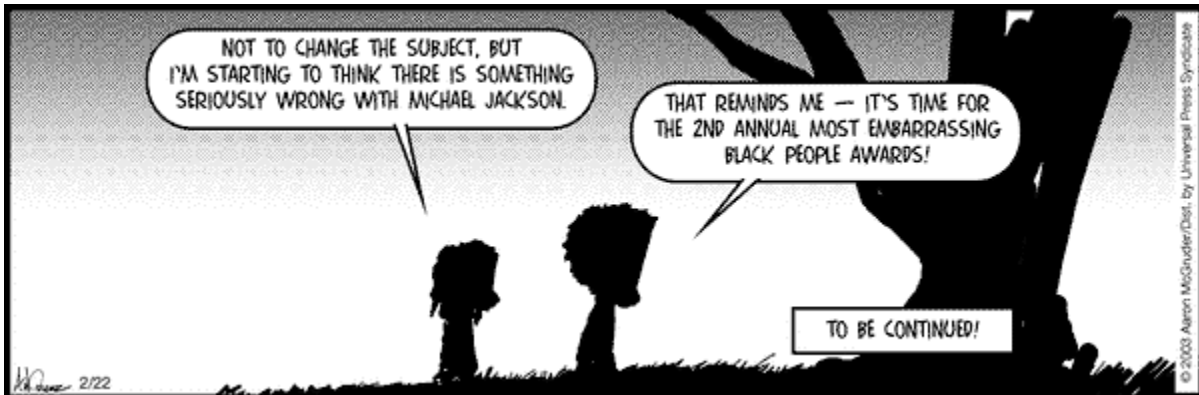


Another way I do whiteness studies is to observe how whiteness perspectives sometimes may be articulated by people of color. Often these expressions are enacted by those people of color who wish to defend themselves from racism. They feel vulnerable to racism when they know that certain white people are disgusted by certain nonwhite behaviors. While I do not suggest that Aaron Mcgruder is a whitened racial subject (I never met him), I do suggest that some of his cartoons capture and convey a form of bourgeoisie black angst that conveys this sense of racial shame I am identifying. This shame, depicted in the following cartoons, leads me to suggest that it is an important white cultural practice to cause racial embarrassment. For this emotion can motivate people of color to demand of themselves, and each other, strict performances of blackness known as respectable according to the standards of whiteness. When black people deviate from those forms of normative blackness that are deemed safe to perform within white public space, then a whitened black critique is apt to be articulated as in the frames below. Enoch Page 2003©

Boondocks



© 2003 Aaron Mcgruder

Boondocks



© 2003 Aaron Mcgruder