

Affirmative action

The white race deems itself to be the dominant race in this country. And so it is, in prestige, in achievements, in education, in wealth, and in power. So, I doubt not, it will continue to be for all time, if it remains true to its great heritage, and holds fast to the principles of constitutional liberty. But in view of the constitution, in the eye of the law, there is in this country, no superior, dominant, ruling class of citizens. There is no caste here. Our constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens.

from John Harlan's dissent in Plessy v. Ferguson
[NOTE: Concurring opinions in SFFA v. Harvard & UNC affirm the last sentence, which defines color blindness as a fiction based on white supremacy]