

---

## CONCLUSION

**I**ntégration has been a leitmotif of these interviews. At least twenty interviewees used this word, often repeatedly, in discussing their success in fitting in. While this book is replete with such statements, there were many more. Fouzia said that “I integrated myself into French society,” and Ibrahim claimed that “I’ve done everything to integrate myself.” For Shayan’s parents, “speaking perfect French was essential for their children to fully integrate themselves,” and being non-religious helped Youssef “to integrate quickly into French society.”

But do the interviewees feel accepted by the “French” people around them, even seen as French? In no case is the answer a simple yes. While they have been able to find a place in the French economy and the daily life around them, the great majority describe, at the least, a conditionality in being accepted. In some contexts, and with some people, the interviewees feel a level of acceptance, but even then rejection can be signaled with just a few words. One need only review the profiles of Samuel, Jean, Thomas, Zhora, Lucas, and Vincent—all of whom were born and grew up in France—to get a sense of these moments of marginalization and the pain they engender. Almost as soon as I turned my recorder on, memories of humiliation by “xenophobic” schoolteachers, of discovering that they were not “in the same category of person” as their friends, of being shunned by others seemed to pour out.

How are the interviewees different from people who *are* fully accepted, who *are* seen as truly French? Does one need to be descended from generations of French people? This cannot be so. Nicolas Sarkozy’s family roots in France are shallower than those of some interviewees, and yet he was French enough to be President of France. And then there is Mariana, the Airbnb host from Portugal. Seven years old when her family moved to

France, Mariana attended French schools, learned French, and participated in French life. Now twenty-nine, she feels completely accepted by the people around her; indeed, people at work don't know she was not originally French. How is Mariana different from the other interviewees? That she is Catholic cannot be the answer, because many of the interviewees are lifelong Catholics. Neither can it be her excellent French and way of life, since most of the interviewees can match her there. Her name is European, but that also cannot be the answer: her name is rare among native-born French people, while many of the interviewees have typical French names. She is well educated, but that is common among the interviewees too. In fact, there is only one thing that sets Mariana apart from the interviewees: her European *faciès*.

This stark fact is brought home when one compares Mariana with Nour. Nour has always spoken French, has always felt French, and has always lived like the "French" people around her. She's a "non-Muslim," she said, who eats pork and drinks wine. She adheres to French values to the point of marching with her son in support of freedom of the press following the terrorist attack at the *Charlie Hebdo* magazine office, and she has always participated in the social life of "French" people. As a child, she even attended catechism school with her Catholic friends. Nour is so French, she said, that the word *intégration* makes "no sense" in her case: "My frame of reference is France. I was born in France and grew up in government schools with the values of the Republic." Indeed, Nour has a stronger claim than Mariana to being seen as French, because Mariana didn't come to France until she was seven. And yet, Nour said, "Because of my first and last names and my *faciès*, people make very clear to me that I'm not French." But even Nour's name cannot be pivotal, since many of the interviewees have French first and last names.<sup>1</sup>

One could acknowledge all this and still push back. Does it really matter? According to the interviewees, very much so: people with a non-European *faciès*, especially those categorized as Maghrebi or Black, must contend with stereotypes, biased behavior, and outright discrimination. Many suffer psychologically.

Interviewees reported a raft of stereotypes about Maghrebis (and "Arabs" generally) in the media, from politicians, and in their own interactions with "French" people. Maghrebis are

thought to be backward and antisocial. Maghrebi men are said to subjugate the women in their families, beating their wives and forcing their wives and daughters to veil themselves. The young men are said to be lowlifes who curse, jostle, and abuse whomever they come across. Some are thought to be violent, even potential terrorists. Maghrebis are said to stick together in dirty slums, far from respectable “French” people.

These stereotypes are deeply troubling for Maghrebi interviewees. Some think they are unfair, while others are bothered less by the stereotypes themselves—some of which they think may be accurate for Maghrebis living in run-down housing projects—than with the tendency of “French” people to apply the stereotypes to *them*, putting them, as many said, “in the same sack” as those Maghrebis.

Although it is immediately obvious from their language, dress, and behavior that the Maghrebi interviewees do not conform to these stereotypes, they reported insults and demeaning treatment from “French” people. The incidents go on and on: Zhora and Samuel during parking disputes; Mohamed, Ibrahim, and Karim in stores; Youssef, Mohamed, Samuel, and Karim on the street and in public transportation; Samuel at city hall. Lina sees “the look, the hatred” from “French” people on the street and in supermarkets. Although Zhora speaks accent-free French (having lived her entire life in France), she reported being told, “Go back to your own country, dirty *bougnoule*.”

Most painful for Maghrebi interviewees has been their presumed association with terrorism. Following the 2015–16 terrorist attacks, “French” people asked Ibrahim, “Why do you do this?” Nassim had to assure his colleagues—people with whom he’d worked for years—that, no, “I’m not a terrorist.” At the company where she works as an IT professional, Rania reported, “everyone came to me as if I were responsible.” Ayoub was arrested and interrogated for ten hours after confronting a “French” man for harassing a fellow Maghrebi at a bar, purportedly because that man told the police that Ayoub said he had a “bomb that would explode.”

Perhaps reacting to such misunderstanding and mistreatment, Maghrebi interviewees reported a deep sense of estrangement. Samuel—born in France, fully participating in French society, and eager to be seen as French—said that people like

him don't belong: "We look for a place for us, but there is none. We're lost." After a lifetime in France living and working among "French" people, Zhora despairs: "I don't feel I'm in a country. I don't feel that I'm of any country." Concerned that his son will be shunned because of his dark skin, Mohamed fears that he won't feel French, and if his son "is not French, then what is he? It's enough to make a person schizophrenic."

The stereotypes about Blacks are equally painful. Much as Ndiaye describes in his study of "the Black condition" (see 2008: 205), interviewees reported that Blacks are caricatured as monkeys or gorillas, and as naturally stupid, lazy, and dirty. The Blacks of today are supposedly descended from the "savages" whom France went to civilize not so long ago. But they are not considered dangerous: a generally pliant lot, they're thought to be naturals for the menial jobs that "French" people spurn.

Unlike the Maghrebi interviewees, who think that the stereotypes apply to a different kind of Maghrebi, Black interviewees feel that the stereotypes are directed at *all* Blacks. The calumny that Blacks are inherently inferior must be confronted directly. As Isabel's father said, "a Black must prove that 'I'm intelligent,' that 'I'm not what you think.'" If Amina's business school classmates "thought I'd come down from a tree, that I couldn't be as intelligent as them," she said, "the only way to prove that we're equal is to beat them in school." Decades later, as a business consultant, she said, "I'm in the same battle. My sole revenge is to succeed." A number of Black interviewees disprove the stereotypes by excelling in ways "French" people cannot dispute. Charles and Ariel, like Amina, got university degrees in technical fields and then careers where, as Charles puts it, "intellectual competence, not skin color, is what's valued."

The situation is different among the third group of interviewees, those who are neither Maghrebi nor Black. The older Asian interviewees grew up in the France of the 1950s through the 1970s, when East Asian countries were thought to be backward and the people there were seen, as Grégoire put it, as "nearly savages." Times have changed. China and other East Asian countries have become wealthier, and "Asians are seen better" than before. These days, Paul said, "racism against Asians is very, very, very rare." Having grown up in recent decades, the younger Asian interviewees report positive stereotyping, focusing on Asians'

purported intelligence, hard work, and discretion in their private lives. Not surprisingly, Asian interviewees reported far less biased behavior toward them than either Maghrebis or Blacks.

Alone among the interviewees, people who trace their origins to South or Western Asia reported a near-absence of stereotypes. “French” people don’t seem to care where they’re from, nor do they have preconceptions about what they are like. Although subject to occasional biased behavior and discrimination arising from their non-European *faciès*, they are not assumed to be anti-social or inferior, as Maghrebis and Blacks are.

This is not to say that people of the third group—Asians and others—are seen as French.<sup>2</sup> Although he has a “French” parent and a fully French name, Henri is seen as different because of his “Chinese face.” People of South or Western Asian origin are likewise differentiated by their *faciès*. As Shayan said, “my hair is black, my eyes are brown, and I have a dark complexion.” Even the child he hopes to have with his “French” wife would not be considered “a true Frenchman” by some.

A number of interviewees try to avoid rejection by becoming “more French than the French” (or “more royalist than the king”). Judging from their accounts, this is ultimately a losing strategy. At any moment, even without a misstep on their part, a “French” person can say something demeaning. But even when this doesn’t happen, interviewees can feel diminished by the constant effort to fit in: Olivier likened *intégration* to “submission,” and Vincent sees the danger of exclusion as inextricable from his efforts at *intégration*. Ultimately, those who try the hardest can feel the most let down. “One day,” Karim said, “you realize that French people won’t ever truly accept you. It’s unjust, it’s unjust to have thought you had to be like that to belong, but in the end you realize that you’ll never, ever belong.”

Finally, a fundamental social reality is confronted by all interviewees: they know that millions of “French” people think they shouldn’t even be in France. Many spoke about the National Front’s longtime slogan “France for the French.” Even among those born in France, like Fouzia and Markus, the meaning is clear: for many “French” people, France is only for people with a European *faciès*. Clément got a taste of this attitude as a twelve-year-old, when a group of National Front adherents burst out laughing after they had him photographed with them.

The twin issues of whether people feel French and whether they feel others see them as French were included in the nationwide Trajectories and Origins survey. The results, as reported by Patrick Simon (2012) and Cyril Jayet (2016), would not surprise the people I interviewed. A substantial majority of “second generation” people (those born in France of at least one immigrant parent) who originate from non-European countries report that they “feel French” (Simon 2012: 9, Table 3), but far fewer feel that they are “seen as a French person.” While the relevant percentages are not broken out in either of the published reports, Jayet notes that, while second-generation people of European origin feel they are seen as French at an even higher rate than they feel French (one thinks of Mariana here), second-generation people of non-European origin are far more likely to feel French than to feel they are seen as French (Jayet 2016: 129, Table 7). Simon reports that, while 10 percent of the “white (European)” immigrants and their children feel they’re not accepted as French, four times as many of the others surveyed—non-White, non-European immigrants and their children—feel this way (Simon 2012: 14). The difference is particularly marked among the second generation. “The rejection of Frenchness,” Simon reports, “affects those descendants whose origins”—unlike those of “the white (European) group”—“are highly visible in the public space” (15).

There remains the issue of outright discrimination. Perhaps not surprisingly in light of the stereotyping and biased attitudes about them, Maghrebis and Blacks also reported chronic problems involving employment. These begin when one seeks a job. As Fatih said, “I’ve seen a lot of prejudice in recruitment. I see it all the time.” People will say, “A Black, no, that’s not possible. And this guy’s an Arab, that won’t do.” Many Maghrebi and Black interviewees complained that their résumés kept them from being even considered for jobs. The tip-off is the photo on the top—revealing their non-European *faciès*—and, for those with a non-European name, their name.

Some interviewees had trouble being considered for positions commensurate with their qualifications, as when Mohamed was channeled toward restaurant work after finishing his bachelor’s and master’s degrees. As with Khira, salaries may also be significantly lower than what “French” people earn for the same work.

Interviewees who reach a position with authority report additional problems. “French” members of Nour’s team insulted her Maghrebi identity, and Salma has had to ask “French” attendees at her business seminars, “Do you want competence, or do you want a ‘French’ person?”

Workplace discrimination applies to everyone with a non-European *faciès* when a position involves interaction with the public. As Fatih (who is of Turkish origin) said, “There’s always a barrier, especially for positions with direct contact with clients.” Henri, who is Asian, was rejected for such a position three times over. A member of the selection panel later told him why: “The administration in France needs to remain White. It’s illogical for you to think otherwise, for you to attempt to gain that position.” When Anna worked for the national train company, she sought an onboard position, but was offered the only job without customer contact.

Such reports of employment discrimination raise an important question: If discrimination is such a problem, how have most of the interviewees found work above—some far above—the level of menial labor? Part of the answer arises from the way the interviewees were selected for this project. Because I sought people who rent an Airbnb room or apartment, I effectively chose those who, through ability, drive, and good fortune, have made their way into the middle class. Another answer arises from their education and choice of career. The majority had attended French universities, many in marketable, skills-oriented fields like information technology, engineering, and business. Many run their own small businesses offering specialized services to companies or individuals; such independence frees them from the bias experienced within corporate hierarchies. Finally, a few work for the government, where jobs are safe and advancement is based largely on uniform testing. In sum, most of the interviewees have used advanced education and an astute choice of career to minimize discrimination.

As already noted, the Trajectories and Origins study shows that high levels of discrimination are reported by Maghrebis and Blacks. But this is not just the case generally; as shown in chapters 1-3, it extends to people like the interviewees, and the aggregate effect of discrimination is enormous. As one expert notes, “there is now a broad consensus in the French social science

literature that discriminatory mechanisms are key factors of ethnic inequality, be it in education, employment or socioeconomic status more generally” (Aeberhardt et al. 2015: 586). One article that draws upon this study concludes that people “from North and sub-Saharan Africa and the [overseas *départements*], and their descendants, whether or not they have a successful working career, are still targets of explicitly racist and discriminatory behaviour” (Hamel, Lesné, and Primon 2018: 245).

While stereotyping, biased behavior, and discrimination at the hands of “French” people—external facts of life the interviewees encounter in their daily lives—were extensively reported in chapters 1–3, interviewees’ internal experience of feeling inferior or fearing rejection merited a freestanding chapter. The patterns uncovered in chapter 4 were striking. While a few of the interviewees who originate from former colonies reported feelings of inferiority toward “French” people, none of the interviewees who originate from countries that had not been European colonies reported feeling this way. Chapter 4 also revealed a seemingly paradoxical pattern: the majority of interviewees who speak of experiencing demeaning stereotypes, bias, and discrimination have *not* internalized these experiences. They do not feel inferior or fear rejection on the part of “French” people. For these people, there is a basic disjunction between their external experience (the demeaning social environment they live with) and their internal experience (their feelings of worth).

This raises two questions. First, how can so many interviewees face demeaning behavior in their daily lives and still feel good about themselves? As seen in chapter 4, the interviewees have developed at least ten strategies for maintaining self-respect. The second question is broader, and cannot be answered within the scope of this project: is the strength of character among most of the interviewees widely shared by the millions of other people with a non-European *faciès* in France, including those living in the poor and isolated *banlieues*? Since this project focused on a cohort of relatively prosperous people, their success in sloughing off the demeaning attitudes and behavior of others may also be atypical.

The interviewees’ choice of romantic partners, spouses, and long-term partners revealed much about how they feel about themselves and their place in France. As reported in chapter 5,



a wide range of men spoke of their intense desire for “French” women. Many women interviewees dated “French” men, although for reasons relating more to values and personality than to a particular attraction. The preference for “French” people among both men and women continued as the interviewees entered into more enduring relationships: the majority who married or partnered with anyone did so with a “French” person. Most of these relationships have endured among interviewees who feel more accepted by “French” people, but the opposite pattern is evident among interviewees who tend to feel rejected. All of these people have seen their relationships break apart.

Chapter 6 took up the issue of being Muslim, or just being seen as Muslim, in France. As Shayan said, people “don’t distinguish between Muslims and Maghrebis.” This tight association of Maghrebis and Muslims—and vice versa—and the antisocial, even violent, behavior attributed to Maghrebis as Muslims discussed in chapter 1 raise a delicate question: might Maghrebi-Muslim constitute a *racial* category in France? As discussed in the introduction, Stuart Hall argues that the “more ‘ethnicity’ matters, the more its characteristics are represented as relatively fixed, inherent within a group, transmitted from generation to generation, not just by culture and education, but by biological inheritance” (Hall 2000: 223). While further study is required on this issue, it is worth noting that two experts describe the combined Maghrebi-Muslim identity in racial terms. Paul Silverstein argues that the French stereotype of the violence-prone Maghrebi Muslim arose from the history, both in France and its colonization of the Maghreb, of France’s “violent *racialization* of North African immigrants and their children as ‘Muslims’” (2008: 4, emphasis mine). This stands in contrast to the stereotype of Muslims from other former French colonies. As Pap Ndiaye notes, the Muslims of sub-Saharan Africa are not associated with “radical Islam” and so escape “one of the central components of anti-Arab racism today” (Ndiaye 2008: 238).<sup>3</sup>

Maghrebi or not, are practicing Muslims less French than other people? Elise’s predicament is instructive. She was born and educated in France, was raised to be French, has a purely French name, dresses and looks, she said, like a “normal” French woman, and is a champion of French values. But when she declines wine or a pork dish, alarm bells go off: she is “au-

tomatically” asked if she is Muslim and then forced to “justify” herself: “It’s a battle every day.” Does this make her less French? Put more concretely, since the sharing of traditionally French food and drink is an important part of the social life around her, is Elise’s repeated refusal to participate a refusal to be truly French? She has had such thoughts herself, she admitted: “I’m in France, and it’s part of French culture. It’s almost denying your culture not to drink.” As Shayan said in explaining his gradual abandonment of Muslim practices, “French plus Muslim, that’s French, but not very French.”

If the interviewees represent a test case in *intégration*, as I would argue, what are the results of this test? For one thing, *intégration* continues to be a goal for many people, even in its older sense (once called assimilation), by which immigrants and their children absorb the language, values, and ways of life of the people they accept as unquestionably French.<sup>4</sup> Many of the interviewees have taken this path. Then there is the issue of personal identity. With the possible exception of Lucas, all of the interviewees who grew up in France—and even many who came to France as teenagers or young adults—consider themselves French. And all of the interviewees who have had children are raising their children (or have already raised them) to be French.

The interviewees have also made enormous progress in integrating themselves, as many put it, “into French society.” To the extent that bias and discrimination have not intervened, they have become participants in the economy and daily life of the country. Most interviewees attended French universities and have solid, in some cases professional, jobs. Most also live in neighborhoods and work with those of varied backgrounds, particularly “French” people. Many have also partnered with or married “French” people.

But there’s more to *intégration*. Do the interviewees feel that they are accepted by the people they see as indisputably French? Certainly, they feel accepted in certain circumstances and among certain people. But in all the complexity, variability, and nuance involved in feeling accepted or rejected, one near-constant among the interviewees stands out: the vast majority do not feel that they are seen as truly French. When Emmanuelle tells people “I’m French,” she said, some of them “look

at me as if to say 'hunh.'" Jean said, "Yes, I'm French," but "I'm no fool. I fully understand that in the eyes of many people I'm something else."<sup>5</sup>

The interviewees' way of speaking reflects and reinforces this limitation on acceptance. As noted in the introduction and evident throughout the interviewees' accounts, only a certain kind of person is referred to as French. This is someone with a European *faciès*, what many of the interviewees call White. As Didier and Eric Fassin have observed, "people called 'French' turn out to be 'white'" (2006: 9). People who are seen as having a non-European *faciès*—even those who have spent their entire lives in France and consider themselves to be French—are not referred to as French. They are instead Maghrebi, Blacks, Asians, or simply *d'origine*.

Labels aside, to the extent that interviewees feel they're not seen as French, what are they? For many of the interviewees, the answer is simple: any person with a non-European *faciès* is seen as a foreigner. "One thing is certain," Amina said: "If you have a different skin color, whether Black, *métis*, Maghrebi, you're a foreigner." Abbas expressed the concept as a social rule: "To be a foreigner is not whether you are a foreigner or not, but whether someone sees you as a foreigner." It's "a matter of skin color," he insisted, "that's a fact." For François, "Black equals foreigner. It's a reflex." And Leila explained, "Sadly, you can be born here, but if you have dark skin, you can't really be French. People with dark skin are foreigners." It's the opposite for people who come from elsewhere in Europe. As far as "French" people are concerned, Leila explained, "that's Europe, that's good, they're not foreigners."

For many interviewees, this is far from an abstraction. Samuel, Thomas, Karim, Vincent, and Fatih all grew up in France. When Samuel was young, he remembered, people "didn't see me as French" but as "a foreigner" and later, when he was out with his "French" girlfriend, French men didn't like seeing her "with a foreigner." Thomas said, "I know that there are French people who consider me a foreigner. They make clear that even if you were born here, you're a foreigner. You remain a Black." Even if Karim is "more French than the French," for most people, he explained, "I'm a foreigner. That's on my face."

Vincent, a third-generation French citizen, also feels he has been seen as a foreigner. He works to set "a counterexample to what

others say about foreigners," fearing that any misstep might end with him being called "dirty foreigner." Fatih feels that the police and various teachers and professors treated him shabbily because they saw him as a "foreigner." Aya's cousin has spent his entire life in France and "doesn't even know how to say *Bonjour* in Arabic," but he's "nevertheless considered a foreigner."

Interviewees spoke mournfully about their children. Although Karim's children have "French" mothers and have spent their entire lives in France, they are seen as "foreigners" because they "have kinky hair." Similarly, François said, "Take the case of my children, who are *métis*. When one sees them, one doesn't say they're White. The *métis* are Black," and Blacks are "always foreigners." Although Leila's children have always lived in France, are fluent only in French, and "consider themselves 100 percent French," they are seen as "foreigners."

In sum, even interviewees who have spent their entire lives in France and adhere to the norms of the "French" people around them typically don't feel that they are seen as French. The reason is simple: their *faciès* is seen as non-European. And not being seen as French, they don't really belong. In the words of many, they are foreigners—foreigners in their own country. This is both ironic and, for the interviewees, deeply painful.

There remain vast and vital areas of study beyond the bounds of this book. What would an intensive interview project of people with what is seen as a European *faciès* reveal about their feelings toward people like the interviewees? While the basic questions may be simple (such as, "Do you consider them French?"), these people's feelings will surely be complex, variable, and hard to reach. And what about people in France who have non-European *faciès* but are different from the interviewees, particularly those who are deeply marginalized? How do such people feel about acceptance and French identity? While, as noted in the introduction, invaluable ethnographies on such issues have been written, there is much more to learn, especially when personal, recorded interviews are studied carefully and the scope of study is widened beyond individual categories of people (like Maghrebi) and specific locations (such as the Paris area).

Even within the scope of this ethnography, further study is merited. Of particular interest is the intersectionality of the interviewees' identities as Maghrebi, Black, Asian, etc., with their

other identities.<sup>6</sup> These include gender and religion, as in Amina's description of herself as "a woman, Black, and a Muslim." While implicitly recognized throughout this book, the intersectionality of such identities as Maghrebi, Black, or Asian with social and economic class also deserves closer attention.

Still more broadly, how are other White-majority countries different—or not so different—from France? What is it like to be non-White in each country? Of course, there is an extraordinary amount of literature on these issues. One notable example is Fatima El-Tayeb's 2011 book *European Others: Queering Ethnicity in Postnational Europe*. An expert on Germany (where she grew up), El-Tayeb's argument concerning Europe generally is similar to the conclusion about France reached here. Indeed, the first chapter of her book is entitled "Stranger in My Own Country." The UK has recently seen substantial research on this issue, and the US case has generated whole libraries of scholarship. However different the American and French experiences may be, as Pap Ndiaye (2008) and Tyler Stovall (2021) have shown, comparing the two experiences may generate a richer understanding of each.

I take the liberty of ending this book with comments from two people who are living the lives I have tried to report. A young woman of Maghrebi origin in France who recently reviewed chapter 1—the chapter that focuses on people like her—wrote that, "Thanks to reading this, I am slowly realizing how powerful systemic racism is." While it is not my place to weigh her words, I'm honored that a person in her circumstances would find value in this work.

And then there is what Thomas said at the end of his interview, as quoted in the introduction to this book:

It has given me pleasure to share my experiences. I hope you recount them. And if what you write helps people to be open-minded, that is the ultimate goal: to be open-minded and avoid psychological barriers. It would be as if I succeeded along with you.

This is to thank Thomas and express the hope that, when he reads this book, he will think we have both succeeded.

## NOTES

1. These include Caroline, Charles, Emmanuelle, Henri, Grégoire, Isabel, Jean, Lucas, and Mathieu.
2. Paul is an outlier in this group. Of Korean parentage, Paul says that his adoptive “French” parents raised him to be like them—he thinks of himself as White—and he believes people see him as French once they hear his unaccented speech and totally French name.
3. Being a matter of stereotypes, this dichotomy takes little heed of factual counterexamples, like the 2015 hostage-taking and murder at a kosher food store in Paris by a Muslim of Malian origin.
4. This is hardly the only approach to *intégration* that one might take, especially today. The founder of the *Parti des indigènes de la république* (Party of the Indigenous of the Republic), Houria Bouteldja, proclaims that “We abhor anything that seeks to integrate us into whiteness” (El-Tayeb 2018: 95, quoting “Dieudonné au prisme de la gauche blanche ou comment penser l’internationalisme domestique?” (2014)).
5. In apparent contrast to the interviewees’ reports, Pap Ndiaye asserts that “there are many ‘French Blacks’ in the eyes of society in general” (Ndiaye 2008: 41), but he also says that Blacks “by their skin color” are seen to have an “ineffable foreignness” (163). Patrick Lozès is categorical on this subject: Blacks “are still perceived as foreign to French society. . . . It is skin color that turns a French person into a foreigner” (Lozès 2012: 107).
6. See, e.g., S. Mazouz (2015); Lépinard and S. Mazouz (2021).