

“Dear White People” — White People, Ignore

Union of Saints

→ *Racism, disrespect, racial generalization, control, and harassment.*

Reality Check: White people don't owe a racist a thing.

Racial Generalization and Respectful Communication

The phrase “Dear White People,” when used to single out, criticize, ridicule, or lecture an entire racial group, can be racially discriminatory, prejudicial, and disrespectful. It treats individuals as representatives of a racial category rather than recognizing their individual character, conduct, beliefs, and experiences.

Addressing people collectively based on race can promote racial stereotyping, misplaced blame, and unnecessary social division. Criticism should focus on specific actions, evidence, policies, and ideas rather than presume that individuals share the same beliefs, behavior, or responsibility because of their skin color.

Our standard is equal dignity and individual accountability. We reject racial stereotyping, collective blame, and disrespectful communication.

We do not need to engage with every provocative, prejudicial, or antagonistic statement directed at us. When a statement offers no constructive discussion and relies on racial generalizations or personal insults, we can choose to disregard it, disengage, and direct our attention toward people and conversations that demonstrate mutual respect, reason, and personal accountability.

We do not owe our attention to disrespect. We can reject the rhetoric without returning hostility in kind.

Phrases and Rhetoric to Evaluate Critically

- “White Supremacy”
- “White Excess”
- “White Privilege”
- “Dear White People”
- Any other phrase used to target, demean, stereotype, or discriminate against White people on the basis of race.

These phrases warrant scrutiny when they are used with the specific purposes of promoting or engaging in:

1. Power and domination
2. Control
3. Harassment
4. Verbal abuse
5. Racism
6. Degradation
7. Coercive guilt
8. Dehumanization
9. Racial isolation or exclusion
10. Collective blame
11. Gaslighting or psychological manipulation
12. Racially motivated harm
13. Movements that target White people on the basis of race
14. Ignoring modern slavery, crime, violence, warfare, and looting when doing so serves a selective or discriminatory narrative
15. Normalizing a culture of hatred against White people
16. Avoiding accountability
17. Recruiting people into racial groups or gangs to promote hostility
18. Disempowerment
19. Creating a continuum of racial belittlement
20. Normalizing racial competition and division

Our Simple Standard:

Equal dignity. Individual accountability. No racial double standards.