

## **Theories of Racism**

(From: Ricardo L. Garcia, Teaching in a Pluralist Society: Concepts, Models, Strategies (New York: Harper & Row, 1982, p. 85)

<b>THEORY</b>	<b>CAUSE OF RACISM</b>	<b>CHANGE STRATEGY</b>
<b>IGNORANCE</b>	Ethnic/racial illiteracy; poor understanding of culturally different peoples.	New data; new knowledge about culturally different peoples. ( <a href="#">Ethnic Studies Model</a> )
<b>UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE</b>	Bad experience with cultural/racial groups.	Positive experiences with cultural/racial groups, preferably on a one-to-one basis. ( <a href="#">Intergroup Relations Strategy</a> )
<b>NEGATIVE TRAIT</b>	Same as Ignorance, but stress on stereotypes about cultural/racial groups.	Same as for Ignorance, but stress frontal attack on stereotypes. Do not replace stereotypes with "positive" stereotypes; rather, study racial/cultural groups from the groups' perspective. (Ethnic Studies Model/Intergroup Relations Strategy)
<b>SCAPEGOAT</b>	Racism and prejudice with a purpose. Racism represents something more basic, such as desire to maintain class/caste system in which minority groups remain second-class citizens. Frustrations ostensibly caused by racial/cultural group; thus, racist hostile toward members of the group.	Reason with students about how democracy cannot function with tyranny of the majority, which is self-defeating, or with a second-class citizenship class/caste system. Appeal to universal human rights. ( <a href="#">Human Rights Strategy</a> )
<b>ANTI-MINORITY LIBERATION</b>	Economic and political change provokes fears and insecurities in racist, who benefits from the status quo. Thus, racist attempts to block progress of cultural/racial group.	An economic and political problem that requires political and economic solutions, such as fundamental changes in government and financial system.
<b>PATHOLOGICAL PERSONALITY</b>	Racism a pathological syndrome of deeply repressed fears, anxieties, and other emotional disorders.	Competent psychoanalysis or therapy.
<b>ETHNIC PURITY</b>	Extreme form of ethnocentrism that uses racist attitudes and actions to prevent contact with certain racial/cultural groups.	Planned and controlled contact with the hated group. Unplanned, arbitrary contact can do more harm than good. ( <a href="#">Intergroup Relations Strategy</a> )
<b>INTERNAL COLONY</b>	Racism is a functional myth to sustain a color/caste colonial system within the United States.	Fundamental economic and political rearrangements to dismantle the internal colonial structure.