


What is Intersectionality?

Intersectionality refers to the complex web of different forms of oppression—such as sexism, racism, and classism—experienced simultaneously by marginalized individuals and groups in a society in such a way as to constitute *super-oppression*; that is, “the whole is greater than the sum of its parts” (to borrow a well-known phrase from the Greek philosopher Aristotle).

Note: The theory behind intersectionality was first articulated by the African American legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw in her article published in 1989 in the journal *University of Chicago Legal Forum*, titled “Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics.” She had written it as a criticism of white feminists who, quite often, remained naïvely oblivious to the racism that Black women experienced in United States—a problem that continues to plague them to this day because of their colorblind racism.




MONEY IS THE ROOT OF LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.... This is not a way of life at all in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.”

—Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953

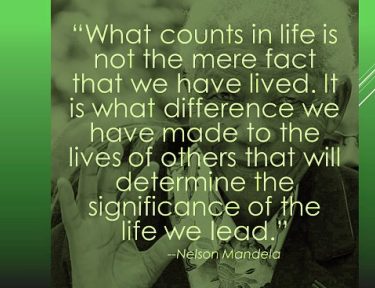
Thought-Provoking Slide Images



“If we are not careful, our colleges will produce a group of close-minded, unscientific, illogical propagandists, consumed with immoral acts. Be careful, 'brethren!' Be careful, teachers!...”

“Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction....”

Martin Luther King, Jr.—“The Purpose of Education,” College student newspaper, *The Maroon*, 1947



“What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.”

—Nelson Mandela



...A single and splendid aristocracy, founded on guns, and mortared under the guise and cloak of inches of manufactures, navigation, riding and beggared red ploughman and beggared

Eisenhower’s warning: “We must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the *military industrial complex*. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.”

What is Civic Engagement?

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It is engagement in altruistic activities outside of the arenas of the state, the family, and the corporate marketplace that are aimed at advancing the common good; thereby enhancing the quality of life for all. Examples of civic engagement include:

- **Political participation** (e.g. voting and standing for public office)
- **Community advocacy** (e.g. demanding better schools)
- **Social activism** (e.g. protesting for social justice)
- **Volunteerism and community service** (e.g. helping to run food banks)
- **Public scholarship** (researching and writing to promote causes and activities for the common good)
- **Philanthropy** (e.g. donating for disaster relief)... and so on.



What is Civil Society?

What is Civil Society?

What is Civil Society?

It is that nebulous public sphere—outside of the arenas of the state, the family, and the corporate marketplace—constituting the lifeblood of a true democracy, where the citizenry *voluntarily* come together for a variety of purposes and in a variety of forms, such as:

- Not-for-profit organizations
- Non-governmental socio-economic / political organizations
- Women's organizations
- Professional associations
- Community groups / organizations
- Block clubs
- Cultural clubs / organizations
- Social / political movements
- Not-for-profit businesses
- Non-governmental sports organizations
- Think-tanks and private research institutes
- Not-for-profit media (cinema, radio, TV, the press, etc.)
- Not-for-profit private educational institutions
- Labor unions
- Protest movements
- Philanthropic organizations
- Business associations
- Student organizations
- Religious institutions.... and so on.



Civil Society and Democracy

The strength of a democracy can only be measured by the strength of its civil society



Policing and the Absence of the Rule of Law



Weak Civil Society = Chronic Police Misbehavior (Images are from Kenya, United States, Italy, Tibet, South Africa, Israel, and Hong Kong)

What is Democracy?

What is Democracy?

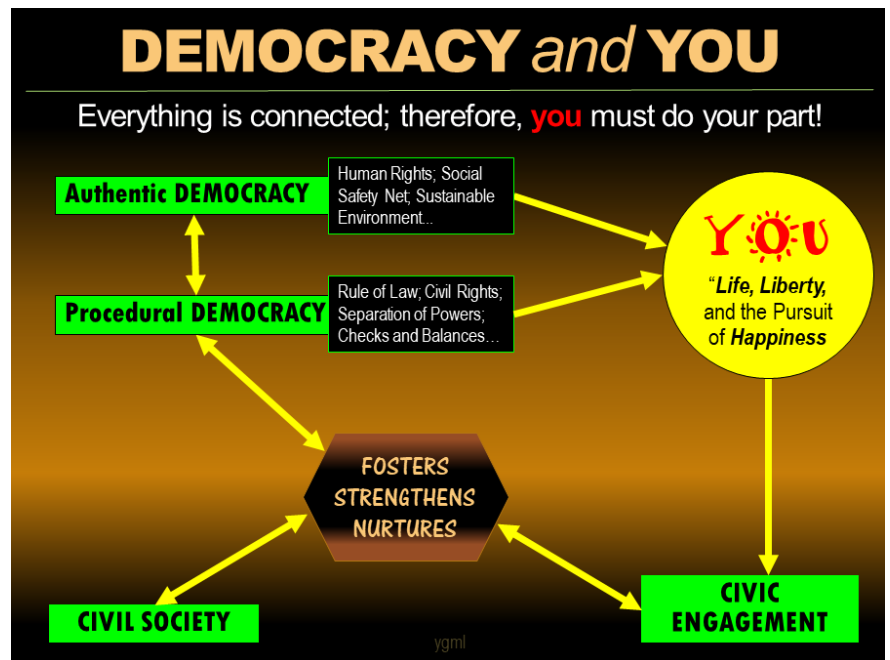
Democracy, in its true sense, has two related halves: the *procedural* and the *authentic* (or substantive). The first half refers to “majority rule” (but qualified by a *bill of rights* that protects minorities) and the accompanying institutional processes of universal suffrage, elections, term-limits, legislative representation, the rule of law, separation of powers, and so on. Authentic democracy refers to equitably securing access for all human beings to the four fundamental needs: food, shelter, health, and security. Therefore, the purpose of procedural democracy is to guarantee authentic democracy. In other words, the former is a means to the latter!

“WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all [Persons] are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.” —Preamble to the U.S. Declaration of Independence.



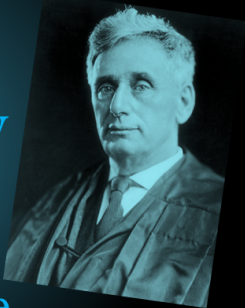
What is Democracy?

Democracy and You



Democracy vs Plutocracy

“We must make our choice. We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can't have both.”



—Louis D. Brandeis, Justice of U.S. Supreme Court (1916-1939)

Democracy versus Plutocracy?

THE ILLUSION OF HISTORY

In the river of time, on which we are all travelers, there are no boundaries between the *past*, the *present*, and the *future*; because history is always part of the present, just as the present is always part of the future.

Illusion of History

“...history can never undo itself, and is with us forever.

—Film critic Roger Ebert



Tyranny of History

The Tyranny of History

Theory without context and context without theory is to engage in a navel-gazing game of fallacies.

On Theory

Societies do not exist as concrete objects that you can see, touch, or feel. Rather, they are intangible social constructions comprising a bundle of historically determined highly, highly complex and generally persistent set of hierarchic socio-economic and political relationships, *but which are not always entered into willingly by all.*

What is Society?

The Pledge of the Ignorantsia

I am anti-healthcare
 I am anti-government
 I am pro-guns
 I am pro-death penalty
 I am pro-war
 But ...
 I am pro-life!

The Ignorantsia



“Gratitude
 Never Goes
 Amiss!

Gratitude



TWO-THIRDS OF ALL PROBLEMS ARE CREATED BY LAZY PEOPLE; THE REST BY CRIMINALS

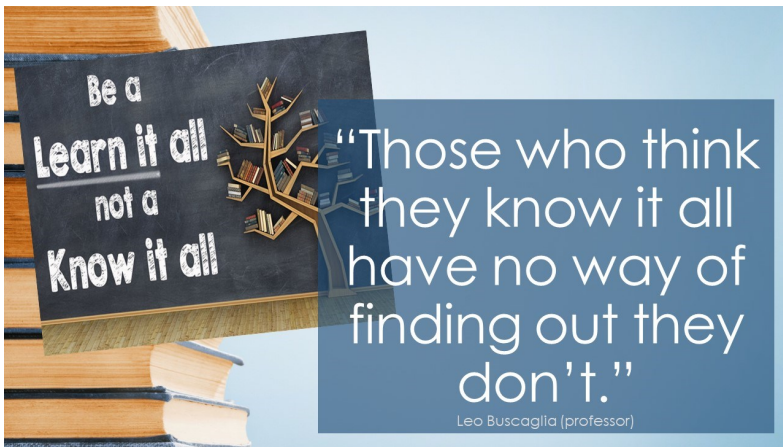
To which group do you belong?

Laziness

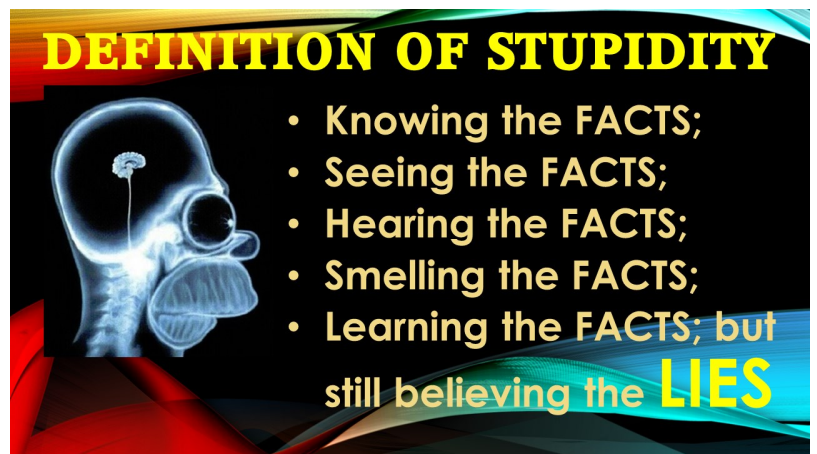


“Lazy Teachers Make Lazy Students”





Stupidity



Professionalism



“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.... Without education, you're not going anywhere in this world.”

—*Malcolm X*

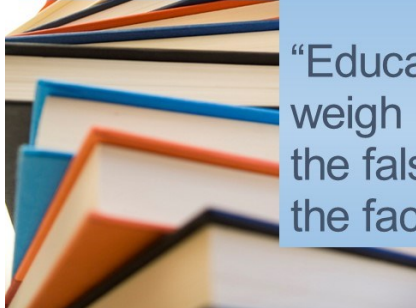


Malcolm X on Education

Martin Luther King, Jr.
on Education



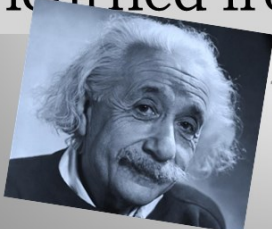
“If we are not careful, our colleges will produce a group of close-minded, unscientific, illogical propagandists, consumed with immoral acts. Be careful, 'brethren!' Be careful, teachers!....”



“Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction....”

Martin Luther King, Jr.—“The Purpose of Education” from Morehouse College student newspaper, *The Maroon Tiger*, 1947

“The value of an education in a liberal arts college is not the learning of many facts but the training of the mind to think something that cannot be learned from textbooks.”



---*Albert Einstein, 1921*

Albert Einstein on Education

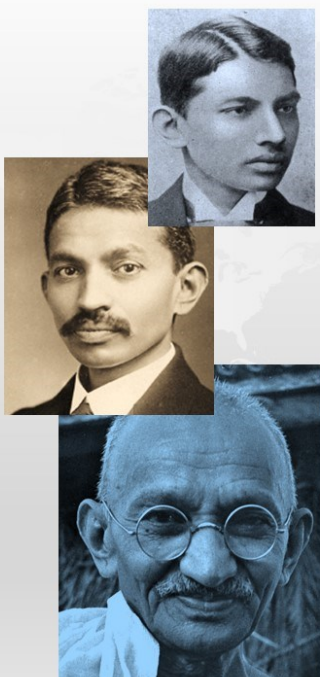
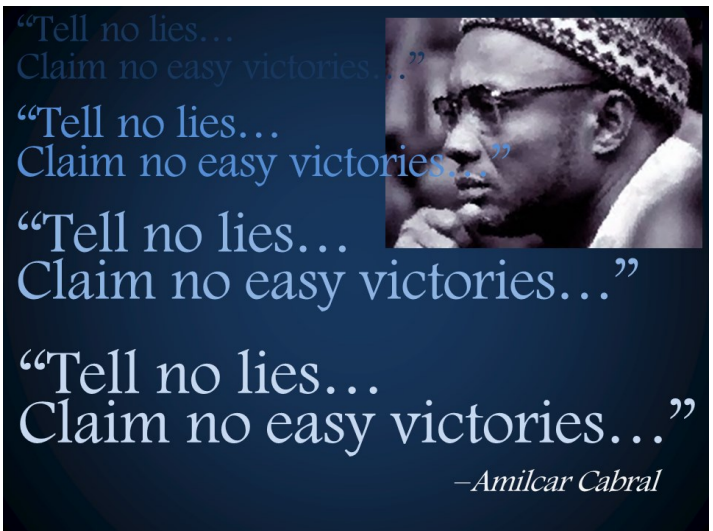
The Ignorantsia vs the Intelligentsia

“The educated back up their views on major issues of the day with research, while the uneducated back up theirs with ignorance!”



The Ignorantsia versus The Intelligenstia

Amilcar Cabral: Tell No Lies.... Claim no Easy Victories....



“I offer you peace.
I offer you love.
I offer you friendship.
I see your beauty.
I hear your need.
I feel your feelings.
My wisdom flows from the Highest Source.
I salute that Source in you.
Let us work together. For unity and peace.”

--Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhi on Peace

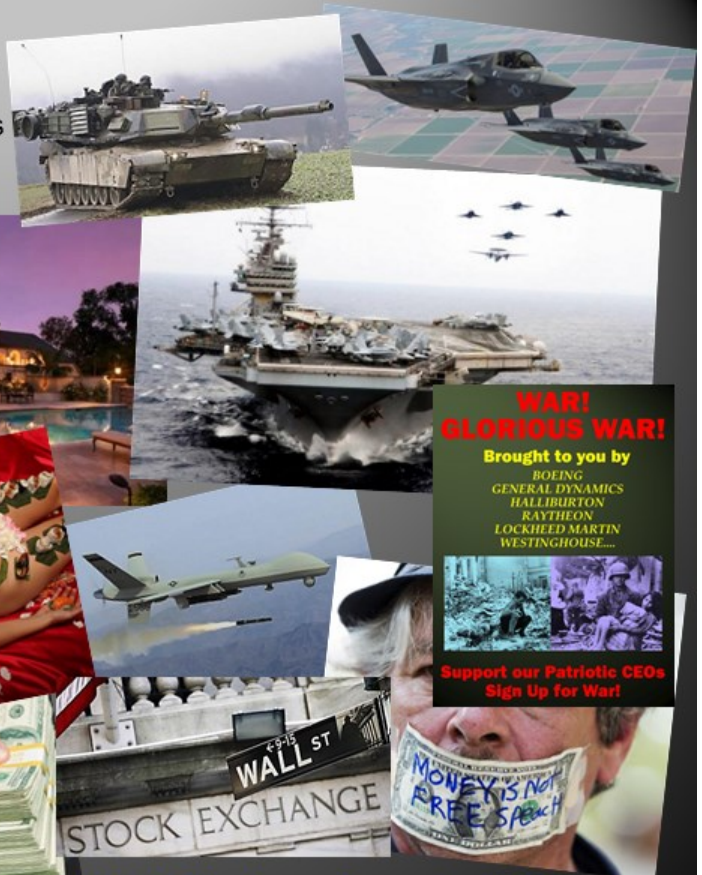
“I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and cause me to tremble for safety of my country; corporations have been enthroned, an era of corruption in High Places will follow, and the Money Power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the People, until the wealth is aggregated in a few hands, and the Republic destroyed.”

--Abraham Lincoln, 1864



Thomas Jefferson;
Abraham Lincoln;
and Dwight Eisenhower: On Corporations and Corruption

Thomas Jefferson's warning: "...A single and splendid government of an aristocracy, founded on banking institutions, and monied incorporations under the guise and cloak of their favored branches of manufactures, commerce and navigation, riding and ruling over the plundered ploughman and beggared yeomanry."



Dwight Eisenhower's warning: "We must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the *military industrial complex*. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist."

1809: *Bank of the United States v. Deveaux*;
1844: *Louisville, Cincinnati, and Charleston Railroad v. Letson*;
1886: *County of Santa Clara v. Southern Pacific Railroad*;
1898: *Smyth v. Ames*;

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT AND CLASS WARFARE



Sides with Big Business
Declares that corporations
are persons too who
deserve the same rights as
ordinary people !

1906: *Hale v. Henkel*;
1977: *United States v. Martin Linen Supply Co.*;
2010: *Citizens United v. FEC*;
2014: *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby*



**MONEY IS THE ROOT OF LIFE,
LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT
OF HAPPINESS**

*WE DON'T HAVE CHILD POVERTY IN
THE U.S. THEY ARE ALL JUST LAZY
KIDS! PUT THEM TO WORK
CLEANING TOILETS*

Class warfare



“The unconscionable caterwauls by the right wing that the working classes are fomenting ‘class warfare’ when they demand that the wealthy must also contribute to society by, among other things, paying their fair share of taxes is to engage in a most cynical and obscene chicanery; so typical of the right.”

Class Struggle





**WAR!
GLORIOUS WAR!**

Brought to you by

BOEING
GENERAL DYNAMICS
HALLIBURTON
RAYTHEON
LOCKHEED MARTIN
WESTINGHOUSE...

**Support our Patriotic CEOs
Sign Up for War!**

Militarism, Corporations and Class Warfare

**PEOPLE DIED DEFENDING
THIS COUNTRY, NOT
CORPORATIONS!**

**CORPORATIONS ARE NOT
PEOPLE!**

SCAMMING THE CITIZENRY CORPORATIONS AND TAX DODGING

Corporations are paying a smaller share of federal tax revenue than they did in the 1950s, dropping from one-third then to only one-tenth of the total today. Yet, an army of lobbyists is pushing hard to convince Congress to cut the corporate income tax rate... Conservatives have defined the debate in a highly misleading manner. They focus on the top statutory rate — the rate specified by law — instead of the effective tax rate — what is actually paid.

- Corporate share of federal tax revenue has dropped by two-thirds in 60 years — from 32% in 1952 to 10% in 2013.
- General Electric, Boeing, Verizon and 23 other profitable Fortune 500 firms paid no federal income taxes from 2008 to 2012.
- 288 big and profitable Fortune 500 corporations paid an average effective federal tax rate of just 19.4% from 2008 to 2012.
- Profitable corporations paid U.S. income taxes amounting to just 12.6% of worldwide income in 2010.
- U.S. corporations dodge \$90 billion a year in income taxes by shifting profits to subsidiaries — often no more than post office boxes — in tax havens.
- U.S. corporations officially hold \$2.1 trillion in profits offshore — much of it in tax havens — that have not yet been taxed here.
- Some corporations pay nothing in taxes.
- Lower tax rates do not boost growth and jobs.

Source: <http://www.americansfortaxfairness.org>

Corporations, Corruption, and Inequality

WORKING FOR THE FEW Political capture and economic inequality

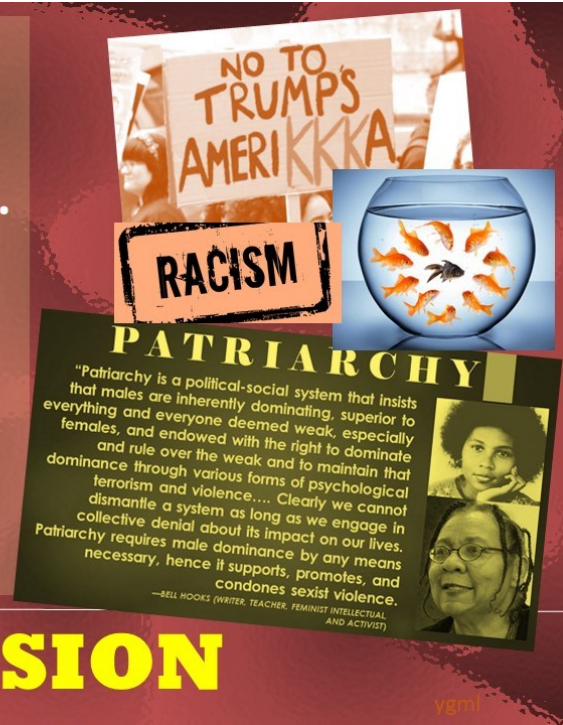
Economic inequality is rapidly increasing in the majority of countries. The wealth of the world is divided in two: almost half going to the richest one percent; the other half to the remaining 99 percent. The World Economic Forum has identified this as a major risk to human progress. Extreme economic inequality and political capture are too often interdependent. Left unchecked, political institutions become undermined and governments overwhelmingly serve the interests of economic elites to the detriment of ordinary people. Extreme inequality is not inevitable, and it can and must be reversed quickly....

- Almost half of the world's wealth is now owned by just one percent of the population.
- The wealth of the one percent richest people in the world amounts to \$110 trillion. That's 65 times the total wealth of the bottom half of the world's population.
- The bottom half of the world's population owns the same as the richest 85 people in the world.
- Seven out of ten people live in countries where economic inequality has increased in the last 30 years.
- The richest one percent increased their share of income in 24 out of 26 countries for which we have data between 1980 and 2012.
- In the US, the wealthiest one percent captured 95 percent of post-financial crisis growth since 2009, while the bottom 90 percent became poorer.

Source: Oxfam Report, 2014. <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/working-few>



“Human beings are sufficiently altruistic, intelligent, and rational to preclude oppression solely for the sake of oppression. In other words, at the root of **all** forms of oppression (classism, disablism, ethnicism, racism, sexism, etc.) is **exploitation** for purposes that range from material aggrandizement to scapegoating to empire-building.



OPPRESSION

Oppression in a Capitalist Democracy

The Meaning of Oppression in a Capitalist DEMOCRACY

The oppressed have to work twice as hard, to get half as far. The reverse is true for the oppressors: they can work half as hard, to get twice as far.



The So-called "Right to Work" Laws **EQUALS** The Right to EXPLOIT Laws

Hello... ! Smell the coffee!



Support Our Unions!

Where would you be today without unions?
Unions brought you child labor laws; the minimum wage; the "weekend"; workplace safety; paid lunch breaks; the 8-hour work day; overtime; pensions; workmen's compensation; Medicare; collective bargaining; and much, much more!

The Working Class and Self-Oppression

The Working Class and Self-Oppression



"Let me get this straight:

You want to defund social security, and take away people's financial security in the future;

you want to defund Medicare and take away their health security now;

you want to defund planned parenthood so we can have more unwanted children, and more sexually transmitted diseases;

you want to defund public education so only those who can afford to go to private schools will have an education;

you want to defund housing assistance so the poor can become homeless; and

you want everyone to be able to buy assault rifles!

What a man! I am voting for YOU! "

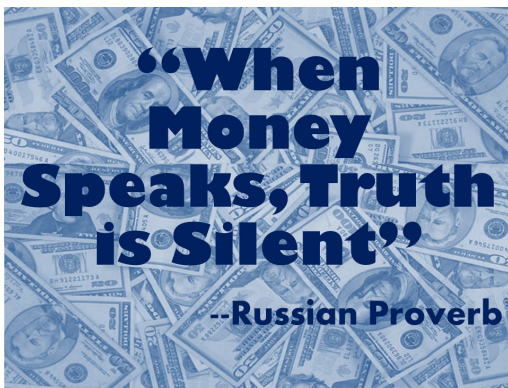
“a single and splendid government of an aristocracy, founded on banking institutions, and monied incorporations under the guise and cloak of their favored branches of manufactures, commerce and navigation, riding and ruling over the plundered ploughman and beggared yeomanry.”

—Thomas Jefferson, 1825



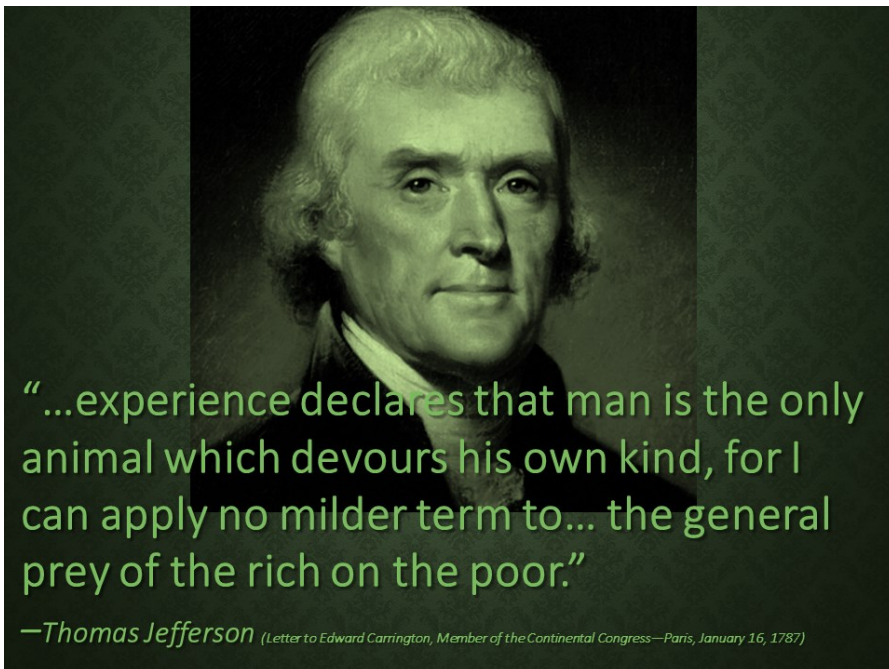
Thomas Jefferson on Class Warfare

Warren Buffet on Class Warfare



“There's class warfare, all right, but it's my class, the rich class, that's making war, and we're winning.”

—Warren Edward Buffet (Billionaire Investor and Philanthropist)

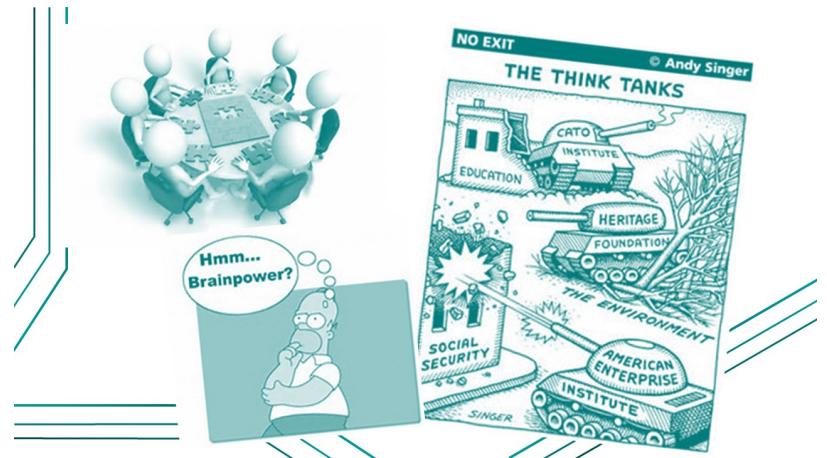


Thomas Jefferson on Class Warfare

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.... This is not a way of life at all in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.”

--Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953

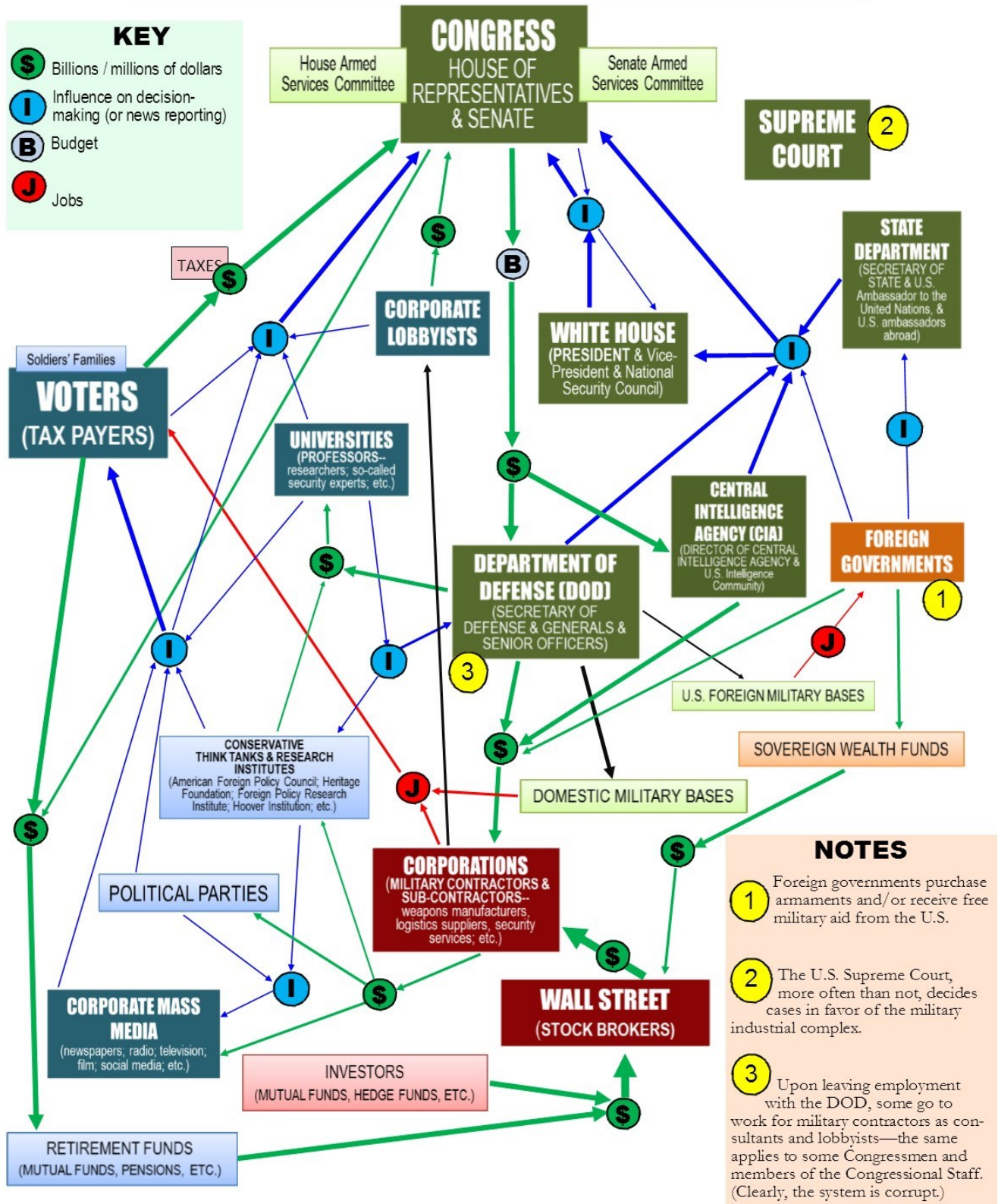
Militarism and the Conservative Think Tanks: Prostitution of the Intellect



“In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.”

--Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1960

THE U.S. MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX



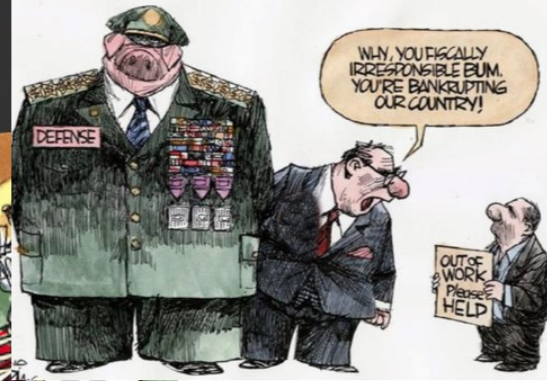
The U.S. Military Industrial Complex

THE U.S. MILITARY INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

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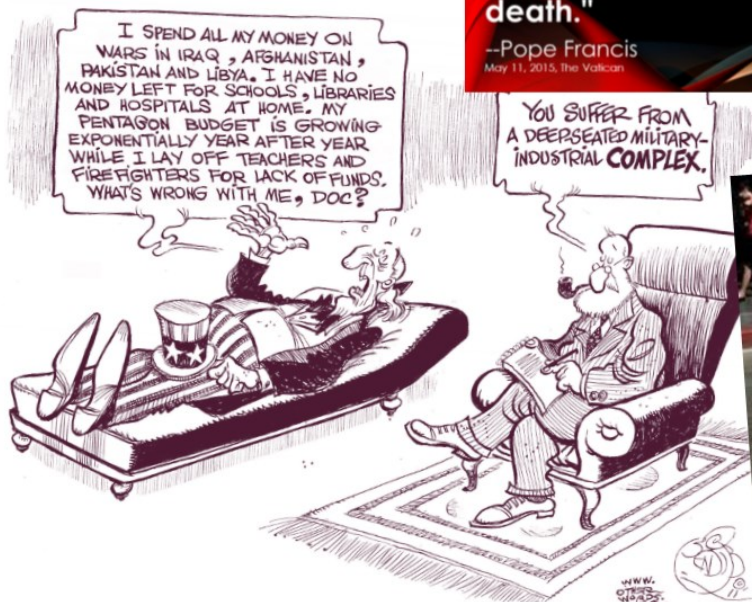
The U.S. military budget totals more than the *combined* military budgets of the next 5 or 6 top spenders in the world. Domestically, both the military and intelligence budgets *considered together* equals about 50% of the *entire* federal budget!



"MANY POWERFUL PEOPLE DON'T WANT PEACE BECAUSE THEY LIVE OFF WAR."

Some powerful people make their living with the production of arms. It's the industry of death."

—Pope Francis
May 11, 2015, the Vatican



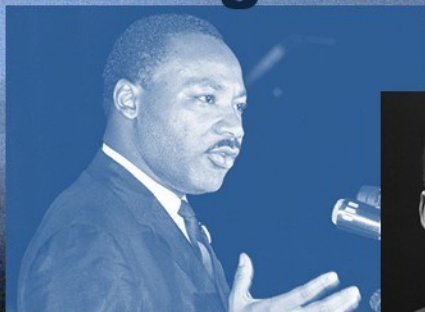
THE "COLOR" OF U.S. MILITARY INTERVENTIONS

Greece, 1947-1949; Philippines, 1948-1954; Puerto Rico, 1950; Korea, 1951-1953; Iran, 1953; Guatemala, 1954; Lebanon, 1958; Panama, 1958; Vietnam, 1960-1975; Cuba, 1961; Laos, 1962; Iraq, 1963; Panama, 1964; Indonesia, 1965; Dominican Republic, 1965-1966; Guatemala, 1966-1967; Cambodia, 1969-1975; Oman, 1970; Laos, 1971-1973; Chile, 1973; Cambodia, 1975; Angola, 1976-1992; Iran, 1980; Libya, 1981; El Salvador, 1981-1992; Nicaragua, 1981-1990; Lebanon, 1982-1984; Iran, 1984; Libya, 1986; Bolivia, 1986; Iran, 1987-1988; Libya, 1989; Virgin Islands, 1989; Panama, 1989-?; Saudi Arabia, 1990-1991; Iraq, 1990-1991; Kuwait, 1991; Somalia, 1992-1994; Yugoslavia, 1992-1994; Haiti, 1994; Zaire (DRC) 1996-1997; Sudan, 1998; Afghanistan, 1998; Iraq, 1998; Yugoslavia, 1999; Afghanistan, 2001-?; Yemen, 2002; Philippines, 2002-?; Colombia, 2003-?; Iraq, 2003-2011; Liberia, 2003; Haiti, 2004-2005; Pakistan, 2005-?; Somalia, 2006-?; Yemen, 2009-?; Iraq-2014-?; Syria, 2014-?

Race and U.S. Military Interventions

Martin Luther King, Jr. on Militarism

“When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, militarism and economic exploitation are incapable of being conquered.”



Martin Luther King, Jr., "Why I Am Opposed to the War in Vietnam," Sermon at the Ebenezer Baptist Church on April 30, 1967

**"MANY POWERFUL PEOPLE
DON'T WANT PEACE BECAUSE
THEY LIVE OFF WAR.**

**Some powerful people
make their living with
the production of arms.
It's the industry of
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--Pope Francis
May 11, 2015, The Vatican



Civilization vs Barbarity

**"To glorify war as
representing
civilization is a folly
of the greatest
magnitude; nay,
war represents
nothing less than
ultimate barbarity!"**



—ygml

PATRIARCHY

- Unequal pay for the same work
- Sexual harassment and violence
- Demeaning / dehumanizing media depictions
- Objectification of personhood
- Arrogant claims over ownership of time / labor
- Persistent violations of human rights / civil rights
- Celebration of the culture of rape and misogyny
- Claims over ownership of the female body
- Arbitrary assignment of gender roles
- Male domination of the workplace
- Male domination of the political system
- Male domination of the economic system

"The enemy of feminism isn't men. It's patriarchy, and patriarchy is not men. It is a system, and women can support the system of patriarchy just as men can support the fight for gender equality."

—Justine Musk (Canadian Author)

What is Patriarchy?

The Women Behind "Title IX" and Gender Equity



Dr. Bernice R. Sandler



Rep. Edith S. Green



Rep. Patsy T. Mink

Title IX

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under **any education program or activity** receiving federal financial assistance...."

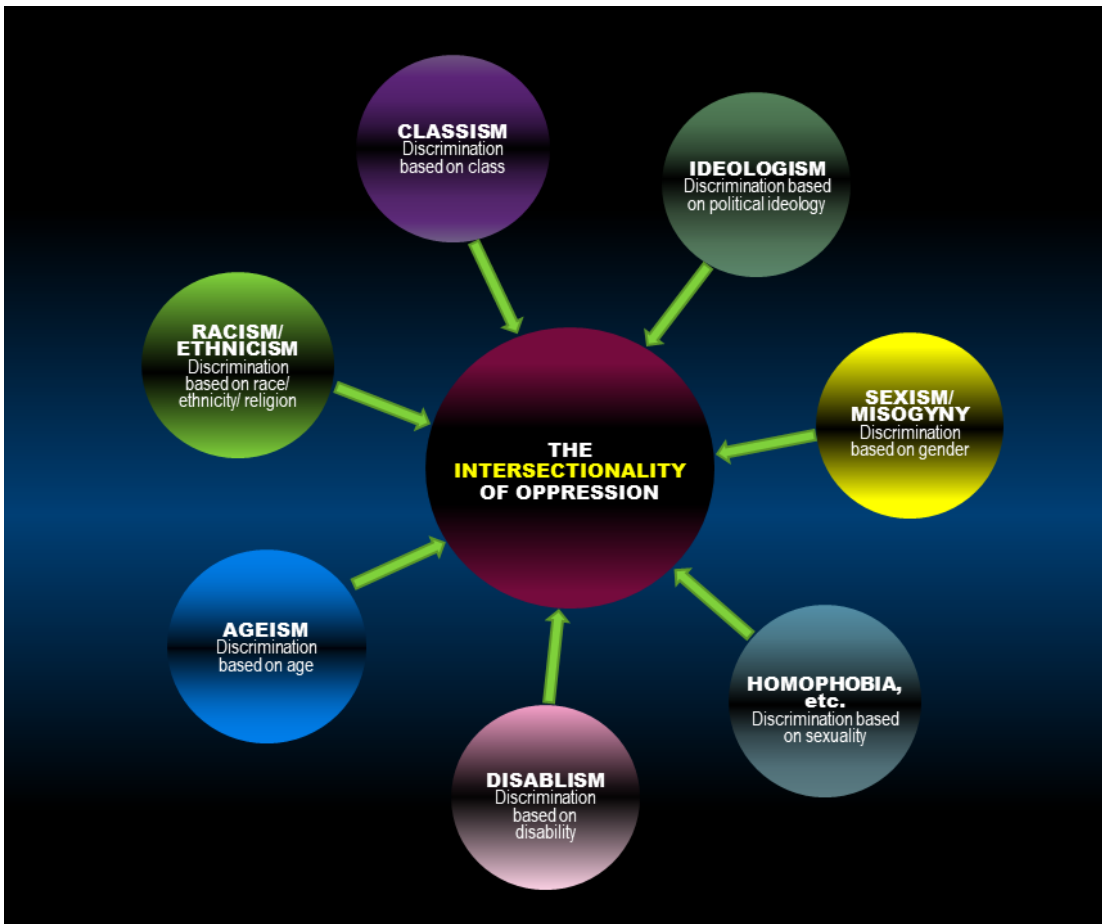
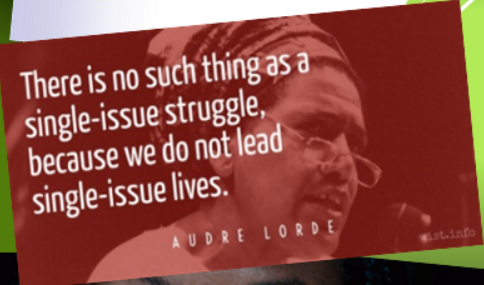
(Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, renamed in 2002 as *Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal Opportunity Education Act of 1972* in honor, following her death, of one of its co-sponsors and co-author: Patsy Takemoto Mink.)

Dr. Bernice R. Sandler, Rep. Edith S. Green, and Rep. Patsy T. Mink: The Women Behind Title IX and Gender Equity

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Note: The theory behind intersectionality was first articulated by the African American legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw in her article published in 1989 in the journal *University of Chicago Legal Forum*, titled "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics." She had written it as a criticism of white feminists who, quite often, remained naively insensitive to the racism that black women experienced in United States--a problem that continues to plague them to this day because of their *colorblind racism*.



What is Intersectionality?

“THE EMOTIONAL, SEXUAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL STEREOTYPING OF FEMALES BEGINS WHEN THE DOCTOR SAYS, 'IT'S A GIRL.'

—*Shirley Chisholm* (U.S. Congress Woman, 1969-1983) “Unbought and Unbossed”

“I want history to remember me... not as the first black woman to have made a bid for the presidency of the United States, but as a black woman who lived in the 20th century and who dared to be herself. I want to be remembered as a catalyst for change in America.” —*Shirley Chisholm* (1924-2005)



Rep. Shirley Chisholm on Patriarchy

Patriarchy and the Male Gaze

PATRIARCHY AND THE “MALE GAZE”

"In a world ordered by sexual imbalance, pleasure in looking has been split between active/male and passive/female. The determining male gaze projects its phantasy on the female figure which is styled accordingly. In their traditional exhibitionist role women are simultaneously looked at and displayed, with their appearance coded for strong visual and erotic impact so that they can be said to connote *to-be-looked-at-ness*. Women displayed as sexual object is the leit motif of erotic spectacle: from pin-ups to strip-tease..."

Laura Mulvey

(From her article "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema" published in Screen, Fall 1975)

PATRIARCHY

“Patriarchy is a political-social system that insists that males are inherently dominating, superior to everything and everyone deemed weak, especially females, and endowed with the right to dominate and rule over the weak and to maintain that dominance through various forms of psychological terrorism and violence.... Clearly we cannot dismantle a system as long as we engage in collective denial about its impact on our lives. Patriarchy requires male dominance by any means necessary, hence it supports, promotes, and condones sexist violence.

—*BELL HOOKS* (WRITER, TEACHER, FEMINIST INTELLECTUAL, AND ACTIVIST)



bell hooks on What is Patriarchy?

MISOGYNY

At the level of the *individual male*, according to *Psychology Today*: “misogyny is typically an unconscious hatred that men form early in life, often as a result of a trauma involving a female figure they trusted.... Women haters (unconsciously) get off on treating women badly. Every time they can put down a woman or hurt her feelings, they unconsciously feel good because deep down in their hidden brain, their bad behavior is rewarded with a dose of the pleasure chemical dopamine—which makes them want to repeat the behavior again and again.” It then lists these traits as typical of the misogynist:

- “He will zero in on a woman and choose her as his target. Her natural defenses may be down because he’s flirtatious, exciting, fun, and charismatic at first.
- As time goes on, he begins to reveal a Jekyll & Hyde personality. He may change quickly from irresistible to rude, and from rude back to irresistible.
- He will make promises to women and often fail to keep them. With men, on the other hand, he will almost always keep his word.
- He will be late for appointments and dates with women, but be quite punctual with men.
- His behavior toward women in general is grandiose, cocky, controlling, and self-centered.
- He is extremely competitive, especially with women. If a woman does better than him socially or professionally, he feels terrible....
- He will unknowingly treat women differently from men in workplace and social settings, allowing men various liberties for which he will criticize female colleagues or friends.
- He will be prepared (unconsciously) to use anything within his power to make women feel miserable. He may demand sex or withhold sex in his relationships, make jokes about women or put them down in public, “borrow” their ideas in professional contexts without giving them credit, or borrow money from them without paying them back.
- On a date, he will treat a woman the opposite of how she prefers....
- Sexually, he likes to control women and gives little or no attention to their sexual pleasure....
- He will cheat on women he is dating or in a relationship with. Monogamy is the last thing he feels he owes a woman.
- He may suddenly disappear from a relationship without ending it, but may come back three months later with an explanation designed to lure the woman back in.

Only rarely will a misogynist possess everyone of these traits, which makes it harder to identify them. Their ability to lure women in with their charm and charisma adds to the difficulty of spotting the early-warning signs.”

Source: “12 Ways to Spot a Misogynist” By Berit Brogaard in *Psychology Today*, 2015 (Available at www.psychologytoday.com)

“We are the women who care for this country. We are Black, we are women of color, we are immigrants. Behind closed doors we face harassment and abuse. Today, we stand with farmworkers and women in Hollywood to say:
#TIMESUP on abuse and harassment.
#TIMESUP on exploitation. #TIMESUP on silence.



Domestic work makes all other work possible!

Visit National Domestic Workers Alliance at <https://www.domesticworkers.org>

Intersectionality—the Gender-Class-Race Nexus: Exploitation and Violence

“Tweet” of the Year

“You cannot silence me or the millions of women who have gotten off the sidelines to speak out about the unfitness and shame you have brought to the Oval Office.”

<https://t.co/UbQZqubXZv>

— U.S. Senator, Ms. Kirsten Gillibrand
(@SenGillibrand) Dec. 12, 2017



Christopher Columbus and Native Americans



The Columbian Project and its Aftermath: A Native American Perspective

WHITE FOLKS ON RACE (IN A CAPITALIST DEMOCRACY)

Liberals:

The "darkies" can be seen, but should not be heard.

Conservatives:

The "darkies" should neither be seen nor heard.

Progressives:

All, regardless of their color, should be seen and heard.

Liberals, Conservatives,
and Progressives on Race
in a Capitalist Democracy

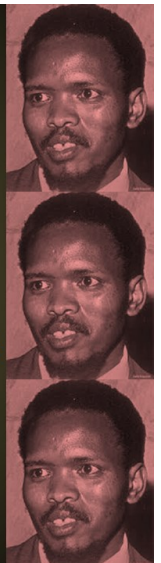
“The most potent weapon of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed. So as a prelude whites must be made to realize that they are only human, not superior. Same with Blacks. They must be made to realize that they are also human, not inferior.”—Steve Biko



Steve Biko on Race

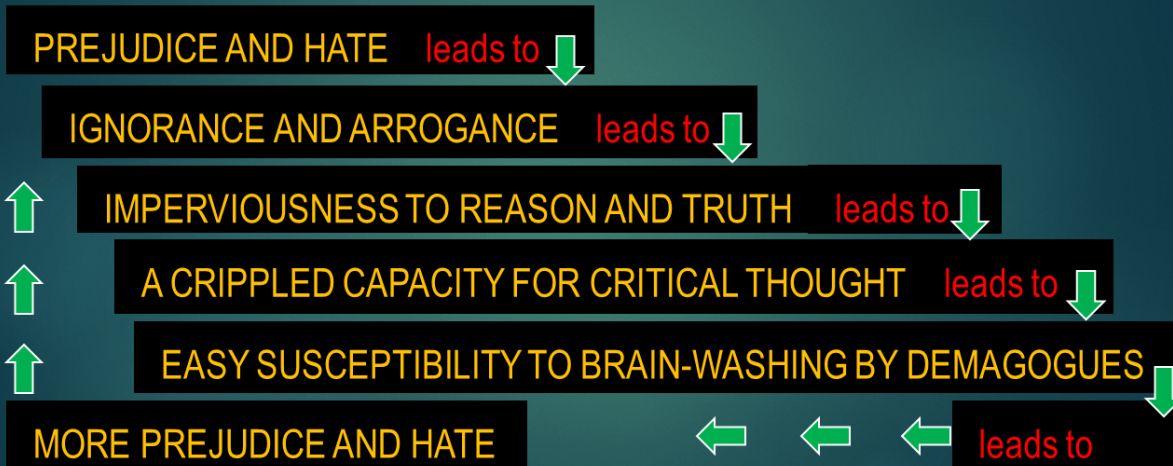
“Instead of involving themselves in an all-out attempt to stamp out racism from their white society, liberals waste a lot of time trying to prove to as many blacks as they can find that they are liberal.”

—Steve Biko

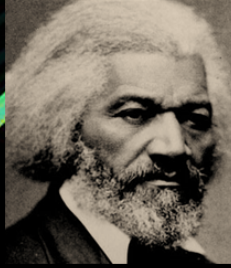
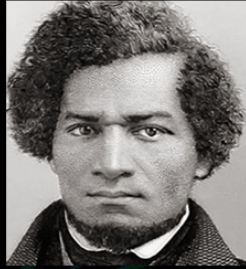


Prejudice and Hate Cripples the Brain

THE “DEAD” BRAIN: A VICIOUS CIRCLE



Frederick
Douglass on the
Meaning of the
Fourth of July



“This Fourth of July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn. To drag a man in fetters into the grand illuminated temple of liberty, and call upon him to join you in joyous anthems, [is] inhuman mockery and sacrilegious irony.... What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are, to Him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy—a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of the United States, at this very hour.

Frederick Douglass

(Escaped African American slave, Abolitionist, Writer, and Orator)
From an address delivered on July 5, 1852, in Rochester, New York

“And the man who shot Gandhi only shot him into the hearts of humanity. And just as when Abraham Lincoln was shot—mark you, for the same reason that Mahatma Gandhi was shot, that is, the attempt to heal the wounds of a divided nation. When the great leader Abraham Lincoln was shot, Secretary Stanton stood by the body of this leader and said, “Now he belongs to the ages.” And that same thing can be said about Mahatma Gandhi now. He belongs to the ages, and he belongs especially to this age, an age drifting once more to its doom.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.—from his Palm Sunday Sermon on Mahatma Gandhi, 22 March 1959



Martin Luther
King, Jr. on
Mahatma
Gandhi



“Science investigates; religion interprets. Science gives man knowledge, which is power; religion gives man wisdom, which is control. Science deals mainly with facts; religion deals mainly with values. The two are not rivals.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.—“A Tough Mind and a Tender Heart,” August 30, 1959

Martin Luther King, Jr. on Science and Religion

Martin Luther King, Jr. on Love and Hate

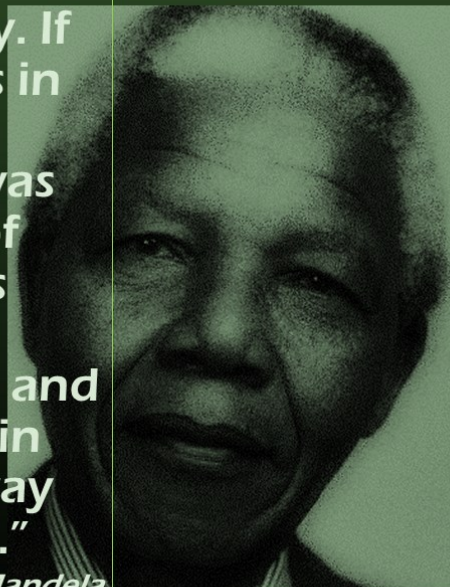
“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend....”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.—from his book *Strength to Love*, 1963

“It is never my custom to use words lightly. If twenty-seven years in prison have done anything to us, it was to use the silence of solitude to make us understand how precious words are and how real speech is in its impact on the way people live and die.”

—Nelson Mandela



Nelson Mandela on Choosing your Words Carefully



“We declare our right on this earth...to be a human being, to be respected as a human being, to be given the rights of a human being in this society, on this earth, in this day, which we intend to bring into existence *by any means necessary.*”

—Malcolm X (el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz)

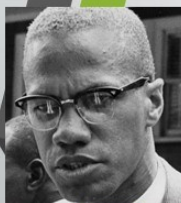
Malcolm X on the Struggle for Human Rights

Malcolm X on the Power of the Media



“The media's the most powerful entity on earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, and that's power. Because they control the minds of the masses.”

—Malcolm X



“I am not a racist.... In the past I permitted myself to be used...to make sweeping indictments of all white people, the entire white race and these generalizations have caused injuries to some whites who perhaps did not deserve to be hurt. Because of the spiritual enlightenment which I was blessed to receive as a result of my recent pilgrimage to the Holy city of Mecca, I no longer subscribe to sweeping indictments of any one race. I am now striving to live the life of a true...Muslim. I must repeat that I am not a racist nor do I subscribe to the tenants of racism. I can state in all sincerity that I wish nothing but freedom, justice and equality, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all people.”

—Malcolm X (el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz)

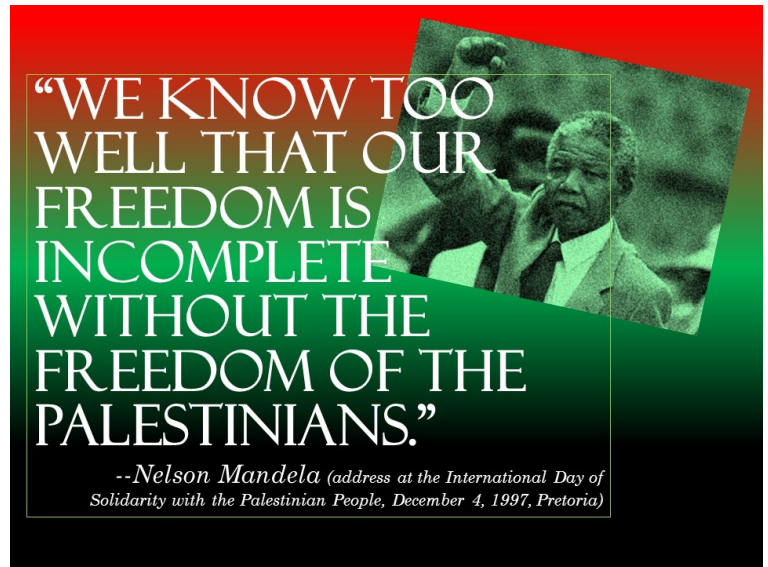
Malcolm X on “I am Not a Racist



"If the A.N.C. does to you what the apartheid government did to you, then you must do to the A.N.C. what you did to the apartheid government."

-Nelson Mandela (address to the 1993 COSATU Congress)

Nelson Mandela on Keeping the ANC True to Its Mission

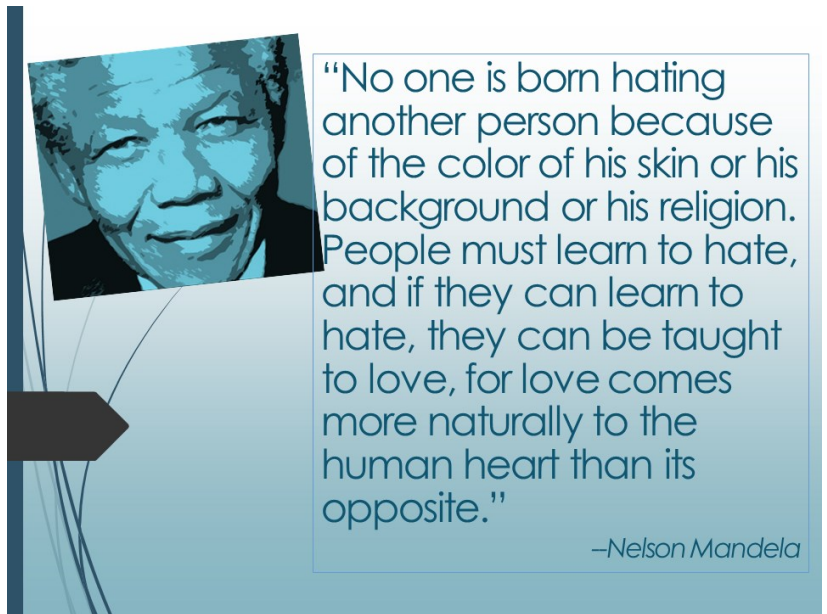


"WE KNOW TOO WELL THAT OUR FREEDOM IS INCOMPLETE WITHOUT THE FREEDOM OF THE PALESTINIANS."

--Nelson Mandela (address at the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, December 4, 1997, Pretoria)

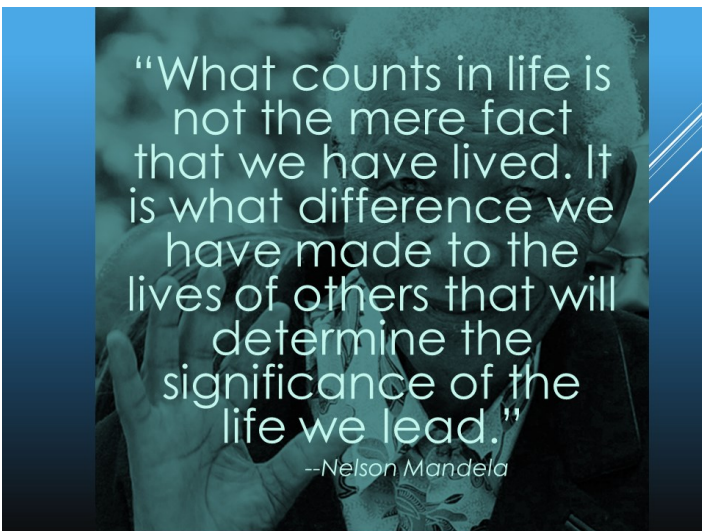
Nelson Mandela on Palestinian Freedom

Nelson Mandela on Love and Hate



"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin or his background or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

-Nelson Mandela



"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

--Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela on the Significance of One's Life

"If you can convince the lowest white man he's better than the best colored man, he won't notice you're picking his pocket. Hell, give him somebody to look down on, and he'll empty his pockets for you." *—President Lyndon Baines Johnson*

Off-the-cuff remark in a hotel in Tennessee in 1960, and reported by Bill D. Moyers in his article in *The Washington Post*, November 13, 1988, p. C05



President Lyndon Baines Johnson on the Political Functions of Whiteness

Comprehending the Class-Race Nexus: The Political Functions of "Whiteness"

Prejudice is a Powerful Antidote to Truth

**"Prejudice is
a Powerful
Antidote to
Truth"**

--ygmI

"In the final analysis, political leaders, including tyrants, are made by people."

--ygmI

Leaders, including Tyrants are
Made by People

**"Victimization by
Oppression does Not
Automatically Make
You a Morally
Superior Person!"**

--ygmI

Oppression Does Not Automatically
Make You a Morally Superior Person



Scapegoating

**AVERSIVE
RACISM
is TODAY'S
"JIM CROW"**

**TEN MOST
SEGREGATED
U.S. CITIES:**

1. Milwaukee
2. New York
3. Chicago
4. Detroit
5. Cleveland
6. Buffalo
7. St. Louis
8. Cincinnati
9. Philadelphia
10. Los Angeles



Aversive Racism is Today's Jim Crow

ACKNOWLEDGING

RACIALIZATION

“Race continues to play a defining role in one’s life trajectory and outcomes. A complex system of racial bias and inequities is at play, deeply rooted in our country’s history, culture and institutions. This system of racialization — which routinely confers advantage and disadvantage based on skin color and other characteristics — must be clearly understood, directly challenged and fundamentally transformed. If our nation is to live up to its democratic ideals — that all people are created equal and treated fairly — then racial equity and inclusion must be at the forefront of how we shape our institutions, policies and culture.”

The Annie E. Casey Foundation, United States. *Race Equity and Inclusion Action Guide*, 2014, p. 2.

The Continuing Racialization of U.S. Society



An image from the medieval period showing the mass murder of Jews by fire

"In the final analysis, political tyrants, including tyrants, are made by people."

Anti-Semitism



Antisemitism, still alive today

The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict and Hate: the Gift that Keeps on Giving



Some Prominent Scholars of the Islamic Empire

SOME PROMINENT SCHOLARS OF THE ISLAMIC EMPIRE

This list of prominent Muslim scholars of the Islamic Empire are among those whose work helped to propel the European West toward the Renaissance. Remember, no civilization ever emerges without the contributions of others.

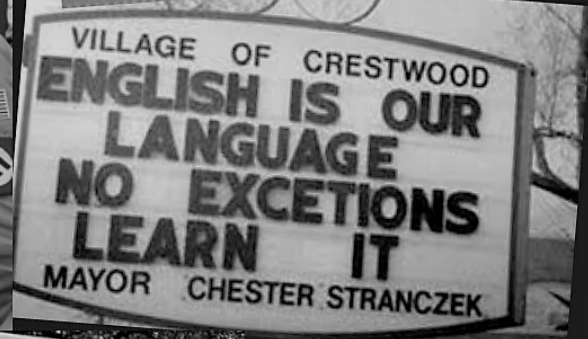
- ◆ **Abu Musa Jabir ibn-Hayyan** (c. 721–815, known in the Latin West as Geber), an alchemist who advocated the importance of experiments in advancing scientific knowledge. His work would be foundational to the development of the field of chemistry.
- ◆ **Musa al-Khwarazmi** (d. c. 863), his seminal contributions in mathematics helped to develop that field enormously. In fact, through his mathematical treatise, *al-Jabr wa'l-Mugabalah*, he not only gave the West the term “algebra” (Latinized shorthand of the title of his treatise), but far more significant than that, he was the conduit for the passage of arithmetic numerals from India to the West. For example, he would be responsible for the introduction to the Latin West of such key mathematical tools as the concept of “zero” (an independent Hindu/ Chinese invention in the sixth-century C.E.), and the decimal system. His other contributions included sine and cotangent tables, astronomical tables, and the cartographic concepts of latitude and longitude. Even the term algorithm comes from him, albeit unwittingly—it is the Latinized version of his name. He also produced a revised version of Ptolemy’s geography, which he called *The Face of the Earth*.
- ◆ **Abu Yusuf Ya’qub Ibn Ishaq ibn al-Sabbah al-Kindi** (died c. 870) a philosopher and mathematician, his contributions included works on Hindu numerals and geometry, and physiological optics.
- ◆ **Abu Bakr Muhammed bin Zakariyya’ al-Razi** (844–926, known as Rhazes in the Latin West), a physician whose work helped to further greatly the development of clinical medicine. His work on the diseases of childhood would earn him the accolade of “Father of Pediatrics” in the West.
- ◆ **Muhammed Ibn Muhammed Ibn Tarkhan ubn Uzalagh al-Farabi** (c. 878–c. 950, known in the Latin West as Alfarabius), author of the *Enumeration of the Sciences*, provided an integrated approach to the sciences and reiterated the distinction between divine knowledge and human knowledge.
- ◆ **Abu Al-Husayn Ali Ibn Al-Husayn Al-Masudi** (d. 957), historian and explorer who is sometimes referred to as the “Herodotus of the Arabs.” His works included the 132-chapter *The Meadows of Gold and Mines of Gems*, an abridgement of a multidisciplinary multivolume treatise on history and scientific geography of the world.
- ◆ **Abd al-Rahman al-Sufi** (903–986), among the greatest Muslim astronomers (together with *Ibn Yunus* and *Ulegh Beg*), his contributions include a major treatise on observational astronomy titled *The Book of Fixed Stars*.
- ◆ **Abu al-Qasim Khalaf ibn al-Abbas Al-Zahrawi** (930–1013, known to the Latin West as Albucasis), a famous physician and surgeon.
- ◆ **Abu Alimacr al-Hassan Ibn al-Haitham** (c. 965–1039, known in the Latin West as Alhazen). Through his works in optics and related fields, he became a major contributor to the development of the physical sciences in the Latin West. By means of his experiments with light he discovered the laws of refraction as well as the various colors that make up light. He was the first scientist to conclude that sight involved the transmission of light from the seen object to the eye, which acted as a lens.
- ◆ **Abu’ Ali Al-Husain Ibn Abdallah Ibn Sina** (980–1037, known in the Latin West as Avicenna), a philosopher who was among the progenitors of scholasticism in the West and whose intellectual influence would touch Western thinkers as diverse as Thomas Aquinas, Roger Bacon, Robert Grosseteste, Albertus Magnus, Duns Scotus, was a great philosopher and scientist with one of the most prolific pens of his day: among his many works, two that the West got to know well are *The Book of the Remedy* (Kitab al-Shifa)—which, according to Stanton (1990: 85) stands as the “longest encyclopedia of knowledge ever authored by a single person”—and *The Canon of Medicine*, which would remain the principal textbook par excellence on medicine in the West for many, many years.
- ◆ **Abu Raihan al-Biruni** (c. 973–1051), a natural scientist whose work helped to lay the foundations of natural sciences in the Latin West.
- ◆ **Ibn al-Zarqali** (c. 1029–c.1080, known in Latin West as Arzachel). An astronomer who was responsible, among his accomplishments, for the invention of an improved astrolabe (named saphaea Arzachelis), the editing of the planetary tables produced by astronomers such as *Ibn Said* working in Muslim Toledo that came to be called the Toledan Tables, and authorship of an introductory work on trigonometry.
- ◆ **Ghiyath al-Din Abul Fateh Omar Ibn Ibrahim al-Nisaburi al-Khayyami** (1044–1123) Omar Khayyam, as he is commonly known, achieved fame in the West in the nineteenth-century primarily because of his poetry (following the English translation of the Rubaiyat by Edward Fitzgerald). Yet, he was also an accomplished mathematician and astronomer making significant contributions in the area of algebra (e.g., binomial theorem).
- ◆ **Ibn Bajjah** (c. 1095–c. 1138, known in the Latin West as Avempace). A philosopher, whose work on the theory of motion is among his many contributions.
- ◆ **Ash-Sharif al-Idrisi** (1100–1165/667), a geographer and advisor to the Norman king of Sicily, Roger II, was the author of one of the most important medieval texts on geography titled *The Pleasure Excursion of One Who Is Eager to Traverse the Regions of the World*. He spent most of the later part of his life in the service of the Norman king who provided him with the resources necessary to undertake his scholarly pursuits, which included a number of texts that combined descriptive and astronomical geography.
- ◆ **Abu al-Walid Muhammed ibn Ahmad ibn Muhammed Ibn Rushd** (1126–1198, known in the West as Averroes), considered to be among the most important commentators on Aristotelian philosophy of his time (hence he was also known by the name of the Commentator—such was his scholarly authority), would have a far-reaching influence on Western thought; in fact, so much so that it would be symbolized by the intellectual crisis that it would precipitate between the church and the academy as the former attempted to battle what it thought was the theologically corrupting influence of “Averroism” (the belief that philosophy and religion were not only compatible but that philosophy was, in a sense, religion in its purest form). Significantly, he was a great advocate of syllogism, the Aristotelian method of logic.
- ◆ **Nasir al-Din al-Tusi (Muhammad ibn Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Tusi)** (1201–1274), an astronomer par excellence, he would greatly influence the work of such Western astronomers as Nicolaus Copernicus, Johannes Kepler, and Tycho Brahe by means of his accurate astronomical tables that he and his colleagues produced at a famous observatory he helped establish at Maragha (in modern-day Iran)—under the sponsorship of the Mongols no less.

NOTE: As Manfred Ullman (1978) for example points out, in some instances—especially where the author was unknown—the translations of the Islamic scholarship arrived in Europe masquerading as scholarship authored by the translators themselves or their benefactors (rather than as translations of Islamic scholarship). In fact there appears to be some evidence that even at that time Muslims were aware of this problem: d’Alvemy (1982: 440) quotes a late eleventh-century Muslim scholar in Spain, Ibn Abdun, admonishing his fellow Muslims: “You must not sell books of science to Jews and Christians... because it happens that they translate these scientific books and attribute them to their own people and to their bishops, when they are indeed Muslim works.” In other words, even if all the translated Islamic works were available today, the fullest extent of the Islamic scientific scholarly contribution to the Latin West will never be known because of such unashamed wholesale plagiarism.

Glimpses of Jim Crow



The Faces of "Jim Crow" Today



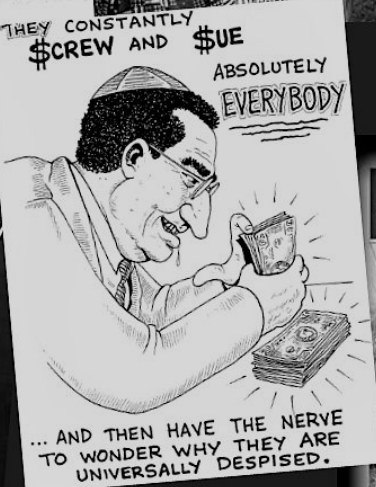
FOR OVER 2 DECADES
CHICAGO POLICE TORTURED OVER 100 PEOPLE.
MOSTLY MEN OF COLOR
SURVIVORS NEED TO HEAL
#RAHMREPNOW



BLAMING ISLAM FOR TERRORISM IS LIKE BLAMING CHRISTIANITY FOR COLONIAL-ISM

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
SLAVERY
PATRIARCHY
GENOCIDE
WORLD WARS
FAMINE
OPPRESSION

EVERY RELIGION HAS ITS EXTREMISTS. END ISLAMOPHOBIA.



Nazism, Nativism, Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, Jingoism, Racism...

Aversive racists

genuinely believe in racial equality and justice but are unwilling to work to abandon their subconscious racist behavior because of growing up in a society that is plagued by institutional racism.



Aversive racists

The Struggle Against Present-Day Jim Crow



What is Aversive Racism?

What is Aversive Racism?

Aversive racism is racist discrimination that works primarily at the individual level (but which may also be manifest, aggregatively, at the societal level) where, in contrast to traditional forms of racism, there is an **aversion** to associating with the target of the discrimination, the **racial Other**, but the perpetrator all the while claiming that he/she is not a racist and in fact firmly believes in such progressive values as: all persons are created equal; racist discrimination is inherently wrong; racial/ethnic diversity everywhere should be the natural state of affairs; and so on. While this dissonance between belief and actual behavior may, at first, appear to be a case of nothing less than blatant hypocrisy, it is not really so because the belief may be quite genuine given the subjection from infancy to adulthood to the socializational imperatives of a socio-cultural-political environment that *ostensibly* (repeat, ostensibly) champions these values, as in the case of Western capitalist democracies. What, then, is the source of this dissonance, which for the racial Other can be just as injurious as dominative racism? To put it very concisely: the historically determined persistence of institutional racism against the backdrop of a legislative environment that attempts to prohibit it.

A Few Examples of Aversive Racism

- Not objecting to attending a multiracially diverse educational institution, yet always avoiding interacting with the racial other (in the classroom, in the cafeteria, in the dorms, in hallways, on commuter busses, etc.).
- Avoiding eye-contact while speaking to the racial other in the workplace, and other similar interpersonal behaviors.
- Supporting the prohibition of racist discrimination in housing while all the while—in practice—accepting, and participating in residential segregation (a pervasive phenomenon, for example, in United States).
- Rationalizing racially discriminatory conduct in employment *in terms other than obvious racism*.
- Subjecting the racial other to different and hence debilitating standards of evaluation in places where evaluations are a norm (e.g. for purposes of promotions in the workplace, when grading coursework in educational settings, when determining pay rates, and so on).

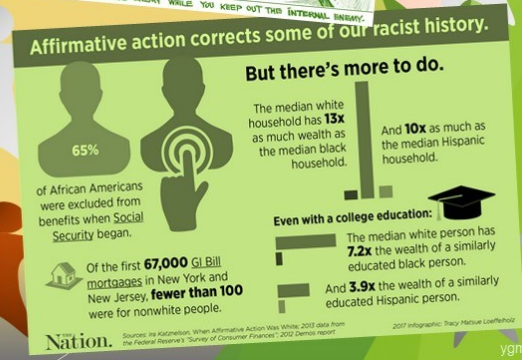
Aversive racists genuinely believe in racial equality and justice but are unwilling to work to abandon their subconscious racist behavior because of growing up in a society that continues to be plagued by institutional racism.



What is Aversive Racism

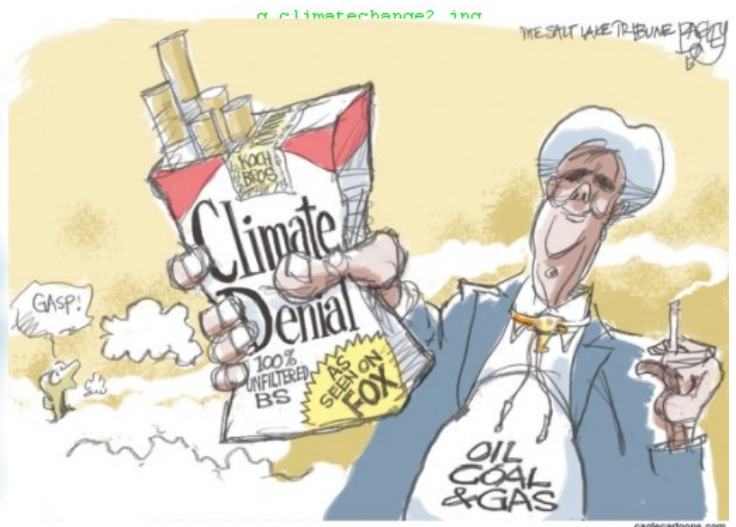
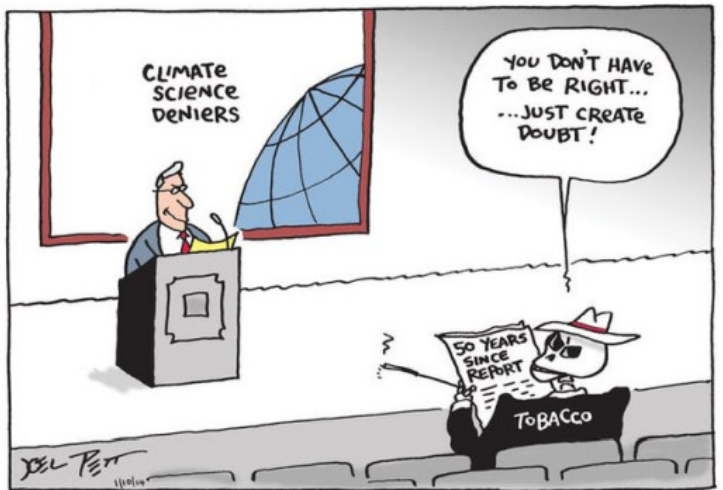
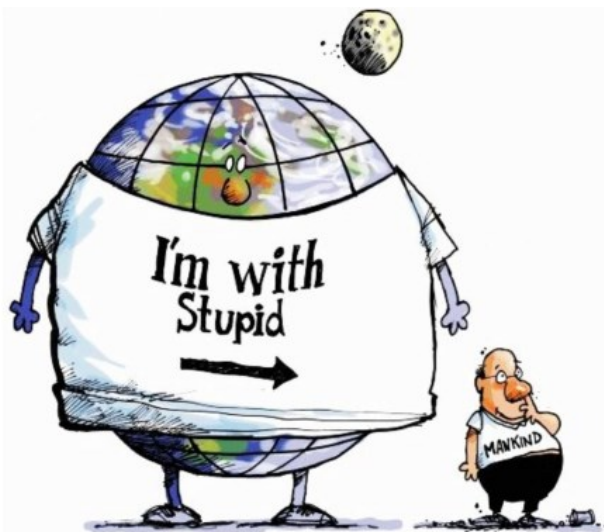
What is Affirmative Action?

"You cannot fight racism with racism, or ethnicism with ethnicism or sexism with sexism or classism with classism! That, however, is *not* what affirmative action policies are about. By prying open historically-determined systems of privilege, affirmative action policies aim to create fairness in society by helping to correct the racist, ethnicist, sexist, classist, etc. inequalities of the past that continue to plague society today. Opposition to affirmative action implies that the present must continue to mirror the iniquitous past; in other words, the name of the game is plain hypocrisy: unfair historically-determined privileges enjoyed by one social group are retained by that group by *ideologically* perverting the true purpose of affirmative action in order to delegitimize it.



What is Affirmative Action

The Size of the Human Brain



The Ignoranti and Climate Change Denial

Climate Change



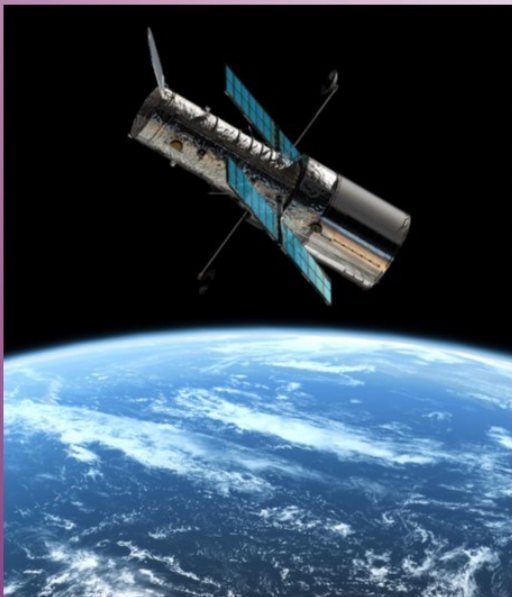
Humanity's Misguided Hubris Laid Bare by the Insignificance of Planet Earth in the Greater Scheme of Things



Portion of [Hubble Extreme Deep Field](#). Every spot and smudge in this image is a galaxy. Credit: NASA, ESA

The *Universe* comprises all of the *galaxies*, which number in the billions. While galaxies, coming in various sizes, are made up of billions of *stars* with associated planets, moons, asteroids, comets, dust, etc. One such galaxy is the spiral shaped *Milky Way Galaxy* that has within it the *Solar System*, the home of the star we call the sun and the planet earth and its moon. Incidentally, the nearest galaxy to the Milky Way is the similar sized and shaped Andromeda Galaxy about 2 million light years away and comprising trillions of stars. The images here come from the Hubble Space Telescope.

The Andromeda Galaxy



The Hubble Space Telescope

The Means to High Production Values



Verisimilitude and the Socialization of Marginality

VERISIMILITUDE AND THE SOCIALIZATION OF MARGINALITY (with the U.S. as an example)

Human desire for pleasure in the form of performance entertainment (genetically determined? Probably).

Leads to a permanent and insatiable quest for verisimilitude.

Leads to the invention of cinema/television (and mass visual entertainment).

Requires expensive technology aimed at high **production values** (and distribution).

Requires large financial outlays—especially because films are almost always a gamble (in terms of viewership).

Requires marketing to as large an audience as possible to recoup the financial investment.

Requires themes and depictions that are in consonance with the outlook of the majority of the audience—Euro-Americans, males, etc.

In the areas of race/gender/class relations these themes and depictions will play to preexisting racist/ sexist/ class **stereotypes**, as well as act to reinforce them. In other words, there is a dialectical relationship between say, racism and sexism in film, and racism and sexism in society at large.

In addition, leads to **textual erasure** of people of color, women, etc. from scenes and storylines altogether—as if they don't exist in society at all.

Final outcome: socialization of **marginality** of people of color, women, the working class, etc. (because films have become a powerful medium of **socialization** in general).

What Does it Mean to be Human

“Our humanity as human beings does not exist separately from the humanity of other human beings; to insist otherwise is to open malevolently the door to that dark abyss of the dehumanization of others—an abyss that in the end cannot also fail to consume our own humanity too.”

