Wallerstein’s “Truth as Opiate: Rationality and Rationalization”
Commodification of everything is approaching

Racism challenged by anti-systemic movements
Universalism challenged by anti-systemic movements

RACISM

“Ideological justification of the hierarchization of the work-force and its highly unequal distribution of reward”

This ideology claims (post-hoc) that differentials in rewards are due to genetic or cultural traits.

Providing a legitimized code (racism) for income distribution is one of three consequences of the high correlation between ethnicity and economic role. The other two are:

1. Reproduction of work-force (and flexibility by group mobility)
2. Built-in training (socialization) mechanism

Racism is used to produce workers

UNIVERSALISM

An epistemology that claims that “there exist meaningful general statements about the world—the physical world, the social world—that are universally and permanently true.”

Often called “westernization” or “modernization”

Two main motives behind replacing “tradition” with universal “neutral” culture:

1. Economic efficiency
2. Political security: Westernized “elites” are allegedly less likely to revolt

Scientific culture justifies differential rewards and promotes innovation. Meritocracy allows individual mobility without threatening hierarchical work-force allocation.

Universalism is used to produce cadres

Two ideological pillars of capitalism