



BILL OF RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE OF MIXED HERITAGE

by Maria P. P. Root

I HAVE THE RIGHT...

Not to justify my existence in this world.

Not to keep the races separate within me.

Not to justify my ethnic legitimacy.

Not to be responsible for people's discomfort with my physical or ethnic ambiguity.

To identify myself differently than strangers expect me to identify.

To identify myself differently from how my parents identify me.

To identify myself differently from my brothers and sisters.

To identify myself differently in different situations.

To create a vocabulary to communicate about being multiracial or multiethnic.

To change my identity over my lifetime — and more than once.

To have loyalties and identification with more than one group of people.

To freely choose whom I befriend and love.

