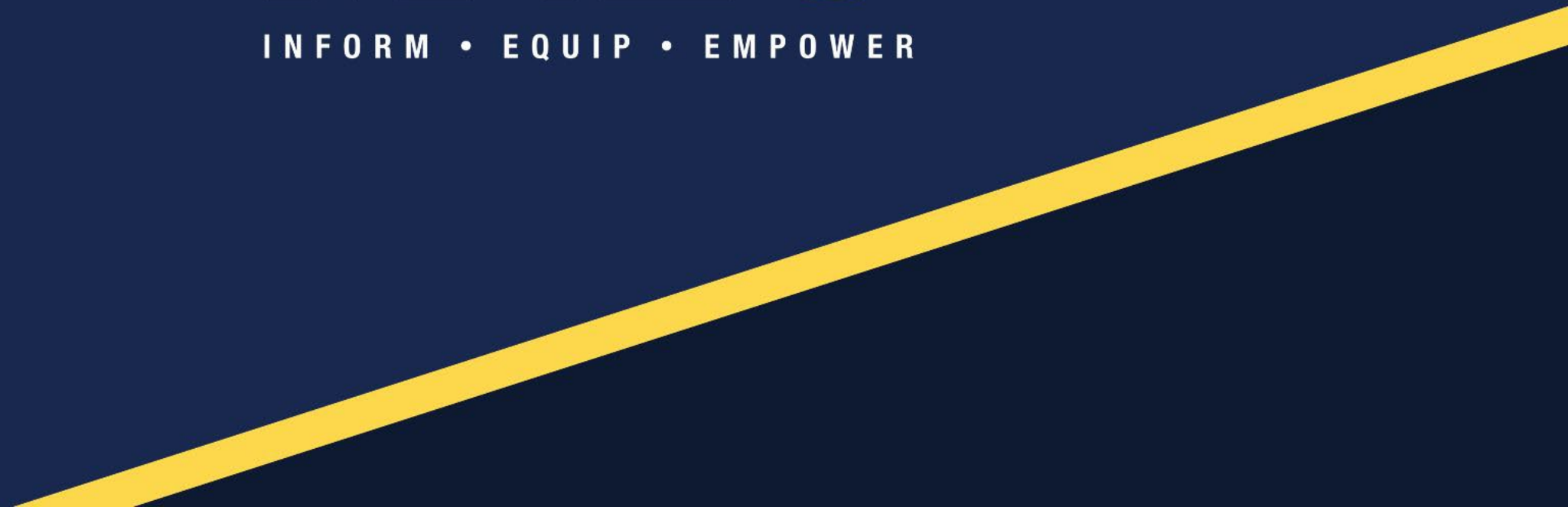




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Critical Race Theory

February 2025

- What is CRT?
- How did it start?
- How did it spread?
- CRT and DEI
- CRT in Schools
- How to FIGHT back

What is CRT?

- CRT = **Critical Race Theory**
 - Started as a legal theory that spread to the education system
- Summarizing Critical Race Theory
 - Claim: Race is “invented by white people” so they can have power over all other races
 - Claim: Racism is *systemic* in all parts of society
 - **IMPORTANT!** CRT does not continue the Civil Rights Movement – it is anti-liberalism, anti-Western, and anti-neutral/equal law

<https://newdiscourses.com/2021/01/what-is-critical-race-theory/>

What is CRT?

CRT is **Marxist** and **anti-Western** (i.e., Anti-American)

- CRT values **power** over **truth**
- CRT favors **identity politics**
- CRT pushes **revolution** over **real progress**
- CRT seeks to **reshape society**

CRT teaches that America is **systemically racist**

- Teaches that America's constitutional system (*and therefore American society*) is **systemically racist**
 - “An instrument of oppression against minorities and other marginalized groups”
- According to CRT, the core question is not “*did* racism take place?”, but “*how* did racism ***manifest*** in the situation?” Source:

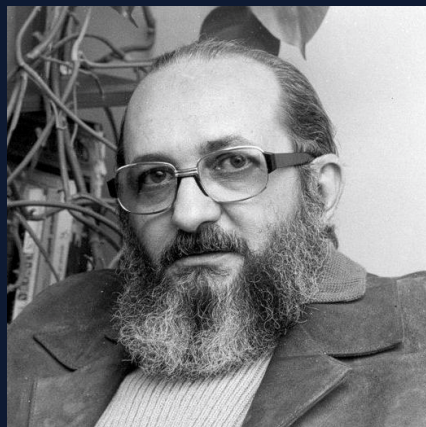
<https://newdiscourses.com/tftw-critical-race-theory/>

How did CRT Start?

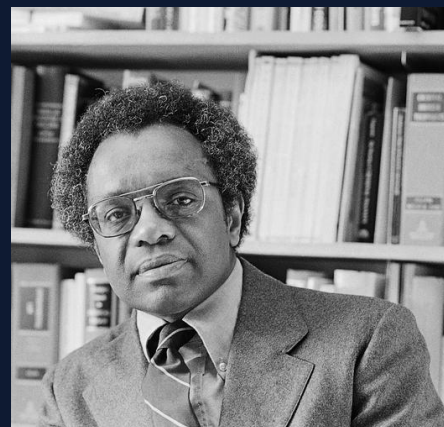
The Origins

How did CRT start?

- CRT did **not** randomly emerge – it was **intentional and by design** pushed by key academic elitists
 - **Paulo Freire** – Marxist critical theorist, “father” of critical pedagogy
 - **Derrick Bell** – Critical race theorist, expanded upon Freire’s concepts and considered the founder of Critical Race Theory
 - **Gloria Ladson-Billings** – brought CRT to the education system by working to “adapt critical race theory from law to education”



Source: <https://www.instructionalcoaching.com/paulo-freires-five-ideas-for-dialogical-learning/>



Source: <https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/anxiety/episodes/critical-race-theory-what-it-actually-means>



Source: <https://www.tpress.com/gloria-ladson-billings>

CRT's Core Definition

- Prior to CRT, American law had always been understood as **neutral** and **accessible to everyone, at every level of society**
- Since its founding, America has allowed marginalized groups to advance in society
 - The working-class man
 - Women
 - Blacks
 - Hispanics
- CRT saw things through a new lens of *RACE*
 - ...*[Seeing the] law's role in the construction and maintenance of **social domination** and **subordination**.*
- CRT is **Marxism with a twist**
 - Oppressor ... Domination
 - Oppressed ... Subordination

How did CRT Spread?

1968 - 2020

How did CRT spread?

- Born in the 1960s, amidst racial tension and political turmoil
 - Radical Marxist elites pushed the theory to the masses by appealing to emotions and leveraging true atrocities to push a narrative
- **Affirmative Action:** a feel-good policy that is actually just racism in disguise / by a different name
 - Implemented by Kennedy-Johnson Administration, pushed by Democrats ever since
- Bill Clinton – installed affirmative action appointees to federal judgeships and executive agencies
 - Eric Holder, Dept of Education – called America a “nation of cowards”
- Michelle Obama
 - Said the first time she was “really proud” of her country was electing Barack Obama
- Sonia Sotomayor, Supreme Court Justice

How did CRT spread?

- How to speed the spread? Change the definition of words.
- SEL redefined *trauma*
 - Old: A momentous, life-altering event, such as war
 - New: Broadly includes any negative experience, such as social rejection
- With this new definition, it is not hard to convince the American public that **racism is a traumatic experience**
- The spread was facilitated by mainstream media pushing “thinkers” who fused CRT with psychology
 - Ta-Nehisi Coates – Author, *Between the World and Me*
 - Robin DeAngelo – Author, *White Fragility*

CRT, meet DEI

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)
 - A new method of repairing the “damage” caused by America’s systemic racism as identified by CRT
- Books, publications, and organizations pushed this narrative, aided by growing racial tensions fostered in the Obama administration
 - *White Fragility* pushed DEI on the corporate world
 - *The 1619 Project* rewrote the history of America through the lens of racism
 - The media touted **Black Lives Matter (BLM)** as an organization working for social change, hiding the Marxist truth
- The rise of DEI in regular society was a direct result of education focusing more on race and “anti-bias” driven by CRT

CRT in Schools



CRT in Schools

- Universities that taught the *next generation of teachers* embraced Critical Race Theory
- SEL provided the gateway for CRT ideology to be taught in public schools with a focus on *overcoming trauma* (i.e., racism)
 - Every Student Succeeds Act (2014) tied federal funding to a school's commitment to Social Emotional Learning (SEL)
 - From 2019 to 2021, SEL became *Transformative SEL*, and funding grew 45% to help students “cope” with “racial trauma”
 - By 2020, *The 1619 Project* was being taught in 3,500+ classrooms as “culturally relevant / responsive pedagogy”
- After the BLM riots in 2020, CRT's roots spread deeper into school districts promising “Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism” curricula

CRT in Schools

- [Undercover video](#) of school curriculum salesperson: “If you don’t say CRT, you can teach it...”
- BLM at Schools [GUIDE](#) – includes FAQ, Curricula resources, a “Year of Purpose” with monthly themes like “Nov: Trans affirming”, and **how to respond to pushback**
 - **Demands:** (excerpts)
 - End Zero Tolerance (and) **Implement Restorative Justice**
 - **Principles:** (excerpts)
 - **Unapologetically Black:** “We are unapologetically Black ... we need not qualify our position.”
 - **Black Women:** “We recognize the many ways patriarchy shows up so consistently work to ...actively disrupt[] patriarchal culture.”
 - **Intergenerational:** “We cultivate a communal network free from ageism and adultism...we celebrate intergenerational relationships...”
 - **Black Villages:** “We disrupt the narrow Western prescribed nuclear family structure...”
 - **Trans Affirming:** “We hold space for our siblings who are agender, ... transgender ... We uplift Black trans folk, especially Black trans women...”
- The Zinn Education Project Teaching Activities (Sample Lessons)
 - [Teaching Palestine-Israel from the Perspective of Civil Rights and Black Power Activists](#) – Ties the BLM riots and tear gas used in Ferguson to the tear gas used on Palestinians.
 - [Simulating Redlining: When “Race was the Real Currency”](#) – “A high school social studies teacher describes a classroom simulation where students experience the effects of decades of racist federal housing policies.”
 - [Teaching the Seeds of Violence in Palestine-Israel](#) – “A mixer/mystery activity on Zionism, anti-Zionism, peasant resistance, the Great War, the British Mandate, and more.”

How to **FIGHT** Back

RESPONSES TO COMMON ARGUMENTS AND ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO FIGHT BACK

Fighting Back: Arguments

CLAIM #1: CRT really isn't Marxist, it's postmodernist.

RESPONSE: Postmodernism is an academic theory of knowledge; CRT is a legal-turned-education theory founded on **Marxist principles**.

- Postmodernism is just a philosophical tool that can be, *and has been*, used by liberals or conservatives
- Postmodernism is not political – CRT **is** political.

Fighting Back: Arguments

CLAIM #2: Incorporating CRT into curriculum simply represents another perspective as a small part of a bigger focus on “social justice”.

RESPONSE: CRT is not a small part of anything – it is an absolutist view of the world that aims to hijack thought and conversation.

- In its legal origin, the stated intent was to reorient our view of American law to see it as a goal of “subordination”.
- In practice, CRT is paired with SEL (psychology), defining practically everything as race-based trauma to overcome.
- CRT claims racism is *systemic and affecting every interaction in society*.

Fighting Back: Arguments

CLAIM #3: Conservatives make too big a deal of this – it’s just a graduate-level theory, not taught at K-12 schools.

RESPONSE: CRT’s core argument of *domination and subordination according to race* is the central principle of race-based instruction in schools.

- CRT theory has especially hijacked history curricula with the push of *The 1619 Project*, now taught in 3,500 classrooms across the country.
- A clear line can be drawn using their own words:
 - Paulo Freire’s Marxist Critical Theory ... became ...
 - Derrick Bell’s Critical Race Theory ... became ...
 - Gloria Ladson-Billing’s application of CRT to education via SEL

Fighting Back: Actions

1. The Federal Government

- Write or call the Trump Administration to **stop federal funding** for CRT in schools, including direct or indirect funding going to nonprofits that practice CRT
- Leverage the M4L community!

2. The State Legislature

- Write or call your state representative to **pass legislation** to stop the state DOE from letting CRT material in schools

3. The School District – *THE MOST IMPORTANT*

- Examine materials your kids are receiving in school for CRT themes:
 - De-emphasizing the Constitution
 - De-emphasizing equal rights under the law
 - Defining American history by oppression or racism
- Attend all school board meetings to expose and stop contracts that extend the use of CRT programs

We Covered

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For more information, please check out the RJ Toolkit at <https://m4lu.org/rj-toolkit>



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