

These Truths We Hold

Barriers Within the Military and Civilian World

Activists, supremacists, or other individuals within the military may sometimes engage in race based or sex based targeting of others. This may occur through opportunity, degradation, bias, or the misuse of authority. Examples may include unfair evaluations, lowered performance reports, barriers to advancement, or other forms of unequal treatment.

This is not to suggest that such conduct occurs in every case. However, certain patterns may sometimes be observed:

1. Power
2. Control
3. Laziness, negligence, or mistakes on the part of leadership
4. Politics, ideology, or personal bias
5. Lack of personal accountability
6. Unresolved emotional issues
7. Blame shifting
8. Trickle down behavior from abusive superiors
9. Envy, jealousy, personal remorse, or revenge
10. "Stop gap" theories or forms of "reverse racism" that seek to justify oppression, suppression, barriers, or exclusion

These patterns are not limited to the military. Similar behaviors may be found in government, workplaces, educational institutions, activist movements, religious organizations, corporations, and many other environments where individuals hold authority over others.

The military teaches service members many valuable lessons about leadership, accountability, teamwork, ethics, and organizational dynamics. As a result, veterans may leave military service with a heightened awareness of these patterns and may recognize similar behaviors when they encounter them in civilian life.

Awareness of these dynamics encourages discernment, accountability, fairness, and a commitment to treating individuals according to their conduct, character, and merit rather than race, sex, politics, ideology, or other group identities.

US embraces, and teaches Santos to: document, document, document.