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# Race, Gender, Sexuality, Ability, Identity and Cycling, Blog 4

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# **ENDO:** transforming cycle culture

Race, Gender, Sexuality, Ability, Identity and Cycling — UNIV 291 SEC 039



About jaminetjb

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### Final Lap: Catch Up work

by Jaminetjb on October 2, 2015 in Bike ethnography, Introduction/focus selection

#### **Topic Focus**

Hey all,

(Better late than never) I am Jacob Jaminet and I am a junior Biomedical Engineering major . I plan to focus on social class and see it's intersections with race during the bike race. I really want to see who is spectating the bike race and how it relates the cultural climate that is around Richmond. I also want to see the intersection of race and social class for spectators.

#### Artifact Analysis

I went to watch the bike race on Friday, September 25 and Saturday September 26 during the circuit race. I was down around campus on Franklin first by Laurel and the freshman residence halls and then down on Franklin and Boulevard.

Most of the people I saw spectating were either bikers themselves as seen from their bikes, students, or middle aged white adults. The bikers were from other teams and were either warming up for their race the next day and were scouting out the course. Teams ranged from college students to people from out of the country. At Belvidere and Franklin on Saturday, there were a group of Canadian natives who had moved to Richmond a while ago that my friend Akhil, a native of Ottawa made good friends with. There was another biker who had a Canadian sticker on her jersey who was from Toronto.

Also of note is that while there were a few people who were using fold-out chairs, they were not using them as an assistive device but just for recreation. Everyone was abled bodied down at the race course. Outside the Prestwood, there was a crowd of older people who I assume to be residents of that building. There I did see only lady sitting on her walker while she was enjoying the race. If the bike race didn't go literally past her front door, I doubt she would have went out at all to see the race.

What I did notice was that there was a group of women of color wearing orange "Hope" shirts. I didn't know if they were volunteering or were just spectators. I saw them later on the redeyecookieco Instagram where the some ladies had gotten a cookie from the Red Eye Cookie Company stand. After some quick Google Searching, I found they were members of the Heights Baptist Church in Richmond. The parishioners were given the bright orange shirts I mentioned and were going to watch the bike race and spread the "Hope" of Jesus Christ as their form of proselytizing. As they were the largest group of people of color in the vicinity it is interesting to note that while they were enjoying the activities of the race, they were also there as part of a faith formation and not their only for their sole amusement like the other spectators.

#### Ladies of The Heights Baptist Chruch

http://theheightsonline.com/hope/

All photo creds go to my friend Akhil who was with me at the race.













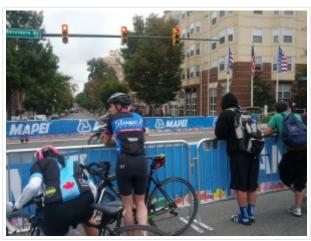














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## **Artifact Analysis: Richmond Rides**

by Jaminetjb on September 24, 2015 in Artifact Analysis

Richmond Rides

Richmond Rides is a tour company that takes groups of people out into Richmond to see sites around the city and visit a local restaurant for a snack during the race. The costs of their tours range from \$40 to \$54 per person per tour. Tours involve seeing areas of the city such as Church Hill and getting a snack from local restaurant during the tour.

This really plugs into the bike culture of Richmond as it allows people to get a close perspective of the city. People are able to see where the buildings are and allow them to see how the city is connected while hearing the tour guide explain the historical significance behind each stop along the way. This opportunity really showcases the history of Richmond and other "gems" the city has to offer.

The critique that I have is that this is a very tourist focused. As the service charges \$45 to \$54 per tour, this is not open to those who do not have access to leisure time. This really doesn't open up the city to some locals of the city. If they made a route of their tours available online with some if not all of the factoids they share on their tours, it would really help improve the historical literacy of those who live in the city, but can't afford the tour itself.



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