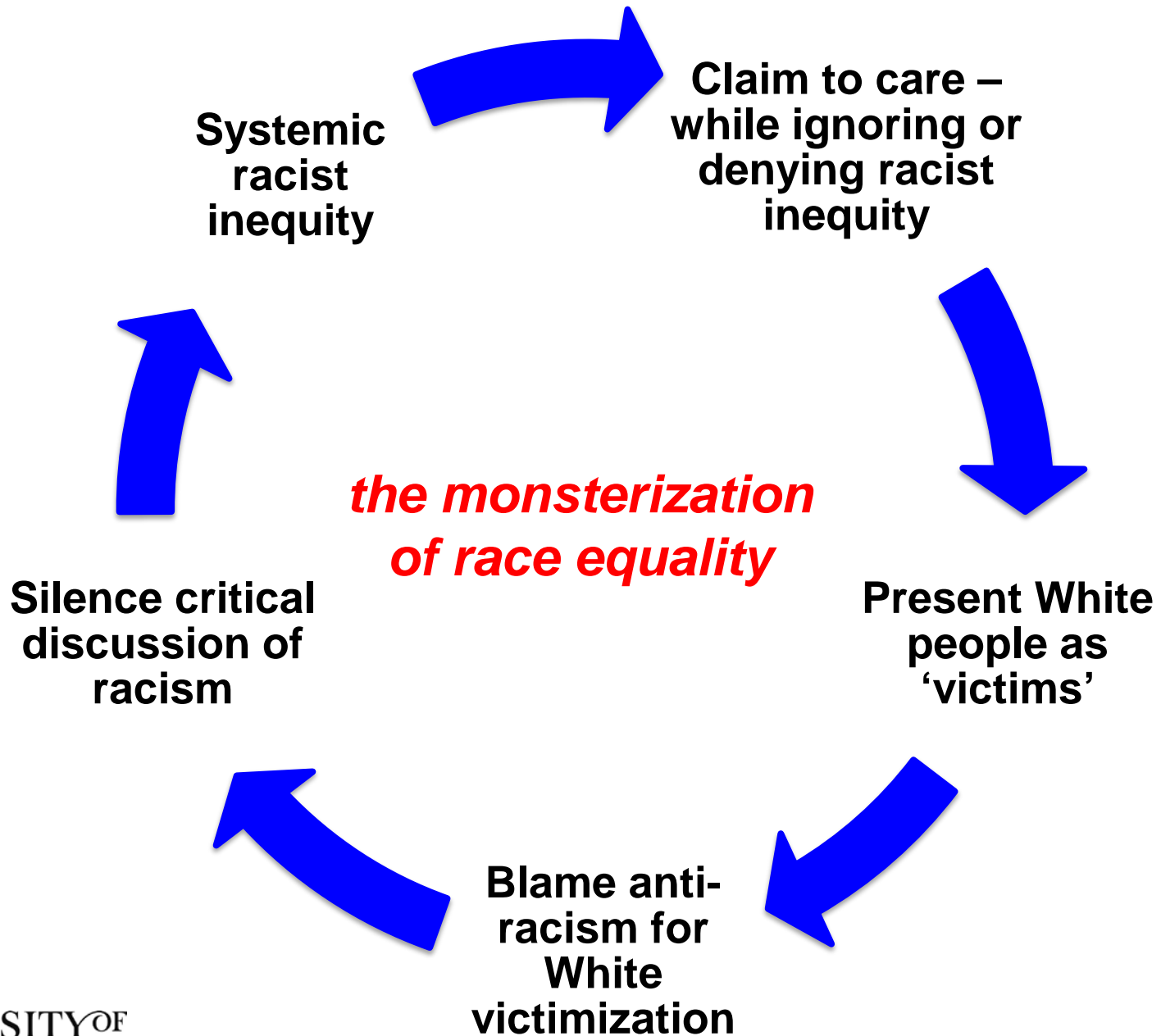
Nicola Rollock, David Gillborn, Carol Vincent & Stephen J. Ball (2015)

**The Colour
of Class**

The educational strategies
of the Black middle classes

NICOLA ROLLOCK, DAVID GILLBORN,
CAROL VINCENT AND STEPHEN J. BALL





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