

Abstract

My research is about the Irish American experience. What is Irish American suffrage, and how has Irish culture played a role in the development of American society? Much of my research is primary sources. There is not much, if any, formal education on the Irish experience. Therefore, not many scholars focus on publishing about it. However, I am an Irish American myself, and I know there is history to be found. I have uncovered census information, political cartoons, secondary research on medical records, Irish literature, and several famous Irish Americans with disregarded Irish roots. Through an analysis of primary sources and academic writing, as well as my expertise of the topic, I have been able to put together a story of the discrimination, the anxiety, the bravery, and the sacrifices of Irish immigrants and their decedents.

It is important to study the Irish influence on American history, because like other poor and marginalized ethnic groups, the Irish were victims of medical, labor, and political abuse. It is important to recognize the nuances of prejudice nature in America. If there is a prejudice barrier within the white race, it is important to recognize it. Whether legally white or not, opportunities have been and are being withheld from the Irish because they are perceived as the inferior whites. My research shows that assuming the Irishmen's prosperity may be impossible when grouping them with Englishmen. British prominence in historical literature has projected a false sense of identity on the Irish community. Consequently, their success in society may be projecting a false sense of mobility on the Irish community of today.

Annotated Bibliography

for "Green Blood: Feminists before Feminism was Cool"

Breathnach, Ciara. "Immigrant Irishwomen and Maternity Services in New York and Boston, 1860–1911."

Medical history 66, no. 1 (2022): 3–23.

This article is about how the medical system reacted to the mass migration of Irish immigrants into America during and after the Potato Famine. It focuses on women's health, and how Irish women greatly influenced the transformation of women's health care. Much detail is given as to how they were viewed as both the problem and the solution to medical care. I will primarily use this source to tell the story of Mary Mallon and Ellen Maloney, as well as provide details about Irish decent suffrage. (1860-1874. Civil War and Reconstruction eras)

Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Audie Murphy." Encyclopedia Britannica, December 5, 2023.

<https://www-britannica-com.lacc.idm.oclc.org/biography/Audie-Murphy>.

This is a quick article about the life and impressive work of Major Audie Murphy. I will use this for my section about famous Americans with unrecognized Irish decent. With this section, I plan to retell their life in an Irish perspective to exemplify the Irish impact on America. (WWII)

Collins, William J., and Ariell Zimran. "The Economic Assimilation of Irish Famine Migrants to the United States." *Explorations in economic history* 74 (2019): 101302-.

This article talks about the Irish immigrants from before and during the Potato Famine era. It is a study about how their children have adjusted and maneuver through the American social and economic

systems compared to other immigrants of during the Age of Mass Migration: German and British.

Though much of the article focuses on the growth from generation to generation, I will be focusing just on the immigrants' children and how they compare to each other. I will use this to explain the start of discrimination within the white race. 1840-1920. Mass Migration. Civil War-Immigration Act)

CR's Video Vaults. "John F. Kennedy Addresses the Irish Government, 1963." YouTube, August 24, 2020.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xyr0ORFi-JY&list=PLzQ39ie_gl2bazgY9VZqVVfBHCWNUy9bs&index=10.

This is a YouTube video of JFK gifting the people of Ireland a Irish Brigade flag. It was in recognition of all the Irish soldiers and the Fighting 69th. In his speech, JFK expresses his pride and gratitude for his Irish heritage. I will use this in my section about famous Irish Americans with an unrepresented Irish ethnicity. The speech also mentions how Benjamin Franklin was received by the Irish Parliament in 1772, which makes him another famous, unrecognized, Irish American. (Cold War era)

Dowd, Christopher. "Irish American Fiction from World War II to JFK: Anxiety, Assimilation, and Activism.

Beth O'Leary Anish." *Melus* (2022).

This article is a review Anish's book, which provides reviews of several pieces of Irish literature. The article organizes the pieces to illustrate the life of an Irish American during the Cold War. There was much anxiety for the future of Irish culture and reflection on nostalgia of Irish heritage. I will use it as a climax point in the story of how old Irish culture has faded into a washed-out version of contemporary Irish culture. (1943-1956, 1990. Late WWII and Cold War era)

Giemza, Bryan. "Turned Inside Out: Black, White, and Irish in the South." *Southern Cultures* 18, no. 1 (2012): 34–57. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26217366>.

This is an article about how Irishmen were treated during the era of slavery and during the Civil War. He goes into detail about what it meant to be an indentured servant. He also differentiates between Southern Irish decent and Northern Irish decent. Since Northern Ireland is still owned by Europe, this is an important distinction when determining the nuances of the discrimination within the white race. I will use this source to give details of this discrimination as well as explain how Irish servants were treated. (Civil War era)

Griffin, Martin I. J. "HOW THE UNITED STATES CENSUS SCOTCHES THE IRISH." *The American Catholic Historical Researches* 8, no. 1 (1912): 33–35. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/44375008>.

This is a primary source by an Irish American during 1911. He expresses his concerns and research on how the census classifies Scotch-Irish as Scottish even though they live in Northern Ireland. I will use this when analyzing why so many famous Irish Americans are having their Irishness go unrepresented. (Progressive era)

Ignatiev, N. (2015). *How the Irish became white*. Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group.

African Americans were called Smoked Irish, and Irish people were called White Niggers or niggers turned inside out. I will use this to show the discrimination of Irish compared to African- Americans. I may also use it to explain the distance. People use the excuse of Irish Americans as a reason to whiten the land. They claimed that Irishmen are trying to find new home in America but are being confronted with the inconvenience of black people. (Civil War era)

Mabray, Luline L, Frank Massimino, and Alberta Grisham. *Stella Dean: Waitress*. North Carolina, 1939.

Manuscript/Mixed Material. <https://www.loc.gov/item/wpalh001838/>.

This is a primary source of a woman of Irish decent being interviewed during the Great Depression. The interviewer marks her as "white." However, she uses Celtic language when speaking. This could indicate either Scotch Celtic or Irish Celtic. She also speaks about having no real education and being a traveler. This leads me to believe Irish Celtic. I will use this source when describing Irish life during the Great Depression as well as how Irishness is being washed out as just a part of the white race. (Great Depression)

McCarthy, Tara M. *Respectability and Reform: Irish American Women's Activism, 1880-1920*. First edition.

Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2018.

This is a book on how the Irish immigration of women helped transform America. It explains why most Irish immigrants during and after the Potato Famine era were women. It also goes into detail about Irish culture and how Irish women greatly influenced the Labor Movement as well as the Women's Rights Movement. I will use this when describing the life of Irish Americans and when discussing the affects Irish culture has had on America. (1860-1910. Civil War-Progressive Era)

Robert H. Clancy, "A Congressman Denounces Immigration Quotas as "Un-American"," *SHEC: Resources for Teachers*, accessed April 21, 2024, <https://shec.ashp.cuny.edu/items/show/1256>.

This is a short article about the Quota Act of 1921 and the Immigration Act of 1924. It details how these policies effected immigration in general. It mentions its effects on Irish immigration. I will use then when

explaining the Irish exclusion that took place during the early 1920s. (Immigration Act before Great Depression)

Sanger, Margaret H. "What Every Girl Should Know, Part I, Introduction." *Speeches and Writings of Margaret Sanger, 1911-1959*, November 17, 1912. <https://m-sanger.org/items/show/1482>.

This is a primary source written by Margaret Sanger during the Progressive Era. She promotes women's rights, specifically women's reproductive and educational rights. I will use this article when talking about Irish culture's influence on America. I will also use it for my section of famous Irish Americans with unrepresented Irish heritage. Sanger was a first gen Irish American who helped both America and Ireland women. I will retell her story through an Irish perspective. (progressive era)

Winch, Terence. "JFK, Assassinated." *The Southern Review* 58, no. 4 (2022): 660. *Gale In Context: Biography* (accessed April 21, 2024).

https://link-gale-com.lacc.idm.oclc.org/apps/doc/A723652379/BIC?u=losangeles_cc&sid=summon&xid=0b463692.

This is a primary source that is one paragraph long about the recollection of JFK's assassination. The Irish American talked about how he was free of fear until this day. Though the source does not mention Winch as an Irish American, he has published many other articles about the Irish American life. I will use this to explain JFK's significance in the Irish community. I will also use it to show how his death struck fear over the not-so-long-ago KKK oppression of the Irish/Catholic decent and culture. (Cold War era)