**Article and Podcast Summary**

Student’s Name:

Institution:

Course:

Date:

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**Article’s Main Points**

Stephanie Young’s essay narrates how immigrant mothers and interracial daughters establish, execute, and settle hybrid identities. The writer expertly matches her mother's experiences with hers, assessing how they build the mother-daughter connection and negotiate cultural and racial identities amidst the Asian-American discourse. Young affirms that people's identities are significantly shaped by their places of birth, residences, experiences, and the framework of "home." Thus, living in the midwest influenced how she and her mother established, executed, and settled their identities. Young’s mother was completely isolated from society after having her first child, and according to the writer, the experience was typical for “war brides.” Young and other mixed-race kids are a product of the ethnic and cultural alienation from Korean-American society and contemporary American society.

Moreover, Young identifies location, language, and the pressure between assimilation and preservation as the primary ingredients of identity formation. Location confirms how her mother’s identity was shaped by the mere fact of finding herself isolated in Indiana. Unlike the native land where women came to help, Young’s mother had to improvise and push herself through motherhood. In the same sense, language influenced their identity since foreigners had to learn English to become Americans. Learning the language was a fundamental component of social acceptance, and Young’s mother had to adapt to survive. Overall, Young incorporates the auto-ethnography research method since it helps the audience experience the dilemmas she and her mother faced when establishing, executing, and settling hybrid identities. Readers move along with the paper, participating in each decision point and engaging morally, structurally, and emotionally.

**Auto-ethnography in the Podcast**

One of the young girls in the podcast states that people often ask her "what she is" or the "framework of her race." Like most mixed children, the interviewee considers such questions objectifying and arguably condescending. Such attitudes, especially towards Asian women, have made separating the status quo from historical contexts challenging. The harmful acts have gradually facilitated public harassment of mixed-race women and men, making them prime targets of sexual abuse and other forms of attacks.

Young narrates a similar reaction from her mother, “and if she senses that individuals are not treating her equally because she is ‘‘Oriental,’’ then she is upset (Young, 2009).” This quote typifies the anguish of most of the kids in the podcast when they find people treating them differently. Despite going to extreme lengths to establish hybrid identities, mixed-race children are constantly reminded of their diversity across gender and racial lines. Consequently, most kids work relentlessly to find where their identity lies, which could be quite challenging given the status quo in American society. Like Young’s mother, mixed-race children are isolated from their identities and mainstream society with racism still going unaddressed.

References

Young, S. L. (2009). Half and Half: An (Auto)ethnography of Hybrid Identities in a Korean American Mother-Daughter Relationship. *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*, *2*(2), 139–167. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17513050902759512>