

A NEW (FALSE) GOSPEL

DECONSTRUCTION

'Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. **And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.**" '

John 8:31-32

'A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. '

Ephesians 6:10-12

'From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. **All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.** '

1 Chronicles 12:32

TEXT

4 STEPS TO DESTABILIZE (1984)

- ▶ Demoralization – 20 years
- ▶ Destabilization – 5 years
- ▶ Crisis – 6 weeks
- ▶ Normalization



CRITICAL THEORY

- ▶ It must have an idealized vision for society
- ▶ It must be able to explain how the existing society does not live up to that ideal vision
- ▶ It must inspire social activism on behalf of achieving that perfect world

TEXT

CRITICAL RACE THEORY

▶ CRT recognizes that racism is engrained in the fabric and system of the American society. The individual racist need not exist to note that institutional racism is pervasive in the dominant culture. This is the analytical lens that CRT uses in examining existing power structures. CRT identifies that these power structures are based on white privilege and white supremacy, which perpetuates the marginalization of people of color. CRT also rejects the traditions of liberalism and meritocracy. Legal discourse says that the law is neutral and colorblind, however, CRT challenges this legal "truth" by examining liberalism and meritocracy as a vehicle for self-interest, power, and privilege. CRT also recognizes that liberalism and meritocracy are often stories heard from those with wealth, power, and privilege. These stories paint a false picture of meritocracy; everyone who works hard can attain wealth, power, and privilege while ignoring the systemic inequalities that institutional racism provides.

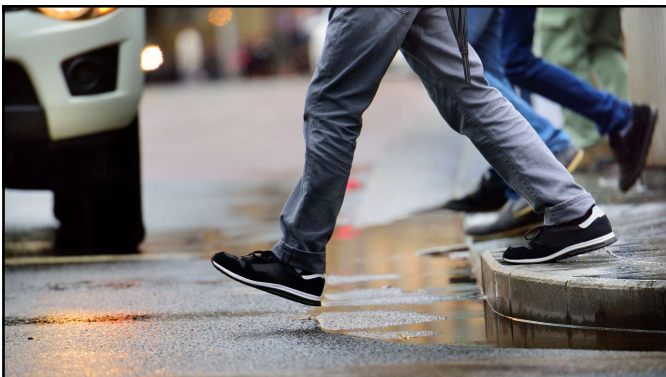
"What is Critical Race Theory?," UCLA School of Public Affairs Critical Race Studies

TEXT

CRITICAL RACE THEORY

▶ Critical Race Theory is a revolutionary and broadly Neo-Marxist mode of activism based upon the belief that the fundamental organizing principle of society is "systemic racism," which it asserts was created and is maintained by white people in order to preserve a social structure that provides a multitude of unjust advantages over people of color, especially blacks.

James Lindsay, *Race Marxism*



TEXT

CENTRAL PREMISES OF CRITICAL THEORY

- ▶ Premise 1: The Social Binary
- ▶ Premise 2: Oppression through Ideology
- ▶ Premise 3: Lived Experience
- ▶ Premise 4: Social Justice



TEXT

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Figure 5.1. Group Identities Across Relations of Power

Minoritized/Target Group	Oppression	Dominant/Agent Group
Peoples of Color	Racism	White
Poor		
Working Class	Classism	Owning Class
Middle Class		
Women; Transgender; Genderqueer	Sexism	(cis)Men
Gays; Lesbians; Bisexuals; Two Spirit	Heterosexism	Heterosexuals
Muslims; Buddhists; Jews; Hindus; and other non-Christian groups	Religious Oppression Anti-Semitism	Christians
People with Disabilities	Ableism	Able-bodied
Immigrants (perceived)	Nationalism	Citizens (perceived)
Indigenous Peoples	Colonialism	White Settlers

BLACK LIVES MATTER “WHAT WE BELIEVE” (NOW REDACTED)

- ▶ We disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family structure requirement by supporting each other as extended families and “villages” that collectively care for one another, especially “our” children, to the degree that mothers, parents, and children are comfortable
- ▶ We are committed to... doing the work required to **dismantle cis-gender privilege and uplift Black trans folk**... We are committed to embracing and making space for trans brothers and sisters to participate and lead
- ▶ We are committed to **affirming a queer-affirming network**. When we gather, we do so **with the intention of freeing ourselves from the tight grip of heteronormative thinking** or, rather, the belief that all in the world are heterosexual unless s/he or they disclose otherwise

Black Lives Matter, “What We Believe,” <http://archive.is/oARH0>

LIVED EXPERIENCE CLAIMS

- ▶ “As a woman, I know that our society is deeply sexist.”
- ▶ “As a black man, I know that our society is deeply racist.”
- ▶ “As a lesbian, I know that sexual orientation is fixed from birth.”
- ▶ “As a Sufi Muslim, I know that Islam is true.”
- ▶ “As a polyamorous man, I know that sex outside of marriage is okay.”
- ▶ “As a Hindu, I know that all religions are paths to the divine.”

TEXT

THE HEART OF THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO/MARXISM

- ▶ “Marx believed that the great moral problem of society could be reduced to the institutions of authority within society. He held that because authority by its very nature is oppressive, all authoritative structures and institutions must be destroyed. And when all decentralized divisions of authority have been dismantled, a globalized classless society must take its place in a new world order. In this new world order, people will no longer have to relate to each other as superiors and inferiors, rich and poor, leader and follower. Not until there are no class divisions, diversity, or hierarchical stature of authority will society be free of oppression. Only then will the world be rid of evil and experience utopia.”

TEXT

THE HEART OF THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO/MARXISM

- ▶ “But most importantly, because our present institutions derive their delegated authority from God, these institutions (individualism, family, church, and state) must first be deconstructed and stripped of their authority in order to fully eliminate God from society. In fact, for Marx, deliverance from the evils of capitalism cannot occur until all the traces of God are removed from this world.”

Jeffrey Johnson, *What Every Christian Needs to Know about Social Justice*

(Conway, Arkansas: Free Grace Press, 2021), 28-29

MARXISM

OPPRESSOR - BOURGEOISIE (RULING CLASS/MEANS OF PRODUCTION)

SPECIAL PROPERTY - CAPITAL

IDEOLOGY - CAPITALISM

OPPRESSED - PROLETARIAT (WORKING CLASS/MODE OF PRODUCTION)

SOLUTION - AWAKEN THE WORKING CLASS TO SEE THEIR
OPPRESSION AND THROW OFF CHAINS THROUGH BLOODY
REVOLUTION

GOAL - ABOLITION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY

CRITICAL RACE THEORY / RACE MARXISM

OPPRESSOR - WHITE PEOPLE

SPECIAL PROPERTY - WHITENESS

IDEOLOGY - WHITE SUPREMACY/SYSTEMIC RACISM

OPPRESSED - PEOPLE OF COLOR

SOLUTION - AWAKEN RACIAL CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS TO
DECONSTRUCT WHITE POWER AND REDISTRIBUTE POWER TO
MINORITIES

GOAL - ABOLITION OF WHITENESS

CRITICAL GENDER THEORY / FEMINIST
MARXISM

OPPRESSOR - MALE

SPECIAL PROPERTY - PATRIARCHY

IDEOLOGY - MYSOGYNY/SEXISM

OPPRESSED - WOMEN

SOLUTION - AWAKEN FEMININE CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS TO
DECONSTRUCT PATRIARCHY AND ALL SYSTEMS OF AUTHORITY, AS WELL
AS INSTITUTING EGALITARIANISM

GOAL - ABOLITION OF PATRIARCHY/AUTHORITY

QUEER THEORY / SEXUAL MARXISM

OPPRESSOR - HETEROSEXUAL MALE/FEMALE, CISGENDERED MALE/FEMALE

SPECIAL PROPERTY - NORMALCY/CIS-HETERONORMATIVITY

IDEOLOGY - HETEROSEXISM

OPPRESSED - GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER/SEXUAL, TWO SPI

SOLUTION - AWAKEN SEXUAL CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS TO
DECONSTRUCT HETERONORMATIVITY AND NORMALIZE ALL SEXUAL
EXPRESSIONS INCLUDING ONES PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED DEVIANT

GOAL - ABOLITION OF NORMS

**POSTMODERNISM/ POSTRUCTURALISM /
LANGUAGE MARXISM**

OPPRESSOR - RATIONAL THINKERS/CHRISTIANS

SPECIAL PROPERTY - WORDS HAVE STABLE MEANING

IDEOLOGY - INERRANCY, INFALLABILITY, INSPIRATION

OPPRESSED - POSTMODERNISTS/DECONSTRUCTIONISTS

SOLUTION - AWAKEN CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS TO DECONSTRUCT
MEANING OF ALL WORDS AND NORMALIZE "MY TRUTH"

GOAL - ABOLITION OF MEANING

TEXT

NEOPAGANISM

- ▶ In this anti-order, there is no Creator, no divine design; no male or female; no script for sexuality; no God-designed family with a father, mother, and children; no need to protect and care for children at all; no Savior, Lord, or theistic end to the cosmos; and no judge of evil.

Owen Strachan, *Christianity and Wokeness*
(Washington, DC: Salem Books, 2021), 77

TEXT

CRITICAL RACE THEORY WORLDVIEW

- ▶ *Racism is Normal...* the usual way society does business, the common, everyday experience of most people of color in this country
- ▶ Convergence Theory: "Racism advances the interests of both white elites (materially) and working-class whites (psychically), large segments of society have little incentive to eradicate it." This means whites are incapable of righteous actions on race and only undo racism when it benefits them; when their interests "converge" with the interests of people of color.

TEXT

CRITICAL RACE THEORY WORLDVIEW

- ▶ *Anti-Liberalism: (CRT) questions the very foundations of the liberal order, including equality theory, legal reasoning, Enlightenment rationalism, and neutral principles of constitutional law*
- ▶ *Knowledge is Socially Constructed: Storytelling/Narrative Reading is the way black people forward knowledge vs. the Science/reason method of white people. Minority status, in other words brings with it a presumed competence to speak about race and racism. The "legal storytelling" movement urges black and brown writers to recount their experiences with racism and the legal system and to apply their own unique perspectives to assess law's master narratives.*

Richard Delgado, *Critical Race Theory* (Third Edition)

TEXT

CRITICAL RACE THEORY ORIGINS

- ▶ Organized by a collection of **Neo-Marxist** intellectuals, former New Left activists, ex-counter-culturalists, and other varieties of oppositionists in law schools, the Conference on Critical Legal Studies [where Critical Race Theory was developed] established itself as a network of openly leftist law teachers, students, and practitioners committed to exposing and challenging the ways American law served to legitimize an oppressive social order.

Crenshaw K., Gotanda, N., Peller, G., Thomas, K. (Eds.).(1996)

Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement.

Discussion Questions:

Read through the following questions.

Pray for wisdom while reading scripture.

Write down your answers and any thoughts you have related to the teaching.

1. Read Romans 1:18-32 *How are we seeing these scriptures lived out with these ideologies (Marxism, Critical Theory, etc...)?*
2. *How does wokeness detract from God's design for humanity?*
3. *How can we be like Paul and remember "our struggle is not against flesh and blood" specifically as it applies to those following Marxist ideologies?*
