

AN INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THEORY



A series of blog posts by
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019

Delusional Thinking Among Educators Today



If you're seeing and hearing what I am, you're asking yourself how in the world we got to where we are today at such breathtaking speed.

"Drag Queen Story Hour" is now part of elementary schools and public libraries, where men dress in women's clothing, reading homosexual-themed books to children. This, according to their own website, *"captures the imagination and play of the gender fluidity of childhood and gives kids glamorous, positive, and unabashedly queer role models."* See <https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/>

K-12 schools now have policies like: *"Some students may feel uncomfortable with a transgender student using the same sex-segregated restroom, locker room or changing facility. This discomfort is not a reason to deny access to the transgender student."*

And: *"...school personnel should use the student's chosen name and pronouns appropriate to a student's gender identity, regardless of the student's assigned birth sex."*

The last two paragraphs are from the public school manual of the Massachusetts Dept. of Education, <http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/lgbtq/GenderIdentity.html>.

These policies are not unique to Massachusetts.

Gender identity, however, is but one of *many* areas of **delusional thinking among educators today**. Other areas have to do with “race” and “class” (two words that are not part of my vocabulary).

For example, a senior vice president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, recently suggested that a white Christian’s attitudes about race are “deeply informed by whiteness.” Apparently because he is “white,” Dr. Matthew Hall asserted, “*I am a racist and I’m going to struggle with racism and white supremacy until the day I die and get my glorified body.*” ([The Capstone Report, July 29, 2019](#)).

Really? Me too? Because of my skin pigmentation?

What’s going on here?

What’s going on is, various streams of 20th century thought have merged into a common river as wide as the Mississippi. Streams of thought such as Postmodernism, Deconstructionism and Dialectical Materialism, have found their “common denominator” in an overarching idea called *Critical Theory*.

“Critical Race Theory,” “Literary Critical Theory,” “Critical Pedagogy,” are all subsets of *Critical Theory*. If you don’t know what Critical Theory is by *name*, you know it by its *effects*. Unless you’re living on an island, cut off from all radio, T.V., social media and billboards, you cannot escape its current. We’re being flooded by its weight.

It goes way beyond education.

Next week: Critical Theory 101.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Critical Theory



"Critical Theory" (a philosophy taking root in the 1930's) has spawned an army of activists who believe it is their moral duty to emancipate oppressed people groups. Sounds good! Until you realize...

Critical Theory is a lens through which many Americans (whether they realize it or not) now view society and human freedom. It is based upon ideas developed by a group of "social theorists" who left Germany during the turmoil of the 1930's and came to the United States.

This group became known as the Frankfurt School. They found welcome mats at prestigious American universities, and their activist ideas have influenced higher education ever since. This group included Max Horkheimer, Theodor Adorno, Erich Fromm, Herbert Marcuse, and others.

Critical Theory is a philosophy with a bold mission and a compelling (some would say "heroic") purpose. This purpose provides the fuel that feeds its engine. That fuel is "human emancipation" and "liberation," as defined by Critical Theory itself.

The Frankfurt School divided people groups into two categories: the *oppressed* and the *oppressors*. Critical Theory can be summed up by the idea

that oppressed (dominated) people groups must be liberated from all forms of social oppression, particularly in relation to gender, "race," and "class."

Domination of human beings is the enemy, no matter what form this domination takes. Freedom from obligation to conform to any oppressing group's norms is the goal, and social transformation is the intended outcome.

From its beginnings, Critical Theory has been about *changing* society, not just understanding or explaining it. Thus, Critical Theory "liberators" are often activists.

Over time, Critical Theory has spawned various specializations, such as *Critical Race Theory*, *Literary Critical Theory*, and *Critical Pedagogy*, to name a few.

I recently heard an interview of [Dr. Neil Shenvi](#) by Alisa Childers that connects the dots. It is by far the most helpful piece on this topic I've heard: <https://youtu.be/KEPCwbuXbhw>.

Dr. Shenvi identifies six premises that underpin Critical Theory in general. I will not repeat them here, but here's my take-away:

Critical Theory maintains that people are either part of an "oppressor group" or an "oppressed group." It is the *group identity* that dictates whether a person is an oppressor or oppressed. Any "dominate group" claiming that certain moral norms are universally obligatory is oppressive. Such dominating groups and institutions *must* be silenced in order for humans to be truly free.

Followers of Christ who believe that biblical norms governing morality (sanctity of life, marriage, gender, sexuality) are pre-determined by a Higher Being and apply to everyone equally, *are an oppressor group that needs to be silenced.*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Why Christianity Must Be Silenced



Proud enough yet?

[Dr. Neil Shenvi](#) identifies one of the main premises of Critical Theory this way: *“Who we are as individuals is inseparable from our group identity, as either oppressed or oppressor.”*

Think about this.

According to [Critical Theory](#), if an individual is "white," his/her identity as an oppressor is determined by his/her group identity. Regardless of how any individual Caucasian may feel about other people's skin pigmentation, he/she is a racist because he/she is "white" (an oppressor group).

So, a vice president of a major theological seminary can suggest that a "white" Christian's attitudes about race are "deeply informed by whiteness." And because he is "white," he can say: *“I am a racist and I'm going to struggle with racism and white supremacy until the day I die and get my glorified body.”* ([The CapstoneReport, July 29, 2019](#)).

If you are a capitalist, you are an oppressor.

If you are heterosexual, you are an oppressor.

If you are a male, you are an oppressor. (The solution to this sticky problem is to eliminate male/female distinctions. If you were born with certain plumbing, you need not be male. You can “trans” to one of many gender options, and escape your oppressive birth-sex identity.)

If you are an old, white, heterosexual, capitalist, Christian, male, you are the ultimate oppressor.

Critical Theory rejects the idea that people are *individually* guilty or innocent. It is *group identity* that determines whether a person is an oppressor or oppressed.

This is delusional.

It stands in stark contrast to the biblical premise that people are individually accountable to a Higher Being for their attitudes and actions, which most Americans formerly taught their children, even in school.

According to Critical Theory, personal responsibility and accountability *under God* is oppressive. This is **why Christianity must be silenced**: *it teaches there are universal, objective, unchanging moral norms that apply to everyone, and we are individually accountable.*

Such "Christo-normativity" is oppressive.

To follow this line of thinking, the God of the Bible is the ultimate oppressor. People *must be liberated* from the very idea of a personal God who is there, and has spoken about how we should then live.

Christo-normativity must be neutralized. Even if by force.

Critical Theory (through knowing and unknowing adherents) has fueled an impassioned, international fight to "liberate" people from the ultimate oppression: *Christo-normativity*.

I believe this is the root of the cold civil war we are in.

In a 5-minute clip, Elly Barnes, CEO of *Educate & Celebrate*, a British group, happily explains how they are training school teachers to "*completely smash hetero-normativity*" through "usualizing" homosexuality. In this way, they help children to be "so much happier." See <https://youtu.be/nt2bSF2xOVg>

Then there's this 45-second clip from the BBC, showing how 'smashing hetero-normativity' is done with a class of 6 year olds: <https://youtu.be/uWuy-aDwM4U>

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

These Words Don't Mean What Christians Think



Due to pervasive ideas spawned by Critical Theory, there are some “buzz words” that Followers of Christ should understand. **These words don't mean what Christians think.**

One of these words is *oppression*, and its sister-word, *oppressor*.

Oppression (in the context of Critical Theory), does not necessarily mean cruel treatment. A person is an oppressor if he/she is part of an oppressor *group*, as we discussed in recent posts. The individual is a non-factor.

But what defines or determines an oppressor group?

An oppressor group is not necessarily the largest group. Old white males, for example, make up 15% of the U.S. population. But they are deemed an oppressor group because they have “hegemonic power.”

Hegemonic power establishes what is socially *normal*. It is a “gate keeper” for *socially acceptable behavior*.

For many years, Christianity had “hegemonic power” in the U.S. When I was a boy, even non-Christians accepted Christianity as the “gate keeper” for acceptable moral behavior. It was common to hear people say, “we're a Christian nation.”

In the 1830s, when the French historian Alexis de Tocqueville came to examine the U.S., he noted: “The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds, that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other” (from *Democracy in America*).

Not so today.

Critical Theory cannot tolerate hegemonic power, because hegemonic power determines what is “normal” or “acceptable” for others, and *that is oppressive*.

This is why some Christian groups are now being branded as “hate groups.” Teaching that homosexual practice is wrong for everyone is now deemed “hate speech.” It imposes a “normativity” on people across people groups. Such cross-group “norming” is *verboten*. Such teaching is an oppressive *imposition*, especially if those who teach it are quoting the Divine.

Imposing social norms on others (even if it is a *passive* imposition through unspoken expectations) is an offense because it restricts people’s freedom to determine what is acceptable *for themselves*.

Even for a 5’ 9” white guy to say he is a 6’5” Chinese woman is not a problem these days. To *not* agree with him/her would be offensive—and oppressive. It’s a postmodern sin to say your neighbor’s self-identity is “wrong.” To do so imposes a social *norm* on them, and *this is oppressive*.

Watch how Critical Theory has affected students at the University of Washington:
<https://youtu.be/xfO1veFs6Ho>



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2019

Am I A Christo-supremist?



Am I a Christo-supremist?

Do I believe Jesus is the ultimate authority of the universe, and all other authorities in heaven and Earth are subject to His decisions regarding anything and everything? Yes.

Do I believe all judges, kings and presidents are subject to Christ's supreme authority, *whether they recognize it and accept it, or not?* Yes.

Do I believe the same holds true for everyone else, and in the end, all people, whether kings or paupers, are subject to *Christ's determination* of right and wrong? Yes.

I confess. I'm a Christo-supremist.

Do I believe Truth is fully embodied and wholly complete in Christ *alone*? Yes.

Do I believe Jesus is the *only* doorway to a relationship with God the Father, and that *all* other "paths to the Divine" are dead ends? Yes.

Now I'm in trouble.

Do I believe that Christianity, in its pure form under Christ, is *better* than any other worldview, philosophy or religion on planet Earth? Yes.

Now I'm in deep trouble. Yet the world is a much better place because of Christ.

Do I want *others* to accept Christ's supremacy? *By force?* Never! Voluntarily? Yes.

Our post-Christian-turned-anti-Christian culture, following [Critical Theory](#) to the brink, is pushing "Christo-normativity" under the bus because it is a non-inclusive, "sole-truth" claim, and therefore worthy to be silenced, through public opinion first, intimidation next, and by force when necessary.

Yes, Christo-normativity is *as offensive and divisive as Christ*. Christo-supremacy rejects the postmodern line that all "truths" are equally valid, and that humans create their own right and wrong. For spoiling *this*, we are hated.

People influenced (knowingly or unknowingly) by [Critical Theory](#) are systemically eradicating any hint of Christo-supremacy under the pretense of "[freedom from oppression](#)" and "[social justice.](#)"

Christo-supremacists are politically incorrect. Hopelessly so. Accept it.

This is what got the first Christo-supremists of Rome into trouble, and some fed to lions: 1) they recognized One Higher God above the emperor; 2) they saw One Ultimate Truth embodied in a Person who does not change, or bend; and 3) they believed in universal moral norms to which all people are beholden, the greatest of which is authentic love.

We must accept being disliked.

Are you a Christo-supremist? Better to cross this bridge now, than be confused later, and lose your nerve. You may be asked this question in court.

You're *already* in the court of public opinion.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2019

We're In The WWII Of Our Day



If someone told you, “*My fundamental moral duty is to free people from oppression,*” you might think this person was a hero. Until you asked some questions.

If this person’s concept of “oppression” was any group that resisted the normalization of abortion, trans-genderism, homosexual practice, and group marriage, you would do well to ask this person to define "moral" and "oppression."

But this is exactly what is happening today. Activists sipping [Critical Theory](#) at the university see themselves having a moral duty to “liberate” people (including children) from the [“oppression”](#) of *Christo-normativity*. They're on a bold, impassioned and heroic mission.

Such activists see Christianity as a “hegemonic power” stuck on the ideas of Higher Law and a Higher Authority to Whom we are *all* accountable. Critical theorists believe it is their moral duty to not only *silence* Christianity, but to *oust* it.

Liberating people from the oppression of [Christo-supremacy](#) is now part of *social justice*.

Who can be opposed to social justice? Yet the term “social justice” (like the term “oppression”) is something other than what Christians think it is. That’s because Christians view these words through the lens of Scripture, while “Social Justites” [my term] view these words through the lens of Critical Theory. These are two radically different lenses!

Critical Theory activists are fighting Christianity in the name of “justice,” and many are out to win this war at any cost, even if it means imposing *their* norms on everyone else *by force*. This is the great irony.

What can we do to counter C.T.?

My short answer is what the Mother of Jesus told the servants at the wedding where the wine ran out: *“Whatever He tells you to do, do it.”*

We need a lot of water-changed-to-wine miracles right now.

As for myself, I'm [training teachers](#) how to help students view all subjects in the context of a biblical worldview. *I believe children can't be wholly educated without this skill, and teachers can't wholly educate children without it.* I'm in the liberation business, too. Setting kids free through Truth. (Want some help? [Contact me.](#)). But my work is a drop in a very large ocean.

What is the Lord telling *you* to do? What's the “plow” He has put into *your* hand?

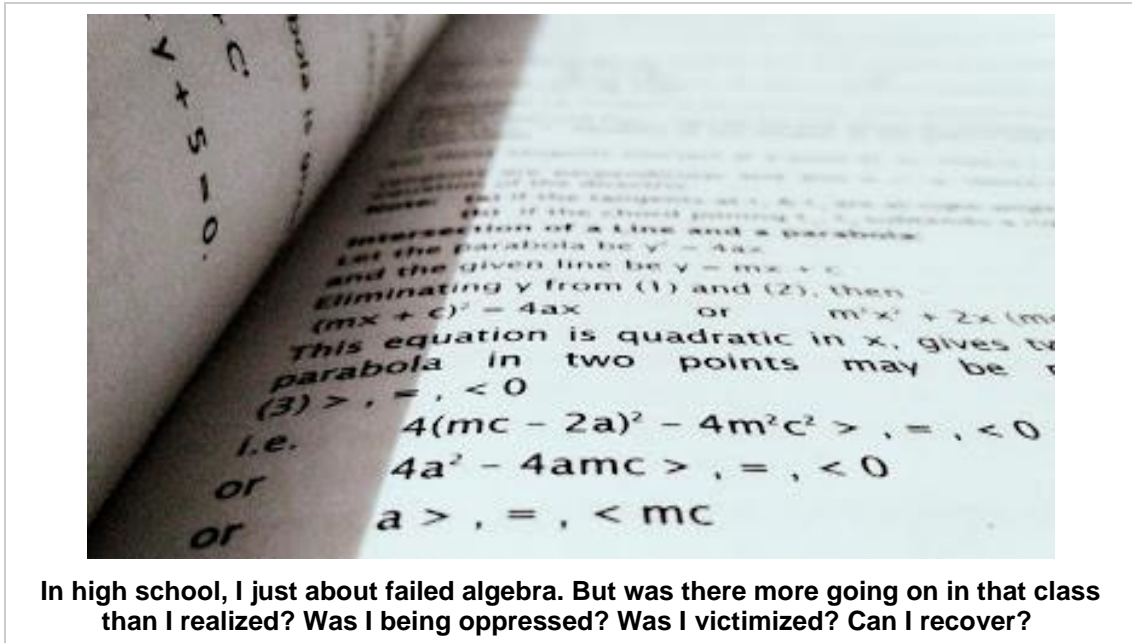
If you don't have a ready answer, pause and give it some prayerful consideration. It's serious business.

We're in the WWII of our day.

If you think my case is overstated, read David Horowitz's well-documented *book Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America*. Horowitz is a self-described agnostic Jew. He was formerly a leader of far-left activists, until a friend was murdered by the people Horowitz was helping. He knows whereof he writes. It's helpful to view the war from the perspective of a former insider.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019

Racist Mathematics



The ruinous effects of [Critical Theory](#) are personal for me. I was born in Seattle, Washington, where in recent years I have watched the transmutation of a beautiful city that I was once proud to show off to visiting friends. Today, downtown Seattle is an ugly, failing and dangerous place I don't want to visit myself, even in the middle of the day.

To get an idea of how embedded Critical Theory is in the Seattle establishment, I invite you to examine how K-12 mathematics is approached by the Seattle Public Schools.

A school document dated August 20, 2019, describes the "Math Ethnic Studies" program for Seattle K-12 students (yes, including Kindergarten). The themes of the program come under such headings as "Power and Oppression" and "History of Resistance and Liberation." It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see Critical Theory here.

This document includes the following:

- The students will be able to identify *“how math has been and continues to be used to oppress and marginalize people and communities of color.”*
- The students will understand how “Western” mathematics has been used as a means of power and oppression.
- The students will explain how math “dictates economic oppression.”
- Students will discuss essential questions such as: *“Who holds power in a mathematical classroom”* and, *“When has math been used historically to resist and liberate?”* and, *“Who gets to say if an answer is right?”* and, *“How can we use math to measure the impact of activism?”*

It's clear who the oppressors are: Western Whites.

Public school students of *all* ages are a captive audience, increasingly subject to the Critical Theory agenda on *many* levels.

But why aren't parents, teachers, pastors and civil leaders crying “foul?”

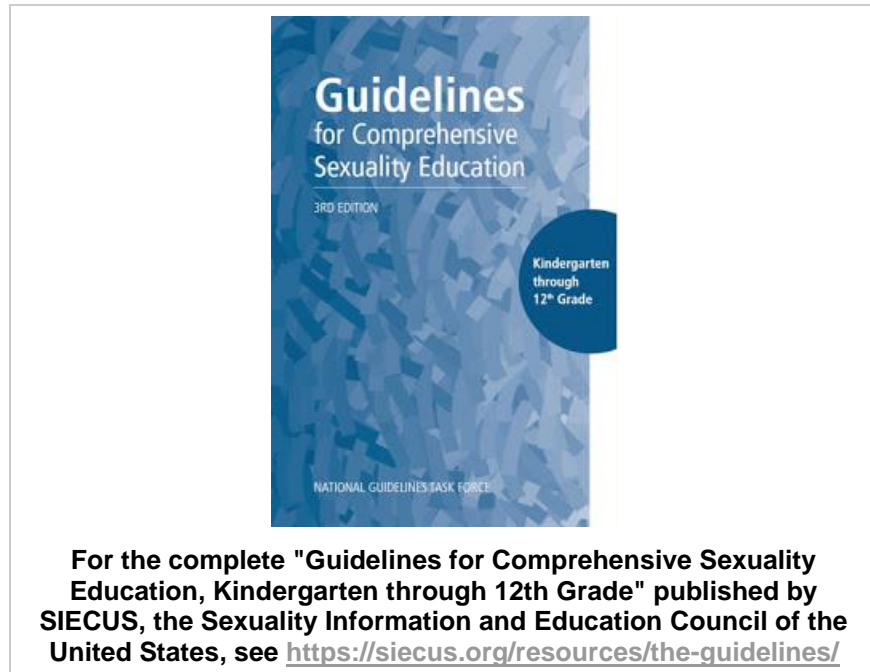
Either they: 1) don't know what's going on, 2) are afraid to say anything, or, 3) don't know how to say what needs to be said or to whom to say it. God help us.

Rod Dreher, author of *The Benedict Option*, had a few choice words about the Seattle Public Schools math program in a recent post titled, “Woke Math In Seattle.” In this post, Dreher makes reference to a professor of education at the University of Illinois, Rochelle Gutierrez, who advocates that mathematics is “deformed by Whiteness.”

Read Dreher's post [here](#). It includes a link to the entire **racist mathematics** document referenced above. (Yes, it's blatant racism.)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2019

Unoppressed Sexual License



No introduction to [Critical Theory](#) would be complete without mentioning Herbert Marcuse, one of the original members of the Frankfurt School, who came to America in the 1930s. He taught at the University of California San Diego, and met his Maker in 1979 (which must have been quite a shock).

Marcuse dedicated himself to the "dispersed disintegration" of social systems. The social system that Marcuse was especially committed to "disintegrating" was the American system.

Marcuse sought to disintegrate the Christian norms of sexual behavior held by most Americans prior to 1960. *Can there be any quicker and more effective way to disintegrate the entire social system of a nation than through unrestrained lust?*

Marcuse's 1955 landmark book, *Eros and Civilization*, became the guiding document for the "sexual revolution" of the 1960s. He invented the slogan, "Make Love, Not War."

Marcuse provided intellectual cover for **unoppressed sexual license**. University students ate it up, of course. His message was happily received by the youth of the 1960s (who are now leaders in the media, higher education, and the arts). Marcuse was also celebrated by professors, who were drunk on Critical Theory, too. Herbert Marcuse was (and remains) a Critical Theory super-hero.

The flood of pornography since the mid-1950s, the constant barrage of sexual messages in soap and automobile ads, and the normalization of “shacking up” we see today are the tip of the iceberg.

What is taking place now in public K-12 schools behind classroom doors with respect to “comprehensive sexuality education” needs to be looked square in the face by Christian parents who send their children to state schools.

The normalization of homosexuality and transgenderism are but two areas targeted in government schools. Other aspects of human sexuality that are “normalized” for very young children through public education (starting in Kindergarten) need to be exposed, and this exposure is not difficult to do.

One just needs to know the *Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education: Kindergarten—12th Grade*, published by SIECUS, the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States.

Recently, Dr. Josh Mulvihill exposed thirty-two SIECUS "guidelines" in the [Renewanation Review Magazine](#). Read them below:

For children ages five to eight (kindergarten to second grade):

Some people are homosexual, which means they can be attracted to and fall in love with someone of the same gender. (p. 29)

Love means having deep and warm feelings about oneself and others. (p. 36)

Many people live in lifetime committed relationships, even though they may not be legally married. (p. 39)

People who are married or committed to each other may get divorced or break up if they decide they do not want to be together anymore. (p. 39)

Touching and rubbing one's own genitals to feel good is called masturbation. (p. 51)

Some boys and girls masturbate, and others do not. (p. 52)

Some people may expect or demand that boys and girls behave in certain ways, but this is beginning to change. (p. 72)

For children ages nine to twelve (third to sixth grade):

Sexual orientation is just one part of who a person is. (p. 29)

People of all sexual orientations can have relationships that are equally fulfilling. (p. 29)

Gender identity refers to a person's internal sense of being male, female, or a combination of these. (p. 31)

Children may have a mother, a mother and a father, two mothers, two fathers, or any other combination of adults who love and care for them. (p. 34)

Sexual feelings, fantasies, and desires are natural. (p. 51)

Many boys and girls begin to masturbate for sexual pleasure during puberty. (p. 52)

The belief that all people of the same gender should behave the same way is called a stereotype. (p. 72)

For children ages twelve to fifteen (seventh to eighth grade):

Many scientific theories have concluded that sexual orientation cannot be changed by therapy or medicine. (p. 30)

There are organizations that offer support services, hotlines, and resources for young people who want to talk about sexual orientation. (p. 30)

Some Internet sites offer gay, lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual individuals the opportunity to join a community and find friendship and support. (p. 30)

The origin of people's gender identity is not known. (p. 31)

Some transgender individuals may take hormones or have surgery to alter their bodies to better match their gender identity. (p. 31)

Marriage is a legal contract between two people and the state. (p. 39)

Two people who live together without being married can have the same commitment and responsibility toward one another as married people. (p. 39)

Some agencies specialize in working with young people and provide services for teenagers that do not require parental permission, are confidential, and cost little to no money. (p. 49)

There are many ways to give and receive sexual pleasure without having intercourse. (p. 54)

In most states, young people can get prescriptions for contraception without their parents' permission. (p. 59)

Individuals should be allowed to make their own choices about appropriate roles for themselves as men and women. (p. 72)

For children ages fifteen to eighteen (ninth to twelfth grade):

Sexual orientation is determined by a combination of a person's attractions, fantasies, and sexual behaviors. (p. 30)

A person may accept his/her family's values and not always agree with all of them. (p. 43)

Communication about sexual feelings, desires, and boundaries can improve sexual relationships. (p. 46)

Many teenagers have had sexual intercourse, and many have not. (p. 54)

Some people use erotic photographs, movies, art, literature, or the Internet to enhance their sexual fantasies when alone or with a partner. (p. 56)

Emergency contraception is a high dose of birth control pills that when taken shortly after vaginal intercourse can prevent pregnancy. (p. 60)

Gender role stereotypes are harmful to both men and women. (p. 73)

Read enough?

What do you want your children/grandchildren to consider "normative" in the area of sexuality? What will the word "marriage" mean to them? Or, "family?"

What will their friends consider normal?

Why aren't parents protesting *en masse*? Why aren't parents staging united protests by keeping their children home *en masse*, for the purpose of sending an unmistakable message to the powers that be?

This was done last spring in Great Britain, at a government school where 80% of the student body was kept home by protesting parents who put a stop to the insanity—at least temporarily.

Who those parents were, will interest you.

Next week.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Is "Christian Activist" An Oxymoron?



Last March, a school in the city of Birmingham, England, suspended its LGBT lessons after *80% of the pupils were kept home by their parents in protest*. Hundreds of parents kept their kids home. *Hundreds*. Click here: <https://youtu.be/XYhrwkE6Gaw>.

Most of these parents were Muslim, because the school is in a largely Muslim neighborhood of Britain.

What about schools in largely Christian neighborhoods of the USA? Why are *Christian parents* not protesting the activist policy of allowing boys to use the girls' bathrooms or shower rooms, and vice-versa? What about the activist practice of normalizing same-sex "marriage" by reading *Heather Has Two Mommies* to the class?

85% of Christian parents in the US send their children to state schools. That's enough to shut the madness down...*but just for a temporary "suspension."*

That's because, as in Birmingham, the head will still be attached to the body, and herein lies the problem: *head transplants are revolutionary, and today's*

Christians are no more postured and prepared for revolution than the Jews of 1930 Germany were.

Several states now have *mandated* "LGBT history" courses in their schools. It's the nose of the proverbial camel under the tent.

The only effective parental "protest," at this point, is to take the kids out not for a day, not for a week, or for a month, but to take them out for good, *en masse*.

This will be a challenge for Christian families that cannot afford the tuition of Christian schools, and are unable to homeschool. Church-based, quality-controlled homeschool co-ops might provide an answer (more on this later).

As for Christian parents having children in state schools, why not organize a "kid-out," like the Muslims did in Great Britain? Would the 1st week of March, 2020, work?

Christ-followers *could* become majority voting members of school boards, if they got organized and campaigned together, with churches supporting.

Christian teachers in state schools *could* be activists *inside* the system, if they got organized. Afraid? Real courage is never the absence of fear, but taking action in spite of it.

Or, is "**Christian activist**" an **oxymoron** in your mind? Was Jesus the Tableflipper an activist? Did He get crucified for His silence? His disciples were familiar with jails for a reason, and many disciples have shared that familiarity since. Would you?

Activism is the only language [Critical Theorists](#) understand.

Can we get organized?

Let's learn something from the German Jews.



If you want to know where state schools are headed in regard to [Marcuse's goal](#) to disintegrate Christian norms of sexual behavior in the US, watch what is happening in California.

For decades, California has been the trend-setter of the nation for social issues. But the "comprehensive sexuality education" push isn't just a "California thing." It's all across the nation.

And it's not just about LGBTQ+. It's about *much* more.

For one pastor's search to find out what is going on in his community with respect to "comprehensive" sex ed, and the stunning array of things he uncovered, this is *must viewing*:

<https://www.nordskogpublishing.com/no-opt-out-allowed-the-california-sex-ed-indoctrination/>

The video is about 30 minutes long, for good reason. It goes into original sources, shows illustrations from textbooks, and includes actual undercover video of training sessions for teachers and administrators by ACLU lawyers.

It is well worth your time to view.

Take a half hour to get educated, even if you don't have kids in a state school.

We *all* have a big stake in this.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019

History-Turning Pivot Points



There may be no more fitting example for Christ-followers these days than Daniel, who was subject to a power play pivot point in Babylon. This is especially true for Christian teachers and administrators in state schools. They need our prayers for courage. It's also true for pastors, as well as parents. (Painting after Briton Rivière [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons.)

A friend e-mailed: *"This is what people say to me: 'Why is the sin of homosexuality treated as so much more offensive than other sins? Someone is gay. Another is a drunkard. Another flirts with women who aren't his wife...Sin is sin. Why is THIS sin so bad?'"*

Yes, sin is sin. But not all sins have the same consequences, or equal ramifications for society.

Homosexuality and transgenderism (not by any choice of Christians) have become **history-turning pivot points** in a power-struggle the likes of which this nation has not seen since the run-up to the civil war.

Christians have not made homosexuality the powerplay grenade it is. Rather, homosexual activists and their facilitators have done so through shaming, intimidation, and punitive measures against those who don't capitulate to their demands.

CNN featured contenders for the Democrat nomination for President where a candidate was asked if he thought "religious colleges, churches, and charities, should lose their tax-exempt status if they oppose same-sex marriage."

The candidate instantly declared, "yes," and forthwith came resounding audience applause. No candidate took exception.

Albert Mohler summarized the incident this way: *"Beto O'Rourke and virtually every other candidate on CNN's stage handed down an ultimatum: The time is up for conservative Christianity. Anyone who will not join the sexual revolution is an enemy combatant, not worthy of protection nor a voice in the public process...failure to capitulate will result in the coercive power of government to silence you."*

Read Mohler's full account [here](#).

What would happen if states no longer approved Christian schools as corporations because of policies on homosexuality or transgenderism? The doors of many Christian schools would close. Churches next. Those staying open will declare Scripture doesn't really teach that homosexual behavior is sin after all.

If you think closing doors is bad, consider what will soon be acceptable punishment for citizens of Great Britain who are found guilty of "intolerance" toward homosexuality and transgenderism starting January 1, 2020. Jail time. [Check it out here](#).

Have you heard anyone proposing jail time for people holding biblical positions on adultery or fornication? No. Because these are not the power play pivot points of the hour.

Daniel understood power play pivot points, and he prayed with his window open. *Think about that.*

As for not re-interpreting Scripture to permit homosexuality, see The Evangelical Covenant Church's, "God, the Bible, and Human Sexuality: A Response to Revisionist Readings," [here](#).

Piers Morgan, a television personality in the US and the UK, is an "old-guard" liberal. There is much I disagree with Morgan about, but I agree with him on this point: free speech requires an absence of threat, intimidation, or violence as a means of "shutting up the other side." To see a dramatic illustration of the difference between old-guard liberalism and the outworking of Critical Theory in real time, watch this encounter between Morgan and a young man calling for him to be fired because of his contrarian views regarding "100 gender types:" <https://youtu.be/C1roM98Dass>

Come January 1, 2020, it looks to me like Morgan may be running a risk of jail time. Because he is such a high-profile individual, this seems doubtful. But most people don't have Morgan's platform.

Or guts.

Earlier this month, a physician in the UK, Dr. David Mackereth, lost his job because of his beliefs regarding transgenderism. The tribunal that ruled against him said his "belief in Genesis 1:27, lack of belief in transgenderism, and conscientious objection to transgenderism in our judgment are incompatible with human dignity and conflicts with the fundamental rights of others, specifically here transgender individuals." See <https://onenewsnow.com/legal-courts/2019/10/28/ruling-in-uk-a-bad-omen-for-bible-believers-ethicist>

Pause for a moment and thank God we won the Revolutionary War. But can we maintain our religious freedom?

Not without a lot of Daniels doing hard things very soon.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019

The Notre Dame Address



Was William Barr's speech a signal to people of Christian faith, for such a time as this?

Attorney General William Barr, head of the US Department of Justice, recently delivered a speech to the law faculty at the Catholic University of Notre Dame that should be required reading for all US citizens, especially high school students.

The Notre Dame Address has caught a lot of artillery shelling. That's a good sign these days. Critical Theorists hate any hint of activism coming from the other side, and criticism is their lifeblood. Being critical is what they live for. It's the heart of the Theory itself: *tearing down whatever can be torn down*.

Critical Theorists believe social "progress" will only occur when traditional norms of moral behavior are torn down to make way for a new social order to arise from the ashes. This requires relentless criticism of traditional moral structures, with the goal of total collapse from within. It's recycled Marxism.

Mr. Barr not only explained in plain English what the American “experiment” was all about, but he put his weighty finger on the heart of the present threat of this great experiment failing, making it clear the current DOJ is fighting that threat.

He said: *"I will not dwell on all the bitter results of the new secular age. Suffice it to say that the campaign to destroy the traditional moral order has brought with it immense suffering, wreckage, and misery. And, yet, the forces of secularism, ignoring these tragic results, press on with even greater militancy..."*

He later declared: *"The problem is not that religion is being forced on others. The problem is that irreligion and secular values are being forced on people of faith."*

There's where the current DOJ comes in.

Barr then referred to the schools as "ground zero" in the battle. That's the truth.

Is his speech a signal to people of Christian faith? I suspect it is. I also think this window will not stay open long.

Let's not waste more time. If the next presidential election goes a certain way, we may have five years to act. If it goes the other way, we may have one year.

The Notre Dame Address is not a quick read. I suggest you print it out and read it while taking a long bath, allowing it to soak in slowly.

This speech may turn out to be as timely and significant as Lincoln's at Gettysburg, if people of faith will take Barr's cue:

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-william-p-barr-delivers-remarks-law-school-and-de-nicola-center-ethics>

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019

Observant Jews Messaging Sleeping Christians



It's time to wake up.

In the past month, two compelling pieces have come across my screen written by **observant Jews messaging sleeping Christians** with appeals of urgency.

The first piece was written by rabbi Daniel Lapin, author of [America's Real War](#). The rabbi urges Followers of Christ to heed the warning signals of anti-Christian sentiment currently on the rise in the US.

"Without a vibrant and vital Christianity," the rabbi writes, "America is doomed, and without America, the West is doomed. Which is why I, an Orthodox Jewish rabbi, devoted to Jewish survival, the Torah and Israel am so terrified of American Christianity caving in. Many of us Jews are ready to stand with you. But you must lead. You must replace your timidity with nerve and your diffidence with daring and determination. You are under attack. Now is the time to resist it."

Rabbi Lapin's post is titled, "A rabbi's warning to US Christians." Please read it here:

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/controversy/persecution/a-rabbi-s-warning-to-u-s-christians.html?fbclid=IwAR2t82gH02Kb4HOoJI3V496Xtf8SgdW7Ako5Hkip8clBNyAdg6Mnj2z70tQ>

The second piece was written by Melissa Langsam Braunstein, a senior contributor to The Federalist. Her post is titled, "I'm An Observant Jew. Here's Why I Want More Americans To Come To Jesus."

She wants the "nones" [claiming no faith] to re-awaken to the Christian faith of their past, and she spells out many compelling reasons why this is needed for the sake of our nation.

Ms. Braunstein writes: "America, it's time to come to Jesus."

In fact, she wants to see another Christian "Great Awakening" taking place in this country.

Read the full post here:

<https://thefederalist.com/2019/11/12/im-an-observant-jew-heres-why-i-want-more-americans-to-come-to-jesus/>

When Jews send Christians the kind of earnest messages we see here, you *know* it's time to wake up.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019

But Telling Isn't Training



Firefighting skills require not only telling (verbal instruction), but guided practice (training). *Telling isn't training.* It's only the beginning, and not even half the job. Training is standard fare for good schools. But in church, it's exceedingly rare.

How can people think it's OK for male athletes to impersonate females and compete against women in sports? No word better describes this than "delusional."

Delusional thinking comes from delusional starting points. People with high IQs professing themselves to be wise become fools. God "gives them over" to their self-imposed absurdities (see Romans 1).

Delusional thinking starts here:

- animate life came from inanimate things and inanimate things self-developed out of nothing
- since there is no Creator, we create our own "right" and "wrong"
- God's Word is Truth for *some* people, but not for *all* people
- Jesus is not King of *everything* (just Sunday service, and my personal life)

In 1994, Randy Phillips wrote:

"When Alexander Solzhenitsyn sought an explanation for the devastating revolution that destroyed his native Russia, he recalled what those who had lived through the Bolshevik takeover had said: '**Men have forgotten God, that's why all these things happened.**' Solzhenitsyn admitted that after decades of study he

could not offer a better explanation...Solzhenitsyn's conclusion is certainly a lesson to heed: when men forget God, some very terrible things happen. Leadership becomes corrupt. Marriages end. Families suffer... Eventually, an entire nation crumbles." (*Men of Action Newsletter*)

Can the U.S. continue to "forget" God and not collapse from within? If we think so, we *too* are delusional.

Let's understand what we're up against here. We're dealing *with strongholds of the mind* that can only be brought down through the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, in cooperation with the Acts of Believers.

We're not fighting against flesh and blood, but against "principalities and powers of the air." Yes, real demons.

Nothing else accounts for the uber-irrationality of Critical Theory.

In 2 Cor. 10:5, Paul declared: "*We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*" Paul knew the minefield is the mind-field.

This is where training comes in. "Taking thoughts captive to Christ" is a learned skill requiring *guided practice*. We desperately need students, parents, teachers, business leaders, film-makers and civil servants who are trained in how to "take thoughts captive to Christ," and practiced in the art of "demolishing arguments and pretensions."

But telling isn't training. What's training?

1. *Trainer talks, trainees listen*
2. *Trainer shows, trainees watch*
3. *Trainees do, trainer provides feedback*
4. *Trainees do again--in real situations*

Am I an alarmist? I hope so. Our communities are on fire. Our nation is on fire.

Followers of Christ need activist training now. Forget the "seeker sensitive" stuff. Perhaps people seeking meaning for their lives would like to find a group of people committed enough to use their prime time on Sunday morning for activist training. Maybe a lot of young people who are currently leaving the church might decide to stay.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019

Can Sunday Be A Time For Activist Training?



Can Sunday be a time for activist training?

Let's see...

Step 1: Trainer talks, trainees listen.

As mentioned last week, telling is not training. But telling provides a necessary foundation for training to follow. The pulpit is a natural place for telling.

Pastors, why not gear some Sunday morning messages toward cultural activism? Why not focus on specific opportunities for cultural engagement (great or small) that could be implemented during the coming week, or month?

Take the Thanksgiving dinner that just passed. Cultural activism starts with opening our mouths when natural opportunities to speak regarding significant issues arise. But we need to know *what* to say, and *how* to say it.

John Stonestreet, President of the Colson Center for Christian Worldview, recently shared tips on how to prepare for Thanksgiving conversations around "difficult" cultural issues. John's instructions could easily be adapted into a 20-minute Sunday-morning message: [click here](#).

Step 2: Trainer shows, trainees watch.

A dinner table prop is brought onto the platform with 5 chairs around it. Well-rehearsed participants take their places around a rubber chicken. Here, a true-to-life demonstration takes place, following a Thanksgiving dinner script written in consultation with the pastor. This practiced demonstration takes another 20 minutes. The "showing" part is as important as the "telling" part.

Step 3: Trainees do, trainers provides feedback.

Trainers work with congregants in groups of 5-6 people. Groups form in the sanctuary. Trained trainers join each group. Visitors only observe.

Trainers role-play non-believing relatives bringing up "difficult" cultural topics. Participants take turns engaging in conversation. Trainers provide constructive feedback. Without feedback, people are *never* trained. They may be entertained, but never trained. Step 3 takes 20 minutes.

Training of trainers would be essential. I recommend my friend Keith Webb, of [Creative Results Management](#). If 20% of the congregation were to participate in a weekend of training, a church could be in business. Ask Keith to customize the training for the above purposes.

Step 4: Trainees do again--in real life.

This step can only be done outside the four walls of the church. Reports on how it went could be given at the following Sunday morning service, like Jesus sending His disciples out 2 by 2, having them come back to report how it went.

This doesn't mean we lose our focus on worship and adoration of our Creator and Redeemer. We can do both.

A suggestion for Christian schools: start an after-school "Cultural Activist Club."

Difficult? Yes. Necessary? You decide.



In December, 2019, I was the guest of Carrie Abbott on her *Relationships Insights* radio program. Carrie is the Founder and President of [The Legacy Institute](#).

Most US citizens are unaware that in former times, our laws and institutions were *normatively* aligned with the teachings of Christ.

The Supreme Court affirmed this plainly in *Church of the Holy Trinity v. United States*, quoting no less than 87 precedents:

"Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of The Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian... This is a religious people. This is historically true. From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation... [W]e find everywhere a clear recognition of the same truth... These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation."

Feel like you're on another planet? Those words were written in 1892, and express what is no longer recognized.

But once was.

For this to be recognized again, depends largely upon *the consent of the governed*.

In the US, we have this risky tenet called "consent of the governed." Currently, the governed of this nation are either *unwilling* to or *ignorant* of the fact that we *can* consent to the higher standards of God's Word and still have a fully functioning democratic Republic without violating the separation of Church and State.

In this country, we once recognized the overarching role of Christ. We operated this way for 150+ years. It was normal.

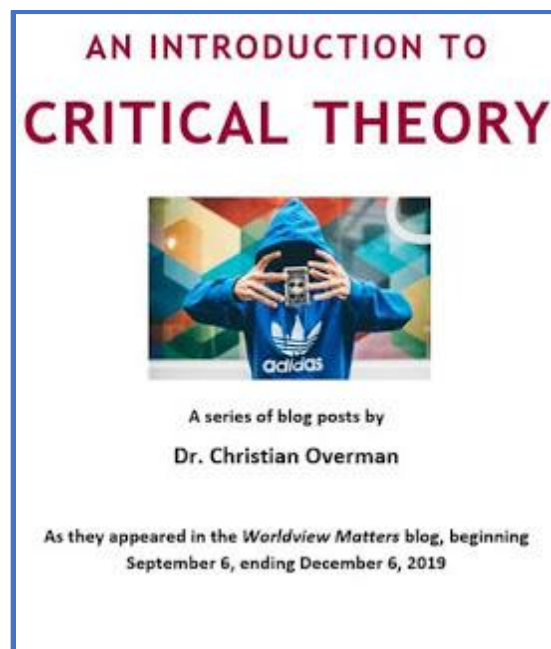
What's getting in the way today? It's either **ignorance, unwillingness or fear.**

As a guest on Carrie Abbott's "[Relationships Insights](#)" radio program, we discussed how churches can play a role in equipping congregants to be active participants in a return to normalcy.

We also discussed how Critical Theory, the polarizing worldview imported from Europe to the US in the 1930s, and proliferated through higher education ever since, is imposing a social disorder that has produced lawlessness and great division, by design. Critical Theory is a much different view of reality than *any* US citizen conceived of in 1892.

For the first half of the interview, [click here](#). For the second half, [here](#).

For a FREE copy of *An Introduction to Critical Theory*, which Carrie Abbott calls "a game changer," [click here](#). For a .pdf copy, [here](#).



Can we afford to not know this? You decide: [click here](#).

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

[*Political Correctness: A Deceptive and Dangerous Worldview*](#), edited by William S. Lind and Richard W. Hawkins, updated 2019.

[*Adorno: A Political Biography*](#), by Lorenz Jäger (translated by Stewart Spencer)

[*The Devil's Pleasure Palace: The Cult of Critical Theory and the Subversion of the West*](#), by Michael Walsh, 2017.

[*Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America*](#), by David Horowitz, 2019.

[*Righteous Indignation: Excuse Me While I Save The World!*](#), by Andrew Breitbart (I recommend chapters 6 and 7), 2012.

[*The Dialectical Imagination: A History of the Frankfurt School and the Institute for Social Research, 1932-1950*](#), by Martin Jay, 1973.

[*Rules for Reformers*](#), by Douglas Wilson, 2014.

[*Assumptions That Affect Our Lives*](#), by Christian Overman, 1989.

[*The Lost Purpose for Learning*](#), by Christian Overman, 2016.

[*Not Far Away*](#), by Christian Overman, 2018.