

I Sunday School

How Did We Get Here?

Critical Race Theory

Introduction

“Critical race theory is fast becoming America’s new institutional orthodoxy.” Christopher F. Rufo

Precautions

1. To be concerned about racism does not automatically mean a person has been infected by CRT.
2. There is a fundamental difference between the liberal ideals of racial equality and CRT.

The goal of the civil rights movements was a kind of color-blindness, which was a perspective on other human beings which was not influenced by racial differences; it was a liberal ideal meaning to be free from racial prejudice.

However, MLK’s dream is not the dream of CRT. To be colorblind is a form of racism because it ignores race and if it ignores race, it ignores inequality which comes from white privilege or whiteness.

What CRT is not

A CRT Glossary

Racism – attitudes or acts of prejudice and discrimination based on a person’s race; the belief that one’s race is inherently superior to other races.

This is the biblical sin of favoritism, and it is a grievous sin that denies the image of God and the Gospel.

Racism (CRT) – The system of privilege based on race, prejudice plus power. Racism is the structural system of white supremacy, which infects every white person and every institution (hence systemic).

Equality – In dignity, treated fairly, equal treatment under the law, equal rights. Does not deny meritocracy.

Equity (CRT) [notice, not ‘equality’] “When we use the term, we are thinking about racial equity as one part of racial justice, and thus we also include work to address root causes of inequities, not just their manifestation. This includes elimination of policies, practices, attitudes, and cultural messages that reinforce differential outcomes by race or that fail to eliminate them.”

(Racial Equity Tools, Glossary).



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Antiracism (CRT)

An anti-racist is someone who is supporting an antiracist policy through their actions or expressing antiracist ideas. This includes the expression of ideas that racial groups are equals and do not need developing, and supporting policies that reduce racial inequity.

Ibram X. Kendi, [How To Be An Antiracist](#), Random House, 2019.

“In order to truly be antiracist, you also have to truly be anti-capitalist.” Kendi

White privilege – unearned advantages that whites experience over non-whites.

“an invisible package of unearned assets that I can count on cashing in each day, but about which I was ‘meant’ to remain oblivious.” Peggy McIntosh

White fragility – the defensiveness and even anger by whites in response to any discussion of race (equality discussion)

“a state in which even a minimum amount of racial stress ... becomes intolerable, triggering a range of defensive moves” (DiAngelo, [White Fragility](#), p.103).

Woke – having arrived at a level of racial awareness, to embrace the political ideology of CRT.

Term comes into play after Michael Brown was shot in St. Louis.

Marginal salvation for white people.

To adopt antiracist definitions of these words is to undermine the reality that it is not our racial identity or our position in society but our violation of God’s moral standard that makes racism sinful. Neil Shenvi

The Roots of CRT

- Derrick Bell
- Kimberle Crenshaw
- Ibram X. Kendi,
- Robin DiAngelo,

The Pillars of CRT Thought

