

THE EVOLUTION OF THE MELTING POT CONCEPT

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ABSTRACT

In the very core of the optimistic assimilationists' battle for Americanizing the non-white population of the United States, the idea of the Melting Pot emerged as a substitute for all what assimilation involves. With the emergence of the Melting Pot, the glittering terms such as Americanization and Anglo-Conformity went out of fashion. As such, talks raised on amalgamating the people of different races and cultures to form a more homogenous society rather than assimilating them into the dominant Anglo-Protestant culture. The idea of the Melting Pot, however, has been more likely to fit for the case of immigrants coming from different nations and cultural backgrounds than the Mexican American population which has a large portion of U.S. born citizens.

Keywords: Assimilation; Anglo-Protestant; Americanization; non-white population.