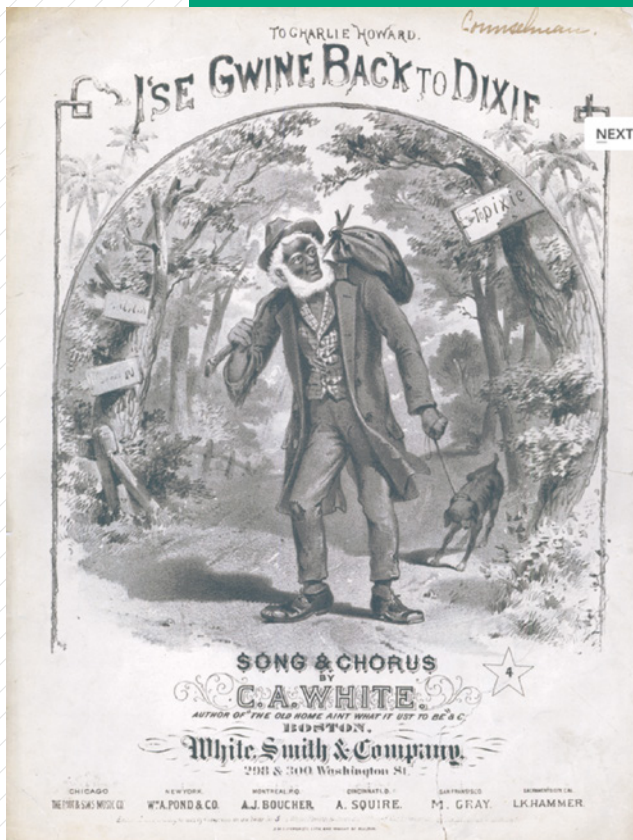


# Why Is It Offensive?

History of Blackface, Modern-Day Cultural Appropriation

## Handout Three: Plantation Nostalgia



- After the Civil War, industrialization changed the face of America, transplanting many Whites from rural farms to cities.
- White performers often used blackface characters to symbolize the popular longing for a return to a simple farm life.
- Blackface actors portrayed African Americans as simple-minded individuals longing for “easy” lives on a plantation with the “stability” of a strict hierarchy.

Source: [University of South Florida](#)

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