

There is a Specter Haunting America

One of the manifestations of the specter is the pervasive presence of something called Critical Race Theory (CRT). Just like a magician who surprises his audience with his sleight of hand, those promoting CRT disguise their objectives. In fact, CRT has deep roots, and it is helpful to understand its origins.

Ninety years ago, a group Marxist academics from the so-called “Frankfurt School—The Institute for Social Research” fled Nazi Germany and settled into the academic comforts of Columbia University’s Teachers College. It is important to note that the Frankfurt School was patterned after the Marx-Engels Institute in Moscow¹.

While there were many notable philosophers tied to the school, one of the most important and influential was Herbert Marcuse. He is referred to as the “father” of the New-Left, the collection of disaffected leftist students in the late sixties and early seventies. In his major work, The One-Dimensional Man, Marcuse argued through his applied “critical theory” for the destruction of western institutions and the ultimate establishment of liberated society that the disaffected boys and girls of the sixties so desperately hoped for². According to Heritage Action, Marcuse and the others were very “careful to erase the word Marxism from their research papers so as not to attract attention in America”³.

Critical Race Theory (CRT) evolved out of the Frankfurt School’s critical theory (CT) primarily as the result of the work of the late Derrick Bell and his theories on Critical Legal Theory. This later morphed into the CRT of today. It is important to note that much of the writings of modern leftist philosophers are abstruse and logically flawed. In fact, CT and CRT are built on three propositions from the predecessor, Critical Theory⁴:

1. There is no absolute truth
2. Individuals are either an oppressor or victim
3. America is systemically racist and must be dismantled

As with Marx and Engels, there is absolutely nothing “scientific” about CRT. It is merely a fabric woven of grievances and disparate departures from reality.

CRT in a Nutshell

The proponents of CRT assert five tenets⁵. They are described in the academic paper Ph.D. candidate Nicholas Hartlep published in 2009. The tenets are as follows:

- 1) **The notion that racism is ordinary and not aberrational.** The overall ethos of the majority culture promotes and promulgates a notion of “color-blindness” and meritocracy. Hartlep and others assert that “...these two notions ...serve to marginalize certain enclaves of people—predominately people of color. The two notions allow whites to feel “consciously irresponsible for the hardships that people of color face and...maintain whites’ power and strongholds within society.”
- 2) **The idea of interest convergence.** According to Hartlep, the beliefs created by the majority – the haves – oppress minority groups – the have nots and have-too-littles. More precisely, whites will allow and support racial justice if there is something positive in it for them.
- 3) **That race is a social construct.** Race is an invention of the white majority as a vehicle for economic and social oppression of people of color.

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- 4) **The idea of storytelling and counter-storytelling.** School curricula are structured around mainstream, middle-class values. CRT counter-storytelling is the vehicle for the “true stories of the oppressed” can be made public
- 5) **The notion that whites have been the beneficiaries of civil rights legislation.** CRT proponents assert that such things as affirmative action have been most beneficial for whites.

There are numerous academic and general media papers and discussions elaborating on the elements of Critical Race Theory. The important consideration, the “bottom line” if you will, can be summed up by a local commentator on CRT⁶:

“Every American institution was built upon slavery and racial inequality. Racism dominates every interaction in society today, becoming so deeply rooted in American society, that privileged members can no longer see their prejudice and privilege. Social Justice requires American Society and its institutions be reordered (torn down) and the privileged be re-educated.”

Critical Race Theory and Our Children⁷:

- CRT is rapidly emerging as the dominant ideology guiding public school curriculum
- CRT is taught through the D.I.E. paradigm (Diversity—Inclusivity—Equity). Children are educated to embrace these core concepts and CRT based interpretations of social justice and society.
- School boards are dominated by pro CRT members, hiring administrators who adopt CRT curriculum for their districts
- State Boards of Education increasingly mandate CRT focused curriculum state wide for all districts.

A deeper dive into the methodology for indoctrination of our children and the employees of “woke” corporations reveals that the delivery model relies on what is easily identified as a classic Maoist concept of the “struggle session”. Participants are encouraged to admit their parents “crimes of white privilege” and their collective guilt. In the case of children and employees they are encouraged to keep their guilt/race consciousness at the forefront of their minds and to struggle mightily to become “allies” of the oppressed and marginalized.

The Only Defense

The only defense against this ideological plague is your vigilance and your vote. While much of the debate presents as a national battle, this is a LOCAL matter of the highest order. Those you elect on November 2 – judges, town council members, township supervisors and school directors – will have a direct and immediate impact on you and your families.

What You Can Do

Transparency is a critical tool to hold your elected representatives at all levels accountable. Shining a spotlight on CRT curriculum is an effective way to stop it. Here are a few things that you can do:

Attend town council and township meetings. Attend school board meetings.

Monitor what your children and grandchildren are learning in school – take a look at their books, their assignments and their interactions with others, including you.

Call or send an email to your Senators and ask them to support Senator Tom Cotton’s bill (S.968) to keep CRT curriculum out of the military:

U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D)

Email: <https://www.casey.senate.gov/contact/share>

Telephone: (814) 357-0314 or 202-224-6324

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U.S. Senator Pat Toomey (R)

Email: <https://www.toomey.senate.gov/contact/email-senator-toomey>

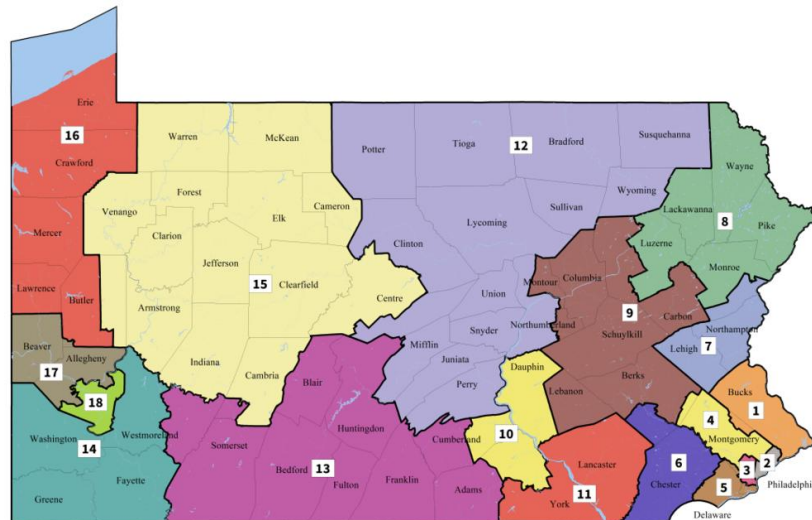
Telephone: 814-266-5970 or 202-224-4254

Call or send an email to your U.S. Representative and ask that he/she support the following bills when they are presented for a vote:

H.R. 3163. This bill, if passed, would prohibit federal funds from going to any elementary, secondary school, or college that promotes race-based ideologies.

H.R. 3134. This bill, if passed, would keep Critical Race Theory curriculum out of the military. (As noted above, U.S. Senator Tom Cotton is a sponsor of this legislation).

Because Operation Wildfire material is being sent to counties across our Commonwealth, we've included the current Congressional District map and names of Pennsylvania's elected representatives.



- 1 – Brian Fitzpatrick
- 2 – Brendan Boyle
- 3 – Dwight Evans
- 4 – Madeleine Dean
- 5 – Mary Gay Scanlon
- 6 – Chrissy Houlahan
- 7 – Susan Wild
- 8 – Matt Cartwright
- 9 – Daniel Meuser

- 10 – Scott Perry
- 11 – Lloyd Smucker
- 12 – Fred Keller
- 13 – John Joyce
- 14 – Guy Reschenthaler
- 15 – Glenn “GT” Thompson
- 16 – Mike Kelly
- 17 – Connor Lamb
- 18 – Mike Doyle

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Centre County is split between two (2) U.S. Representatives; their contact information follows:

U.S. Representative Fred Keller

Email: <https://keller.house.gov/zip-code-lookup?form=/contact/email-me>

Telephone: (570) 322-3961 or (202) 225-3731

U.S. Representative Glenn “GT” Thompson

Email: <https://thompson.house.gov/contact>

Telephone: (814) 353-0215 or (202) 225-5121

Good things happen when you vote. Even better things happen when you get involved.

If you love your country and your culture, now is not the time to just vote and go home until the next election. It's time to get involved.

Volunteer. Support candidates who share your beliefs and values. Participate in town hall meetings. Attend township and borough council meetings. Make your voice heard at school board meetings. Run for local office.

A wise person once observed, “In a democracy the people can have whatever they want... and they will get EXACTLY WHAT THEY DESERVE.”

Now you are more prepared to see the verbal sleight of hand as the verbal magicians try to indoctrinate, rather than teach, your children.

Sources:

1. “Reject Critical Race Theory”. Heritage Action for America Issues Tool Kit.
2. “Herbert Marcuse”. Wikipedia.
3. “Reject Critical Race theory”, Heritage Action for America Issues Tool Kit.
4. Ibid.
5. Critical Race Theory: An Examination of Past, Present, and Future Implications. Hartlep, 2009.
6. “Critical Race Theory and Centre County”. Mason
7. Ibid.